

VASFAA Spring Business Meeting
April 24, 2019
CCV Montpelier

Attendees (Quorum)

1. Castleton University
Teresa McCormack
2. Champlain College
Katie Mumbauer
3. Community College of Vermont
Ryan Dulude, Tanner Machus, Mike Griffith, Pam Chisholm, Becky Divelbliss
4. Northern Vermont University]
Tanya Bradley
5. Norwich University
Stephanie Doherty, Cassandra Aja, Sarah Harris, Jodi Sibley, Pamela Hepburn,
Jennifer Tosi
6. Saint Michael's College
Lisa Cummings
7. University of Vermont
Jon Walsh, Laurie Fay, Renee Blanchett, Marie Johnson
8. Vermont Technical College
Cathy McCollough
9. SIT World Learning
Mary Clark
10. Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
Melaney Wald, Marcia Corey, Jessica Smith, Marilyn Cargill, Deborah Lessor

Call to order 12:14 by Jon Walsh, VASFAA President

Quorum counted by Melaney Wald, VASFAA Secretary

VASFAA Board (Board):

Jon Walsh, VASFAA President
Laurie Fay, VASFAA Treasurer
Melaney Wald, VASFAA Secretary

Fall Business Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve Marie Johnson, UVM
Second Ryan Dulude, CCV
All voted no changes
No abstentions

VASFAA Policy and Procedure Manual (P&P) discussion.

Current language in the P & P states any VASFAA members presenting at the annual conference are not responsible to pay the registration fee on the day they're presenting.

Board recommendation to change the language to any NON-VASF AA members presenting are not responsible to pay the registration fee on the day they're presenting.

Group discussion:

- Marilyn Cargill and Marie Johnson both expressed the national organizations they belong to require presenters to pay for their registration.
- Question raised as to why we're looking at this item in the P&P. Melaney's term as Secretary ends in June. It is the duty of the Secretary to thoroughly review the P&P every three years from the effective date.
 - The Board held a one day retreat last month at which they reviewed Melaney's proposed updates.
 - The majority of this summer's VASF AA Conference presenters are VASF AA members. With a tight budget, it could make a significant impact if their registration fee(s) were waived.
- No concerns raised in changing to the proposed new language.
- Renee doesn't think there are any presenters asking to waive the registration fee, however we will honor it this year if it comes up and will make sure the Presenter Agreement is updated if there's mention of it on the agreement.
- Board will draft the new language and send it via the listserv

Elections

- We have one nomination each for Secretary and Treasurer Elect.
- Ideal to have multiple candidates for each position for a vote.
- Nominations should be sent to Jon, or any member of the Board.

Committees

- Every committee has vacancies:
 - By-Laws
 - Conference
 - Conference Site Selection
 - Government Relations
 - Training
- Web committee is currently Kim M and Renee B from UVM.
 - Additional members welcome!
- Some committees have no members.
- Jon attended the NASF AA Leadership Conference in Feb.:
 - We're not alone. This is a national concern in associations.
 - Topics/Concerns can arise where we could be in a bad position with vacant committees.
- Joining Committees is a great professional development opportunity, especially for newer staff to:
 - gain new skills
 - meet new people
 - access to talent of other people

- Jon's reached out to people to ask them to take specific roles on committees, with no success.
- Reauthorization is likely to occur within the next 10 years and VASFAA will need a government committee to give VASFAA a voice.
- Consensus that if VASFAA "loses our voice" it would be difficult to come back from.
- Ryan is the Federal Relations Chair for EASFAA.
- Participation could be facilitating a call once a month.
- Renee mentioned she wasn't active in VASFAA and years ago Kit made her join the VASFAA Conference Committee. Her involvement has done a lot for her own growth.
- Suggestion to give newer employees a bit of a push.
- Marie offered to speak with anyone's boss if they are getting push back.
- VASFAA is our window into EASFAA training. If we don't have VASFAA we will need to travel to other states for training.
- Marilyn reminded the group how Peter Welch's office reached out to VASFAA last year and we pulled together to write a letter and provide our feedback on the PROSPER Act.
 - We need to keep this voice so our representatives can advocate for us.
- Reminder to all how much energy there was at the Fall Business Meeting.
- All will have support of other VASFAA members

Conference Committee Update

- June 12th & 13th at Killington Grand Hotel
- Theme is Roots and Wings honoring VASFAA's 50th anniversary
- Registration:
 - 12 people registered to date (same as last year at this time)
 - 2 vendors
- New this year, Vendor sponsorship "add on" offered to vendors. Two claimed to date:
 - 50th Anniversary President's dinner
 - One of the snack breaks
- Keynote: Dr. Andrew Rosenfeld is presenting the Science of Happiness.
 - He's presented at UVM and is high energy and very engaging.
- Federal update by Stephan Pane from NASFAA
- Agenda recently posted <https://vasfaavt.org/conference/>
- Lowest hotel rate = \$134 + tax and must call by 5/13 to get this rate
- Budget is still getting worked out
 - Using last year's projected budget, if we get the same number of attendees we'll be under budget.

50th Gala update by Marilyn

- Many other organizations also recently celebrating their 50th.
- Some surprises for us at the Gala
- Modifying presenter gifts from our traditional maple syrup to a small token that honors the roots and wings theme.
 - Cocktail Attire Suggested for Gala

- Plated Dinner
- Past Presidents and VASFAA award winners are invited.
 - So far a few have accepted.
- Champagne toast w/ non-alcoholic options available
- Entertainment still TBD
 - Would like feedback if we want to have dancing, or just a cash bar w/ opportunity to mingle

Treasurer Update by Jon. Laurie in attendance and had a bad cold/little voice.

- VASFAA's taxes are filed
- Long-Time Non-Paying VASFAA members were given a deadline to pay their membership fee. Some have been removed from the listserv.
 - No longer any delinquent bills.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:04 PM

Minutes Documented by Melaney Wald, VASFAA Secretary