

ASF Monthly Zoom Meeting

March 10, 2022 ~ 12pm

Present: Tracy Rahim, Lori Wynia, John Brown, Rachel Sherlock, Kristy Modrow, Sandi Sibley-Gerick, Tom Boylan, Christian Breczinski, Sami Gabriel, Tom Reburn, Jay Lee, Mandy Weister, Benjamin Sturomski, Jeet Sausen

Meeting called to order at 12:03pm. The agenda is approved.

1) Meeting Minute approval: Feb. 18 pre-meeting & Meet & Confer

- Motioned by Christian, seconded by John. Meeting minutes approved.

2) Welcome, Jeet!

3) Recap of Lobby Day & advocacy efforts (Kristy Modrow)

- This was our largest Lobby Day ever and our numbers were only second to the court reporters for Teamster's numbers. Kristy sent out the links for the sessions due to errors with members receiving their session invitations. Mankato, Winona, and St. Cloud will be having local meetings with some of their reps. Mandy reported feedback that next time it would be helpful to preface who we are as a bargaining unit at the beginning of the session for future times.
- Jeremy Miller's session was eye-opening since the Senate has no plans for a supplemental budget for anything in the state and will not give budget targets to committees. The senate wants to give that amount back as tax relief. Tracy recommended that members send support letters to our legislators even if our legislator agrees with our goals. Kristy noted that there will be a letter writing campaign being released soon.

4) Update on State Officer Elections (Tom Boylan, Tom Reburn, Jay Lee)

- Seven people are running for board positions. The petition was completed at the beginning of the month, and the candidates will write bios to be included in the packet for members. Tom will also upload their bios to the website.
- We received approval for an online election and Tracy created an online ballot. The online election will begin on the 28th with a two-week timeframe for members to vote. The board will then certify the election results on April 12th at 4:30pm.
- There are two individuals running for two positions. Voting members will have to choose them for just one position. We will need to confirm that the individuals were not voted for twice when certifying the results.
- Need to schedule 4/12/22 Board certificate vote meeting.

5) COVID-19 Update (Ben Sturomski)

- Response & masking on each campus under new guidelines
- Buildings are opening back up on April 22nd. The system office still has telework agreements through Memorial Day.
- In the next 7-10 days we will have more guidance on the testing and attestation policy, the employee health screening policy, and employee travel from MMB.

- Ben asked about what other campuses have experienced with the change. The board stated that their campus mask mandates have ended, except for St. Cloud State since the county still has high transmission rates.
- IFO has a petition going regarding the changes and the lack of consultation.
- The executive team discussed feedback from members regarding the changes. Ben noted they haven't heard anything, Christian noted some of his members are choosing to mask and meet with students remotely, Sandi has heard concerns from members regarding in-person meetings without masking requirements. Kristy raised concerns about volunteering for events when the mask mandate was in place and now having to staff those events without masks required.
- If you have any feedback you'd like shared please share with Tracy before her Board of Trustees meeting next week.

6) Website update (Tom Boylan)

7) ASF Scholarship (Mandy Weister)

- Mandy gave an overview of the ASF scholarship application proposal.
- Mandy recommended starting this scholarship Fall 2022.
- Christian recommended bringing this proposal back to the local members for feedback. We'll table this conversation for the April board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:04pm.

The ASF State Scholarship proposal has been through the latest round of revisions and is ready again for consideration to be adapted by the board. Since we last discussed this I have consulted with ASF experts Carolyn Nelson, Director of Scholarship and Rachel Sherlock, Assistant Director of Financial Aid. I have incorporated their feedback in the process. These were a few logistic changes and timeline adjustments to help with the process itself. I also received feedback from Mankato's ASF Exec Board and was able to further slightly tweak language and make a couple adjustments to be sure the documents were communicating what we wanted and clear to students. You'll find this final draft attached as well as an acceptance and news release form (Carolyn shared this would be an important step in the process so it has been added). I feel very confident about where these documents currently are.

Please note, in order to facilitate the awarding of these scholarship next academic year, the board would need to add a "Scholarship Committee" of 3 people (I propose this number at minimum based on my conversations with our Director of Scholarship) to our annual roster of committee work to be done. This committee would be responsible for initiating advertisements, complete the work of reading and selecting winners, coordinate the accepting funds by students (form attached) and dispersing funds to appropriate schools with help of our Treasurer in June. Finally, they would be responsible for sharing the good news to all 7 institutions of the selected winners to be shared with ASF members.