**Kentucky Academy of Science**

**Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

February 06, 2023

The KAS Board virtual (Zoom) meeting was convened on Monday, February 06, 2023 at 3:05 PM(EST). Members present include: Amanda Fuller, Julie Reizner (president), Dr. Dirk Grupe (physical science representative), Dr. Kate He (biological science representative), Dr. Trent Garrison (former president of KAS, AAAS/NAAS delegate), Rob Weber (communication and policy director), Dr. Mark Wilson (treasurer), J. Scott Miller (physical science representative), Melony Stambaugh (Director for JKAS and coordinator of KAS), Dr. Noel Novelo (president elect), Dr. Justin McFadden (social science representative), Dr. Marilyn Akins (historian), Dr. Melissa Mefford (grants director and biological science representative), Dr. Scott Wicker (at large representative), and Dr. Elizabeth Thomas (secretary), Dr. Ann Kingsolver, Dr. Jennifer Birriel (physical science representative) (16 members logged in Zoom).

Members not present: Dr. Frank Ettensohn and Dr. Li Li Zyzak

Call Meeting to Order

Julie Reizner, president of KAS, welcomed everyone, had everyone make introductions, and called meeting to order.

Approve 2023 November Meeting minutes

Jennifer Birriel made a motion to approve the minutes. Scott Wicker seconded the motion. All were in favor of approving minutes from last meeting.

Treasurer Report

Mark Wilson shared the treasurer report. Dr. Grupe pointed out a typo in the report with the 2022 year and not the 2023). This is 2023. The Athey Trust and the Stifel Securities have gone up and states it would be a good year to “let them sit”. The list of credit card purchases included in the report; nothing unusual in the report. “It was a good quarter.” Scott Wicker asked about the journal cost and the ~3% automatic withdrawal? Amanda replied that Frank will present the agenda strategy for the journal at the April meeting. Mark moving to the budget to reply to Scott’s question about the withdrawal? The budget shows two years as actuals and then the proposed 2022 budget compared to the actual 2022 budget. Included is a lean and robust 2023 proposed budget. Deficient very high in 2022 (~$65,000) but believes there is income that was not included so likely not an accurate value. We are moving toward a larger budget. Proposing a larger budget (greater $125,000). $26-29,000 for annual dues, revenues from the meetings, quarterly distributions, annual distribution, US Bank from Trust $39,748

Scott pointed out that would the $20-$27,000 distribution not always be there and should it then be zero? Rob and Amanda got a grant for $10,000. There will also be a 3% line item (distribution that can be used to expand activities within KAS). Therefore the $20,000-$27,000 is from the savings/surplus (money accrued over the year in the checking accounts).

Expenditures are included in the treasurer report ($17,000.00 on grants, JKAS mentor match outreach $6000-$15,0000 to send delegates to Washington, DC, strategic plan initiatives).

J. Scott Miller asked about a missing number line item from the budget (Athey quarterly distribution for 2022 so should be more than $16,000, 4Q was 4413.17).

Dirk Grupe made a motion to approve the budget. J. Scott Miller second the motion.

Grants Report

Dr. Melissa Mefford, biological representative, provided the grants report. There were total 14 special research grants.

There were two sets of seven and divided in two pools of four. Several reviewers did recluse themselves and two did not respond to emails. Melissa requested volunteers to review the grants. Dirk Grupe, Elizabeth Thomas, and Mark Wilson also volunteered.

Melissa suggested that KAS funds the top two grants. Mark states that every grant should have four reviewers for each grant. Scott asked what was the turnaround time for the grant? Melissa proposed two weeks turnaround. Dirk proposed that KAS funds also the third ranking Marcia Athey & Botany grants. Melissa said on the website states that there is not a specific limit of grant funding for this grant.

Melissa proposes that we fund the first three grants (Marcia Athey & Botany grants for $8848.00). Melissa also proposes that we fund the top two undergrad Summer Research, the one Athey Science & Ed Outreach, and the two Undergrad Research Supply grant and for a total of $25,736.00. Scott made a motion to approve. Dirk Grupe seconded the motion. Scott Miller did not approve. Elizabeth Thomas refrained from the vote. The rest were all in favor.

