

Humanists of Minnesota
Board of Directors Meeting
April 12, 2023 6:02pm

Attendees:

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

Not attending: Ellie Haylund (President), Nick Haylund.

Location: Zoom online meeting

The March 2023 minutes were approved (with a minor correction) unanimously.

There was some discussion of whether the finance committee needs to be reconstituted and should begin meeting regularly again.

The March treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Mitch reported that there was a complaint about photographs being taken of attendees at a recent social event. There was discussion of the issue but no decisions were made about related policies.

Audrey reported that she and Cindy Erickson are reconstituting the membership committee. Cindy outlined what the membership committee would do in the future. Efforts would focus on member retention and being more intentional about welcoming new members to the organization. There was extensive discussion of what we can do to attract and retain members.

Concerning Board nominations, Audrey reported for the nominations committee that Stephanie would be nominated for Secretary. Audrey reported that she would run for the open at large position created by Stephanie's move to Secretary (completing Stephanie's term). She also noted that there weren't other interested candidates available but that there are multiple good candidates who are interested in running next year.

There was discussion of Andrew Seidel's book signing and our National Day of Reason event. Suzanne reported that the capacity for the Seidel book signing is almost full and that we want to ensure good turnout to the Day of Reason event.

Seth reported that there has been discussion with FUS via the grief group about getting some facilitator training. Mitch moved to approve paying FUS \$125 for Seth and Audrey to receive facilitator training in grief counseling. Seconded by Stephanie. The motion passed unanimously.

Mitch reported that we are still in need of finding someone to work on technical projects (such as day to day maintenance of the website, Facebook, sound and video).

Suzanne reported for the marketing team that she and Audrey will be meeting with the religion reporter at the StarTribune to introduce our organization and explore getting an article published.

Stephanie reported that food packing and yard work events coming up.

David reported his ongoing interaction with Facebook support concerning getting a disclaimer confirmed. He reported that we've had ads for 3 recent community gatherings, including David Breeden's discussion of the history of Humanism. He noted that Facebook support has generally been unhelpful in figuring out why our email confirmation code has not been successfully accepted. At one point, they seemed to imply the absence of a phone number on the website was the reason it didn't work. Therefore, Dave got a personal Google Voice "phone" number and had Andre Gerard add it to the website in order to eliminate that as an issue. It didn't solve the problem. That number (763-200-4146) remains listed on the website as part of our contact information.

Jerry reported that we are set up with Open Arms for 1 event per month with 6-12 people for their Abundance Farm. Jerry moved to approve a \$3000 grant to Open Arms for improvements in their Abundance Farm as part of our sponsorship agreement. Seconded by Suzanne. Approved unanimously.

Adjourned 7:38pm