

**VASFAA Fall Business Meeting  
October 18, 2017**

**Attendees (Quorum met)**

1. Bennington College  
Amy Starr  
Lindsay Cummings
2. Castleton University  
Kathy O'Meara
3. Champlain College  
Greg Davis  
John Lanzetta  
Marianne Werner  
Molly Pepper
4. Community College of Vermont  
Mike Griffith  
Tanner Matchus  
Ryan Dulude
5. College of Saint Joseph  
Julie Rosmus
6. Johnson State College  
Lisa Cummings
7. Norwich University  
Cassandra Aja  
Jody Sibley
8. O'Briens Aveda Institute  
Chris Barry  
John Castaldo
9. Southern Vermont College  
Phylle Lentz  
Susan Rochette
10. Springfield College  
Allene Curto Begley
11. University of Vermont  
Donna Stevens  
Jon A Walsh  
Laurie Fay  
Renee Blanchette
12. Vermont Technical College  
Cathy McCullough  
Judy Luce
13. Vermont Student Assistance Corporation  
Deborah Lessor  
Linda Thatcher  
Marilyn Cargill  
Melaney Wald

## 12:14 PM call to order

### VASF<sup>AA</sup> President

- Matt Desorgher recently resigned as VASF<sup>AA</sup> President, according to VASF<sup>AA</sup> *Constitution bylaws*, Past President, Greg Davis, resumes the role of President until a new VASF<sup>AA</sup> President is elected.
- The group acknowledged and expressed gratitude to Matt for the work he did during his term.
- Executive Committee plans to have biweekly conference calls to ensure VASF<sup>AA</sup> moves forward.

### Spring VASF<sup>AA</sup> Business Meeting Minutes Approved

Ryan Dulude –motion to approve

Kathy O’Meara- 2nd

All voted to approve

### Summer Business Meeting

Occurred at the EASF<sup>AA</sup> Conference, and there were no items to vote on so no minutes to approve.

### Treasurer’s Report (no vote for approval required-FY18 is a draft)

#### FY16 Budget

Heavy loss caused by room block requirement in summer conference contract not getting met.

#### FY17 Budget

- Slight surplus
- VASF<sup>AA</sup> made a conscious decision not to hold a summer conference based on the EASF<sup>AA</sup> conference occurring at the same location and with weeks of the VASF<sup>AA</sup> conference.
  - Decision to put money into EASF<sup>AA</sup> scholarships to increase Vermont presence was successful with over 75 Vermonters attending the 2017 EASF<sup>AA</sup> Conference.

#### FY18 Budget

- Current FY18 budget is a draft and is not formal.
  - Web site decisions could impact the budget.
- **Summer Conference** contract with The Hilton, Burlington, VT on June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 2018.
  - The Hilton contract is driven by a food minimum versus a room block. VASF<sup>AA</sup> has already negotiated down to \$17,000.
  - Additional conference details below under Discussion
- **Dues**
  - Typically dues must be paid by Oct 15<sup>th</sup>
    - Website decisions must be made to determine if we can continue taking secure credit card payment, or will require checks.
    - Dues will not increase for FY18

## Discussion Items

### EASFAA Board Meeting

Greg recently represented VASFAA at the board meeting and will send minutes out soon.

### VASFAA Election

President Elect and Treasurer Elect positions open

**Please reach out to Greg with nominations.**

- Nominations
  - Early next week
- Voting
  - By Thanksgiving
- Decisions
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Dec
- Positions filled and active
  - By January 1, 2018

### VASFAA 2018 Summer Conference June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at The Hilton, Burlington, VT

- Matt reached out to Jill prior to stepping down. Jill was unable to attend today's meeting. Greg will reach out to Jill to determine if we need additional volunteers.
- 35 rooms blocked for Monday night.
- Food and Beverage minimum of \$17,000
- Worst case if we cancel there is a \$3,000 cancellation fee

### Conference Site Committee

- 2018 (Hilton) is our last signed contract
- We will need a new group of volunteers to research new sites
- NHASFAA President, Kevin Piotrowski, already reached out to Matt to initiate talks about combining NH/VT conference.
  - Initial thoughts are to host the conference in VT one year and NH the next, alternating back and forth.
  - VASFAA has considered moving the timing of our conference since EASFAA and NASFAA hold their conferences in the late spring/early summer. NH already has their conference in the fall, which could work well.
  - Combining the conferences could result in higher attendance = greater draw for vendors = more revenue
- VASFAA members attending the NH conference next week will connect with Kevin to start conversations.

### VASFAA Website

Eternity, the current vendor of our website, reached out to Kim Meilleur (UVM):

- Security concerns; upon web review it was discovered *S* indicating security is missing from HTTPS.
- They proposed for \$1,500 they can upgrade our site to address the security issues as well as make it a mobile friendly site.
- PTA platform is another option:
  - \$99/yr with first yr waived

- They would take our current content and display it.
  - Request to show a “mock up” for group discussion/decision
- Greg will research who owns the VASFAA domain
- Current vendor needs our decision by the end of the month. It is unlikely they will extend that deadline. Greg will ask.
- General consensus of VASFAA, decision feels rushed and we need additional information.

**Motion Proposed-** Lisa Cummings

Greg will research with Eternity, will they host for one more year at \$600?

- If yes, we will go with that and research options thoroughly during the year.
- If no, we will pay the \$99 to move to PTA Board while we research how to move forward.

Allene 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

All voted to approve this motion.

**Federal Affairs Committee**

Question was raised as to whether or not we have anyone on this committee?

- Ryan thinks he's on the committee
- Greg will reach out to Matt and those listed on the VASFAA site as on the committee to determine if we need additional volunteers.

Motion made by Lisa Cummings to end the meeting.

All in favor.

Meeting Closed (1 PM)

Minutes documented by Melaney Wald, VASFAA Secretary