A point of discussion included requesting a policy for who can review the grants. Dirk asked what is the guideline about when to recluse oneself from the grant review committee? Should it be if you work at the same institution or if you know the person? Scott Wicker states that we need to be clear about this. Melissa said in this situation this year there was no reviewers from the same institutions reviewing the grants so there were no conflicts of interest.

Committees

Julie asked Mark to present the industry committee and we can ask each other and others outside of KAS board to serve on these subcommittees. The industry committee would include career things at meeting, industry members pay dues, and list of industry players we can solicit as sponsors, career workshops; try to come up with a list of industrial participants.

Dirk Grupe says sign him up for that committee; with the location of NKU there is lots of industrial opportunities. The connections will also important for jobs and internships. Trent also says he is interested.

Mark asks how to solicit people for the committee? Julie says today we just need to ask people to join. Amanda says put together a paragraph for the committee, description, goals, and date. Scott asks when will the annual renewals go out to the companies? Amanda states the goal would be a pilot this year and then in the future get them on the same annual schedule.

Amanda proposes the strategic planning committee. This would be to have someone to keep us in check with the strategic plan. Jennifer Birriel made the motion for Li Li to chair the strategic planning committee and Dirk seconded the motion. Scott Wicker says it should be ad-hoc. J. Scott Miller says it should be offered to general members. Scott Wicker says since Li Li is not present we should wait until next meeting to determine a chair for the strategic planning committee. Scott Wicker request a documented letter for serving on this strategic committee. Julie asks if it could just be a list on the website. Scott Wicker says we should have both.

Annual Meeting Progress

Melony Stambaugh provided the annual meeting update. The annual meeting will be at NKU. Melony has made progress on reserving rooms and securing the Newport Aquarium for meeting. Number of universities across the street are being invited. Continuing to work with high schools and the Junior Academy of Science to be included in the meeting.

Noel received information about key note speaker for the conference. He will be entertaining other suggestions for a key note speaker. Julie suggested Sean B. Carol as a speaker. Julie is talking to the event planners for Newport Aquarium and we would rent it out for the evening and we would have speakers.

Scott Wicker asked about the participation from Friday and Saturday on the survey. Amanda paid attention to the new activities that were implemented this past year. Dirk says we should post a schedule earlier this year but Amanda says we need to be flexible. Dirk mentions about the planning of hotel can be a problem. Amanda says it always depends on the numbers. Melony mentions now that we add the Junior Academy we will need to be there at least two days and no longer only one day.

Executive Director’s Report and Annual Meeting Update

Amanda Fuller presented the director’s report and the annual meeting run down; affiliate renewals are going out. The 2022 journal issue is updated on the website with the content. KAS will be sending out a survey about getting natural history collections around the state. The report is posted on the website and everyone can read it.

Junior Academy of Science

Melony Stambaugh presented the Junior Academy of Science Report. We have seven delegates that KAS will be taking to the National Meeting from four different schools. We have four chaperones. We have students raising funds. There is an online fundraiser for donation goal of $6400. We are currently at $2000 for the national science conference in Washington, D.C. Rob says if you click “make a donation” then you are giving to the general fund.

Communications & Policy Director’s report

Communications & Policy Director’s report was presented by Rob Weber. Rob stated that team is looking at all the bills that get filed, then we look at the ones that have a science issue. The ones that have been tagged: innovation teaching program and fluoridation of Kentucky water supplies. We have a web site location under the website to see the links to the bills and where the bills stand in the legislature process. These include college students pursuing science degrees for policy. There are currently two student groups collaborating. This year we have three student collaborators and 60 students for these workshops. There is a page that engage students to participate in the fund raisers. When people are posting fund raisers on their personal page, the fund raisers get more fund raising. Rob can build a page and we can post it in a social link. Trent says anyone can join us and watch biweekly policy meetings 12:30 on Wednesdays.

Announcements

Amanda mentioned the Junior academy meeting meets March 1st. Board member handbook is updated every year which includes internal policies and procedures is in the folder for this meeting. She also mentioned putting the journal discussion in the April meeting. KAS obtained the EPSCOR grant for $10,000 which covers Rob’s time (not advocacy policy).

Dirk Groupe motioned to adjourn. Jennifer Birriel seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.