

PLATO Board of Directors Meeting

December 11, 2020

9:30 a.m. via Google Meet

Minutes

Present: Present: Kathy Brown, President, Janet Cabot, Alan Capelle, Jatinda Cheema, Sue Dentinger, Bill Eisinger, Patricia Herrling, Scott Kolar, Hedy Lukas, Rod McKenzie, Sharon Scrattish, Michael Stevens, Meg Taylor, Paul Thompson
Also present: Louise Fowler

Approval of October 2020 Board Minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Kolar gave the Treasurer's report. Revenues and expenditures were both down, as expected.

Annual PLATO Education Fund Appeal Update

Rod reported that there has been a good response to the fund appeal. Donations were just over \$10,500 so far in the appeal.

2021 Annual Meeting & Election Process

We will not have the Annual meeting in person this year. There was a motion to cancel the meeting (Louise will take care of the cancellation of the facilities) and have a written report sent out to the membership via the Tuesday email blast. The motion was approved.

Michael reported that the nominating committee is getting together and will send out an email request for suggestions for the Board. We have 2 at-large member open, with 3 year terms.

Transition of Office Operations Associate and Changing Relationship with DCS

- **Overview** of events occurring in the past few weeks
40% of our membership dues go to DCS . DCS is having layoffs and a hiring freeze. To assist PLATO with replacing Edie Urness-Pondillo, Dean Russell and Assistant Dean Hope Simon offered 50% time of an existing DCS employee, Christine Bartlett. However, as of November 19th, 2020, Christine is leaving DCS for another position. As a result Dean Russell had no one else from DCS to help PLATO in an administrative capacity. He recommended PLATO consider getting their own administrative support person in the future.
Rod McKenzie, Scott Kolar, and Kathy Brown met with Louise Fowler and she was willing to change from her 10% to work in an administrative capacity for PLATO for 16-20 hours per week for a minimum of 6 months up to a year. There was another meeting with DCS where this was proposed and DCS increased Louise's hours immediately.

- **Formation of new administrative workgroup**

Michael Stevens submitted questions for a working group to consider in looking at administrative possibilities for the future without DCS participation. The charge is to look at all the issues and come back to the Board with options and the costs associated with each option. The working group would have three levels of participation:

1. Core group: Scott Kolar, Louise Fowler, Rod McKenzie, Hedy Lukas, Jatinda Cheema, and Michael Stevens.
2. Resource Group: to supply specific information. Core group will reach out to others on Board and/or membership as needed.
3. Board: The Board will make decisions on the options presented.

Information about these issues will go out in a Tuesday email to members.

A motion to approve the charge for the working group was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Other business:

- **Q/A committee reports.** No questions.
- **Change in leadership at SEC:** Farewell and thanks to Sue Dentinger, who is stepping down and leaving the state. Janet Cabot is stepping up as chair until June and the Board thanks her for that!

After adjourning:

- Join us for virtual socializing (Optional)

Next Board meeting: February 12, 2020