

Humanists of Minnesota
Board of Directors Meeting
Jan 11, 2023 6:02pm

Attendees:

Ellie Haylund (President), Mitch Thompson (Vice President), David Guell (Secretary), John Walker (Treasurer), Seth Engman, Jerry Smith, Abigail Jackson, Stephanie Schwinn, Suzanne Perry, Nick Haylund,

Location: Zoom online meeting

The November 2022 and December 2022 minutes were approved without objection.

John reported that Sunrise Bank will offer a CD rate of 3.24% while Huntington's rate is just over 4.0%.

Jerry moved that John purchase a \$10,000 (ten thousand dollar) certificate of deposit at Sunrise Bank and then one more of the same amount in approximately 6 months. Nick Seconded. Approved unanimously.

Ellie noted that she will be meeting soon with Nadya Dutchin over Zoom to discuss increased interactions with the AHA.

Suzanne reported that we reached our goal on the billboard fundraising campaign. She described possible plans for in-person events to publicize the new billboard. Ellie noted that she's been working on the design and content for the billboard. She showed the final two designs.

Ellie reported for the membership committee that Audrey Kingstrom and Cindy Erickson volunteered to be new member ambassador.

David reported that regenerating the MailChimp API key as reported last month appears to have fixed the problem with Mail Chimp not being automatically updated with new members who should receive the newsletter. He also reported that the Facebook policy concerning the disclaimers for political/social advertisements requires both a phone number and the address used "on official documents". He reported that he would contact Meta support to see what can be done for small nonprofits such as ours that don't have a physical address or phone line. Finally, he reported that it is not entirely clear how to take ownership of the Google drive from Rohit and is still working on that.

Mitch reported for the programming committee that the next community gathering will be in the upper assembly hall.

Mitch reported concerning the summer picnic that Audrey wanted to commit to a date and location soon. The consensus of the board is that the 3rd, 16th, 9th and 23rd of July are preferred, in that order.

Suzanne reported that the National Day of Reason will be held Wednesday May 3. She has reserved The Vault for that date. No speaker has been chosen yet.

Suzanne reported that Sarah Levin (secular activist) put us in touch with American Atheists because they want to help us pass legislation in Minnesota requiring courts to notify defendants that there are secular options to use rather than 12 step programs.

Stephanie reported that she is considering writing a op-ed that the StarTribute might publish concerning the threat of Christian nationalism. She has a rough draft written.

Mitch, on behalf of the Board nominations committee, raised the question of which Board members are term limited, whose terms are expiring, and when the nominations committee should begin its work.

The renewal of our membership in the second chance coalition was approved without objection by email.

Jerry briefly described his draft proposal organizing work to begin strategic planning.

Jerry noted that he will be meeting with Open Arms at their new facility on Friday to talk discuss a collaboration with them in which we would have responsibility for one of their gardens. He also contacted the Awesome Foundation who indicated they could forward their unfunded grant requests to us.

Minutes

Adjourned 7:28pm