

PLATO Board Agenda
Friday, June 14, 2019
Room 7045, 21 North Park St., 7th Floor
9:30 –11:00 AM

Present: Kathy Brown (Vice-President), Janet Cabot, Ed Cothroll, Pat Eaton, Barb Friberg, Patricia Herrling, Scott Kolar, Hedy Lukas, Rod McKenzie, Linn Roth, Meg Taylor

Also Present: Edie Urness-Pondillo

1. Call to Order and approval of April 2019 Minutes

A spelling error pointed out. Then minutes were approved by the Board.

2. Committee Reports

a. Questions for Chairs

b. Additional updates

Hedy Lukas mentioned that the Communication Committee is getting more requests for presentations about PLATO, such as Thrivent, Attic Angels, Greek organizations for former educators, etc.

The question was raised: Do we want to increase membership? Hedy reported that at the time of our last Strategic Planning Report PLATO was growing fast. It was decided that we wanted to continue to grow, but “organically” not aggressively. We currently have 1,034 members and we have to manage our growth. Using current members to spread the word is a good way to use our resources. Membership is still receptive to requests for presentations.

Hedy discussed Membership Committee looking to the next generation of members—what will they be like and want in terms of their retirement—how will we attract them? Basically PLATO needs to be true to our mission and realize we are an all volunteer organization.

3. Old Business –None discussed.

4. New Business

a. FY20 PLATO budget—Scott Kolar reported that PLATO is doing well financially. The financial reports are now separating self-funding items from items supported by membership dues. It helps us see if there is a need for dues to increase or not. Other major changes are the expenses for Edie and Louise. Before all of their time was attributed to administration, but now it is split between administration and trips. 50% of their time goes to trips work.

Janet Cabot suggested that since 50% of their time is allocated to SEC, perhaps the remaining time should also be allocated out to the specific committees, such as Curriculum, Membership, etc. to get a full picture. Edie estimated that the remaining 50% of the time is split evenly between Curriculum and Membership.

There is a RTA (Reserved Trip Account) that provides a financial cushion if a trip is cancelled or under-booked. This covers losses. Our money market funds and the Foundations could cover operating costs as well, so that any dues increase would be remote.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the FY20 PLATO budget and was passed by the Board.

b. Confirmation of appointment of Rod McKenzie as chair of Fund Development Committee –Passed by the Board.

c. Recommended contributions for FY 20 from PLATO Fund from Fund Development Committee. This was passed by the Board.

d. Proposed Guidelines for annual spending from PLATO Fund

Rod passed out the Proposed Guidelines and discussion was held. There was a request to see the list of organizations we have given money to in the last 5 years. Rod will ask Tim Otis for this list. A motion was made to approve these guidelines and was passed by the Board.

e. Additional New Business

Scott Kolar announced that the next Annual Meeting is set for May 20th, 2020 and will be at the Goodman Center—Brassworks. It is on the bus line and there are parking lots available.

This was the last Board meeting for several of the “At-Large” members and Meg Taylor talked about the need for an orientation for new “members at large” for the Board. What is expected of them? This should happen at the August Board meeting.

5. Adjournment Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Friday, August 9, 2019, 9:30-11:00.