

AGS Board Meeting

MMS Conference Room, Centerpoint Building

November 5th, 2007

Attendees

Anchorage: Peter Barker, Art Banet, Ric Wilson, Diane Shellenbaum, Jennie Flight, Peter Johnson, Laura Silliphant, Tom Plawman

Fairbanks (via telephone): Bob Gillis, Jim Clough

Meeting called to order at 11:45 am. President Art Banet

Treasurer's Report

- Taxes for 2005 – 2006 have been filed
- Sue Karl can pursue 501c3
- New laws require us to file every year, regardless of income

Secretary Report:

- Received forms from First National Bank to put the current board members on the various accounts / safety deposit box. Forms passed around for necessary signatures
- Jennie presented the two versions of September's minutes: original and revised version from Diane. Discussion of what should be included in the minutes. Notes to recreate the meeting discussion? Only items that are voted on?
- Tom P. moved to accepted the revised form of the minutes (now the accepted September 2007 minutes) which included more detail about the discussion as well as action items and who was responsible for following up on action items. Laura S. seconded the motion. Motion passed with 9 in favor, 1 opposed (Ric).

President's Report

- Morgan Stanley Account
 - Pete Barker had done some research on moving the Morgan Stanley account. There was some benefit to seeking higher interest rates (~ \$146 / year with our current funds), but would require a lot of hands-on participation from the board, especially the treasurer.
 - Discussion:
 - Benefit of CD's is locking in interest rates in the rate declining environment
 - Most folks through email had agreed that we leave the funds where they are for the sake of simplicity
 - Pete B. stressed that it was important to have a plan for this money before we made any decisions about what to do with it. Pete B. brought a pamphlet "Creating and Using Investment Policies: A guide for non-profit boards" which was geared towards non-profits with significantly higher funds, but still emphasized that a clear plan for the funds was essential.

- Laura S. felt that simplicity was better from the treasurer's perspective
 - Don't want to rule out the possibility of going to CD's later
- Diane made a motion to stay with the same institution (Morgan Stanley), but that we keep our options open to pursue CD's or other options at a later date
- Ric Wilson made a motion to table the discussion and the motion presented by Diane, since it did not achieve a change. Art Seconded. All were in favor.

Vice President's Report

- Webpage
 - Peter J. and Art had met with Jan Hazen about web design
 - Jan Hazen submitted a list of what was currently included on the webpage.
 - Peter J. brought examples of her work
 - Submitted an estimate for web redesign and upkeep:
 - 30 hours initial site design - \$1500
 - Updates during the first 3 months (8hrs/month) - \$1200
 - Total setup = \$2700
 - Keeping the website current after that would be \$50/hour in 15 minute increments. Things that took just a few minutes, no charge
 - Web hosting would be \$15 / month
 - Discussion
 - Choices are status quo, keep looking, or go with Jan
 - Currently getting this service for free, but website could be more snazzy and board felt that status quo was unacceptable
 - Ric W. made a motion to tentatively accept her proposal and pursue the new web design. Pete B seconded
 - Discussion
 - How about a student to keep the website running once it's been redesigned?
 - Peter J. indicated that Jan is willing to let someone else do the upkeep once it is redesigned, but in her experience she often had to go back and fix things when they break in this situation
 - Board is skeptical that we would need to spend the \$1200 for redesign and Jan had indicated that this was likely a high estimate based on our needs
 - Based on the cost, the decision is not something that the board can make. Any decision over \$1,000 needs to be agreed upon by the membership.
 - Will bring this up at the next talk (joint with GSA)
 - Ric W. revised motion to bring this proposal before the membership: Board would like Authorization to spend up to \$2700 to redesign the website and to maintain it for 3 months. Tom Seconded. All in favor.

made a motion to tentatively accept her proposal and pursue the new web design. Pete B seconded

- Discussion
 - Board unanimously in favor of including the proposal in the email that went out to members regarding the upcoming meeting.
 - Too late to include in the newsletter, so email would give sufficient notice

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm

J. Flight – AGS Secretary 2007-2008