

Minutes--Friday, February 08, 2019

Room 7045, 21 North Park St., 7th Floor

9:30 –11:00 AM

Present: Michael Stevens, President, Kathy Brown, Janet Cabot, Ed Cothroll, Barb Friberg, Suzy Griffiths, Patricia Herrling, Scott Kolar, Tim Otis, Linn Roth,. Hedy Lukas participated via conference call.

Also Present: Edie Urness-Pondillo

1. Call to Order and approval of January 2018 Minutes

They were approved.

2. Committee Reports

a. Questions for Chairs

b. Annual Meeting Update--Scott reported that the speaker for the meeting will a staff person from the Lakes and Watershed Commission (perhaps Joe Parisi) who will talk about the lake levels and water related issues. The Lussier Center is all set for the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, which will begin at 11:00am.

c. Nominating Committee update—Scott Kolar reported that he has a full slate of candidates, with no contested seats. The election will take place mid-April.

3. New Business

a. Treasurer's Report regarding spending projections—Scott Kolar reported that we may be asked by DCS to increase our contribution from the current 40%. We intend to show DCS that we have given DCS a profit over the last few years, even though we will be costing DCS money in 2019. We used to pay Louise's costs on a separate line but now these are paid directly through DCS.

Scott will be asking committees for their budget requests.

PLATO will be changing from its payment system through Strip to AffiniPay, which is the payment system that our website vendor (Wild Apricot) uses. We could continue to use Strip, but then Wild Apricot was going to charge 20% more than the \$1,728 we currently pay them. Scott sees no advantage to either system, so we will go with AffiniPay.

A discussion was had about the cost of the Agora. Should it go to digital only rather than print? Perhaps in future we should give the Agora committee a set amount and they decide how to fund whatever format they choose.

b. MOA regarding PLATO Fund—WE give \$14,000 for returning adult scholarships, A proposal was made to the Board to pay this same amount in the next fiscal year. Motion made and approved.

The Board was asked to approve the incorporation of the following words in a revised statement of the purpose of the PLATO Fund as well as in any MOA to implement them. The current wording is:

“The primary purpose of this fund is to help support costs of education for needy adult students enrolled in credit courses at UW-Madison, and to support PLATO’s lifelong learning programs.”

The wording revision is: “the primary purpose of this fund is to help support costs of education for needy adult students enrolled in credit courses at UW-Madison, and to support educational opportunities for learners of all ages in greater Madison.”

c. PLATO volunteers

i. Status on volunteers from Survey—Committees reached out to the folks who indicated interest in being involved in committee work. Contacting them and meeting in person for coffee seems to yield the best result and several committees have added new members from the survey pool.

ii. Using information supplied from new members on areas of interest--A year ago membership forms started collecting information on member interests and skills. Edie made lists of people with particular skills, such as event planning, writing, office skills, etc. Now we need to decide how to use this information. When should they be shared with the appropriate committees? Edie may need to combine lists as some people may have up to four separate skills. Perhaps a list by person rather than by skills. These could then be given to committee chairs. The format would list the person, the boxes they checked and their comments. We should contact these people within 3 months at least.

d. Other new business—None.

5. Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Friday, April 12, 2019, 9:30-11:00