

PLATO Board Minutes

Friday, February 14, 2020

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

Present: Michael Stevens, President, Kathy Brown, Janet Cabot, Suzy Griffiths, Patricia Herrling, Scott Kolar, Hedy Lukas, Rod McKenzie, Sharon Scrattish, Paul Thompson Meg Taylor via conference call Also Present: Edie Urness-Pondillo

1. Call to Order and approval of December 2019 Minutes – Minutes approved.

2. Committee Reports

a. Questions for chairs

b. Additional updates:

-Hedy Lukas updated the board on two priorities for the Membership/Communications Committee. (1) Did a soft launch of the PLATO Facebook page and will announce an official launch in early March encouraging members to visit the page. Currently Edie can post items. (2) M&C wants to select already planned events with broad public interest and promote them as membership recruitment opportunities, open to non-members. The Fall Open House would be one such event. It could be a “showcase” opportunity and should be marketed as such to attract people to come. We should have committee volunteers who want to participate in these events to showcase specific aspects of PLATO. Hedy will send these ideas out to the committees for: 1. A general reaction to the objectives; 2. Asking what are the committees’s wants and needs for the event; and 3. A call for volunteers to be a part of this showcase opportunity. More details for this initiative are on the M&C’s minutes for February, 2020.

-Rod McKenzie reported end of year giving for the Foundation at \$14,159.00. There were 70 members who gave to the Foundation at the end of the year.

-At the end of the Curriculum Committee minutes it was noted that UW-Continuing Education Studies sent them a brochure listing their ten new courses. Meg Taylor felt these could be posted on our Facebook page or tagged on our FB page. [They would not be listed on our Tuesday email blast or our PLATO webpage.]

3. Confirmation of appointment of Sue Dentinger as co-chair of Special Events

Committee. This is an appointment by the President, which is confirmed with approval of the Board. The Board approved and Sue Dentinger’s term will start in July 2020.

4. Confirmation of appointment of Paul Thompson as chair of Curriculum Committee.

This is an appointment by the President, which is confirmed with approval of the Board. The Board so approved and this term will start in May, 2020.

5. Recommendation of Executive Committee to appoint Bill Eisinger to fill final year of a Board vacancy, per Bylaws Article X, Section 10. Bill will be filling out the final year of Patricia Eaton who resigned from the Board. His appointment was approved by the Board and will run until June 30, 2021.

6. Position recruitment status The position description has been updated and submitted to DCS. The process takes about 3 months. The position description will probably be posted in June. PLATO will be recommending that Edie and Kathy Brown be on the search committee.

7. Nominating committee update. Two “at-large” members will be needed (Suzy Griffith and Paul Thompson’s positions). There was a period for members to suggest recommendations and 10-12 names were put forward. The Nominating Committee reviewed these and will come up with a slate for election. This includes Kathy Brown (President), Scott Kolar (Treasurer), Patricia Herrling (Secretary), Vice-President (open position), and two at-large positions (3 year terms). The final slate will be announced the last week of April. The results of the election will be announced at the Annual Meeting on May 20th, 2020.

8. FY21 Budget Process (no action at this time)

a. general discussion of process –Scott reviewed the budget with the Board. A final budget will be brought to the Board in April for approval.

b. general discussion regarding Agora costs –The next Agora is scheduled to be published in FY 2021. The last publishing cycle cost \$8,000 for printing/distribution. Scott will be allocating \$9,000 for the FY2021 Agora budget. There will be discussion of digital versus print formats for the future.

9. Other new business –None

10. Adjournment –Meeting was adjourned. Next Meeting: Friday, April 10, 2020, 9:30-11:00.

Submitted by PLATO Secretary Patricia Herrling