HumanistsMN Board meeting

Date: Feb 11 2026

Time: 6-7:30

Location: zoom

Present: Paul Rupp (president), Mitch Thompson (vice president), John Walker (treasurer), Stephanie Schwinn (secretary), Audrey Kingstrom, Dayna Wolhart, David Breeden, David Guell, Abigail Jackson

Absent: Corey Brodeur

Call to order: Paul

1. Review of the agenda
2. Approval of secretary's report (Stephanie)
    a. Mitch motioned
    b. David B. seconded
    c. Motion carried
3. Treasurer's report (John)
    a. Our account is $5,000 down (more expenditures than income), Factors: usually an increase in membership renewals in the Spring, tend to spend more in Winter on programming etc. No major concerns for the near future but will continue to monitor.
    b. Staff position update: funds earmarked for a possible part time position are at $18,000. Future fundraising has been suspended pending more planning for future fundraising efforts.
    c. Discussion on how to create way to allow people who have auto renewal or recurring memberships to cancel online (there isn't currently a way to do this). Dave G, who helped create our Membership works, reports that this can be added and would allow memberships to be canceled immediately or upon renewal. When people do this all their data will be deleted from our system. Dave G added the button.
        i. David B motioned to add these button
        ii. Seconded by Audrey

iii. Motion carried

4. New business
    a. The American Empathy project is being created and funded by the American Humanists Association-$1000 grant to 100 groups by May 2nd for service projects. Applications are due by March 1. Humanists in Action are meeting soon and could explore uses for this money. Audrey suggested the Humanists MN could match the $1000. Possible ideas: Mitch suggested finding ways to support struggling businesses. Make hygiene kits to donate to organizations doing food packing. Pay rent for family in need. Ask members to donate to this specific fundraiser. Audrey motioned that HMN donate $1000 in the event we secure the AHA grant. David B seconded. Motion carried.
    b. PRIDE application: Stephanie will submit the application and manage correspondence with the PRIDE organization.
    c. Board nominations update (Audrey): Audrey, David B., Corey are the nominating committee members. We have 3 positions to fill.
5. Old business
    a. Membership report
        i. 468 members which is a 5.4% increase from February of 2025
    b. President's report
        i. Wrap up National Religious Freedom day
    c. Committee reports
        i. Communications, marketing, media (Audrey)
            1. Updated merch, signage etc
            2. Dayna offered to assist
        ii. Programming (Audrey)
            1. There may be another offering of Resistance 2.0
            2. Poetry reading night (David B and Ruby will collaborate)
            3. Matt, Dayna and Kazi are creating a media literacy workshop and possible speaker in the Fall
        iii. Member connections
            1. Sally is chair
            2. New members orientation Feb 21st Secular Saturday
        iv. Humanists in Action (Stephanie)
            1. Committee meeting Feb 21st
            2. Ongoing meal packaging events, blanket making
            3. Discussion of The Empathy project (AHA)

v. Tech (Dave G.)
    1. Nothing new to report
vi. DEI advisory group (Audrey)
    1. Nothing new to report

d. Motion to adjourn Dayna. Seconded: David B. Motion carried.