

HumanistsMN Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday April 10th 6-830PM

Location: online

Present: Ellie Haylund (president), Mitch Thompson (vice president), Stephanie Schwinn (secretary), John Walker (treasurer), Jerry Smith, Abigail Jackson, Seth England, Nick Haylund, Audrey Kingstrom, Suzanne Perry

- A. Call to order (Ellie)
- B. Roll Call (Ellie)
- C. Treasurers Report (John)-Net revenue is down due to expenses. Received letter for the IRS so we can EIN confirmation with John's name so he can sign for financials.
 - 1. Mitch moved to accept
 - 2. Audrey second
 - 3. Motion carried
- D. Secretary's report
 - a. Audrey moved to accept
 - b. Mitch seconded
 - c. Motion carried
- E. New business
 - a. American Athiests will be having their convention here in 2025. We are considering ways to be involved (sponsorships, tabling etc) (Ellie)
 - b. Camp Quest (Audrey): HumanistsMN generally has a fund raiser for them but wonders if we should do so this year due other plans. There doesn't seem to be a lot of cross over between the organizations. Ellie suggested advertising to our members or supporting them in other ways. Mitch expressed similar thoughts. Ellie suggested HMN making a donation in lieu of a fundraiser. Jerry favors making donation to Camp Quest in lieu of doing a fundraiser. Stephanie suggested making a donation and supporting them in other aforementioned ways. Mitch motioned to donate \$1000. Audrey seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. FFRF (Freedom From Religion Foundation) billboard campaign (Suzanne). We received an email from member Julie Lego,who runs an FFRF chapter in Grand Rapids that is raising money for a campaign to erect pro-democracy billboards to encourage voting in swing states. She will be tabling at Day of Reason and could pass out information but collecting donations is not

allowed. Audrey suggested that if she attends our Community Gatherings she make an announcement about the project. ACTION: Suzanne will follow up

- F. Nominations Committee (Audrey and Mitch): nominating Ellie for one more year as pres, Mitch as vp, Abigail and Audrey are running (at large), Seth is stepping down, one vacancy from previous year. The committee has been reviewing candidates to place on our slate (Sophie L and Paul R).
- G. President's report (Ellie) no new updates
- H. Finance team report (Jerry)
 - a. Some changes were made to how donations are accounted for in our budget.
 - b. Overall, net revenue shows a loss of \$6600 through 10 months. Retained earnings are \$58000. Discussion: Should we make adjustments to donations to organizations or internal budgets? We may not have the same expenses next year on things such as room rentals or marketing this year. With some adjustments we can reduce deficit to between \$6000-\$7000. Audrey suggested making a plea to members. Mitch suggested a focus on sustainability versus growth.
- I. Marketing (Ellie)- working on new messaging campaign for the Fall.
- J. Membership (Ellie)- Ellie and Cindy will continue doing new membership orientations quarterly. Cindy is preparing the invitation. It will be moved to a different room in FUS.
- K. Humanists in Action (Stephanie)
 - a. HIA made hygiene kits for students. We continue to monitor the state legislature for bills our members might be interested in knowing about. Earth Day clean up.
- L. Media/tech (no new updates)
- M. DEI (Audrey): developing a standard protocols and orientation for how facilitators conduct their events. Exploring how we can make sure everyone feels welcome.
- N. Programming
 - a. Community gathering reports (Suzanne and Audrey). Speaker for April is Jason Lukasik of Augsburg University. Hospitality team is working well. Audrey will be asking for volunteers to prepare programming for next year.
- O. New business
 - a. Annual member meeting May 18th. Solicit feedback from members about hiring staff such as director of operations. Solicit ideas from members for new projects or initiatives they'd like to see the organization do. ACTION: Ellie will create a draft about our plans to go in the newsletter and present at the meeting.

P. Day or Reason (Suzanne)

- a. 85 people registered.
- b. Audrey and Marcy will be inviting legislators, including the Secular Government Caucus members and talking to the governor's staff about a possible proclamation. Rep Freiburg trying to get resolution through house.
- c. Getting in endorsements collected
- d. Happy Hour has about 30 RSVP's so far