

PLATO Board Minutes

Friday, April 13, 2018

Room 7045, 21 North Park St., 7th Floor 9:30 – 11:00 AM

Present: Scott Kolar (President), Michael Stevens (Vice-President), Kathy Brown, Ed Cothral, Carla Dilorio, Hedy Lukas, Frank Power, Patricia Herrling, Meg Taylor

DCS: Louise Fowler

1. Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 9:30am by Scott Kolar

2. Approval of February 2018 Minutes Minutes were discussed and approved.

3. Committee Reports (See Board Materials email)

a. Questions for Chairs: No questions for the chairs.

b. Additional updates

i. Nominations Committee:

Frank Power reported that the slate of officers is complete. Michael Stevens as President, Kathy Brown, Vice President, Patricia Herrling as Secretary, Scott Kolar as Treasurer, and Meg Taylor and Patricia Eaton have agreed to serve as “Director-at-large” members of the Board. Voting will open on April 18th and will close on May 2nd. It is a straight yes or no for the entire slate.

ii. Annual Meeting Committee:

There was discussion of the wording to “BYBO” on the information about the annual meeting. Some felt we were encouraging alcohol and that we might have some liability about drinking and driving. and should leave it off the brochure. The brochure was already printed, so it was agreed that Michael Stevens will work on a PLATO policy about alcohol for the future.

iii. Fund Development Committee - 2017 Fund Development Results:

Tim Otis gave a treasurer’s report. Our net operating revenue reserves are currently \$82,000. Over all we have more than \$250,000, including Fund Development money. Donations during 2017 were \$39,600, mainly due to two large donations. The market value of the PLATO Education Fund grew from \$142,537 as of 12/31/16 to \$183,384.59 as of 12/31/17. The PLATO Fund Development report lists the over 6 programs and organizations supported in fiscal year 2017-2018.

4. Old Business

a. MoA Update: No change currently. DCS indicates we should have a new 4 year MoA in July.

b. Strategic Plan Implementation: Scott said that most committee’s have responded back about the strategic plan and the executive committee will be looking at these responses at the next meeting.

5. New Business

a. Louise: Louise's last day will be May 4th 2018. She has agreed to stay and train a new person. Hope Simon at DCS has posted the position, which will close April 18th. They have had 43 applicants so far. Louise and Scott Kolar are on the hiring committee, along with two DCS folks. The position is posted at between 50-70%. Louise would be agreeable to staying on for 20% for financial business if the other person would do 50%. DCS hopes to have in-person interviews starting June 1st.

b. Proposed Communications policy:

The policy on PLATO communications to members was discussed. Motions were made and the policy was passed. There was then some discussion by Hedy Lukas about ways to make the weekly email work better for our membership. Ideas were to highlight PLATO sponsored events, have guidelines for content/format, improve navigation with a table of contents, highlight certain items each month, and work with committees on input. The Communications committee asked for money for design help for templates. A motion was made to authorize up to \$1,000 for this. The motion was approved.

c. Membership Donations to WPT: A motion was made to donate 4 memberships to the auction for Wisconsin Public Television and was approved.

d. Open House Subcommittee Policy: The Curriculum committee requests help from other committees as the former preview is now an open house, not just courses. They would like a permanent sub-committee of representatives from the other committees. These would be made up of 1 person from each committee with a one year commitment.

e. The Agora: Patricia Becker is stepping down as managing editor of the Agora. She is working to find someone to replace her and will work with them to transition into the position.

f. Volunteer Issues: Discussion was held about the need to look for new member volunteers on an ongoing basis. The most successful method is personal outreach one-on-one. Curriculum is currently doing this for their new members. Special Events thinks it may be helpful to have a list of what volunteers will/may be expected to do. It was suggested we need to work on using the PLATO database to identify PLATO member's skills/interests to aid in finding volunteers. This will be on the agenda for the next Executive Committee meeting.

6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

- Next Meeting: Friday, June 8, 2018, 9:30-11:00.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Herrling, Secretary