

Humanists of Minnesota
Board of Directors Meeting
March 8, 2023 6:02pm

Attendees:

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

Not attending: Nick Haylund.

Location: Zoom online meeting

The February 2023 minutes were approved with a minor correction without objection.

John reported difficulties getting a copy of the AHA's 501c paperwork, needed for opening new bank accounts and to facilitate getting significant donations.

The financial report for February was passed unanimously.

Jerry led an extensive strategic planning discussion concerning a statement of the organization's business model and a wide-ranging discussion identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats facing the organization in the coming years. Jerry will write up and distribute notes concerning the specific items identified in that process.

Suzanne reported that Audrey suggested that we contact Jacob Mullis who does technical and social media work for FUS. He was contacted and is open to discussing how he could help us.

Jerry reported there was no update for the finance team.

Ellie noted that the Marketing team might best meet on an ad hoc basis. She also reported that the membership committee is evaluating what the role of a new member ambassador would look like.

Stephanie reported for Humanists in Action that they are considering organizing a clothing drive, among other things.

David reported that he granted Cindy Erickson MembershipWorks access related to her intended role as a new member ambassador and had been in contact with her about understanding how to use the system. He also reported that our internet domains would renew in April and be automatically charged to an existing credit card. Finally, he noted that he boosted the Facebook event for our meeting concerning supporting Ukrainian refugees and that he planned to boost the community gathering.

Ellie reported that the summer picnic is scheduled for Sunday July 16 at the same Jaycee's shelter as last time, reserved from 9am to 3pm.

Suzanne reported that Andrew Seidel will speak at our day of reason event and has agreed to meet with us the day before for a book signing and reception.

Stephanie reported that she and Suzanne wrote and submitted an OpEd concerning Christian Nationalism to the Star-Tribune.

Jerry reported that group garden shifts are scheduled at Open Arms (on Victoria Avenue in St. Paul). He also reported that Mark Thoson has begun working at the Minnesota Tool Library, which is looking for sponsors.

Suzanne noted that she has received a pledge from a couple of members for scholarship money for three years. After a brief discussion on how to best merge this funding with the existing Paul Heffron scholarship. Jerry moved that the amount approved for the Paul Heffron scholarship be increased from \$1000 per year to \$1250. Seconded by Mitch. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mitch reported for the nominations committee that Audrey Kingstrom is the only candidate that has been identified to run for the open at-large board position.

Adjourned 7:38pm.