**Kentucky Academy of Science**

**Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

May 16, 2023

The KAS Board virtual (Zoom) meeting was convened on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 10:00 AM(EST). Members present include: Amanda Fuller, Julie Reizner (president), Dr. Dirk Grupe (physical 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. Marilyn Akins (historian), Dr. Scott Wicker (at large representative), Dr. Elizabeth Thomas (secretary), Dr. Ann Kingsolver, and Dr. Li Li Zyzak (14 members logged in Zoom).

Members not present: Dr. Frank Ettensohn, Dr. Melissa Mefford, Dr. Kate He, Dr. Justin McFadden, and Dr. Jennifer Birriel

Call Meeting to Order

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

Approve 2023 February Meeting minutes

J. Scott Miller pointed out there were typos within the February meeting notes and would send Elizabeth an email indicating the corrections needed. J. Scott Miller approved with edits within the minutes corrected. Marilyn Akins seconded the motion; all were in favor of approving minutes from last meeting.

Journal Discussion

Julie Reizner thinks more journal submissions would be good. There are only four submissions currently. Noel Novelo suggested a flyer detailing the scope of the journal. The journal discussion is postponed to week of June 5th. Scott Wicker wants to integrate this early in student’s career (undergraduate and Master’s degree, integrate this into the curriculum). Noel Novelo suggests getting a representative at each institution to support this initiate. Amanda Fuller would like to get a date on the calendar to have this discussion (June 9th at 10:30am). Scott Wicker asked about the revenue share regarding the journal. Mark Wilson stated this is total ~5% of the total revenue so this will not have a significant impact.

Treasurer Report

Mark Wilson shared the treasurer report. Income $86,000 hoping to get $166,000. We haven’t had the annual meeting yet that that will come later in the year. We received a big check from Athey Trust, the special distribution every year. Expenses at this time include funding the grants. Most of them have cashed their checks. So far for the year our expenses have been ~ $63,000. The biggest expense is the meeting in the fall.

We currently have ~$27,000 in the treasurer check account and executors account which should cover the next three to four months expenses. The Athey Trust and Stifel accounts are coming back up. We moved cash in the checking account to an interest-bearing account at Stifel which had made ~$641.00 over the past few months.

Included is the credit card activity so you can see the line items. Is there any comments or items everyone would like to see in the treasurer report?

Mark Wilson motioned to approve the treasurer report. J. Scott Miller seconded the motion; all in favor; motion was approved.

Executive Director’s Report and Annual Meeting Update

Amanda Fuller presented the director’s report. The report listed the affiliates’ renewals (mostly everyone has renewed). The grant reports noted money refunded from unspent funds and that some of these dollars are coming back to us. Insurance has been renewed. D&O are slow to get our invoices. Secretary State renewals are due on June 30th and these documents have been filed. The Natural History Collections link in included in the newsletter so everyone can see what collections we have collected. The workshop last weekend at the Louisville library was fun and learned about what some of our members are doing on community science initiatives. As for the mentor match, Amanda Fuller has not had as much time and would like to have more high school students matched with mentors for the summer research. We have a couple of upcoming meetings (Dean A&S at the University of Kentucky to host 2024 meeting), tomorrow meeting with Kentucky Science center. We haven’t updated the MOU with them since the original one in 2014. We have a grant opportunity in July, the Moore Foundation will be putting out a call for proposals (possibly up to $100,000). Amanda will be out of office June 9-19 for vacation.

Mark Wilson approved the report. Ann Kingsolver seconded the approval. All approved.

Communications & Policy Director’s report

Communications & Policy Director’s report was presented by Rob Weber. The new committees’ education and engagement added ten members and the science and policy side about five members. This approach allows us to have more energy and focus in each of these efforts. By having these committees, we are developing prompted action items rather than just discussion. The Science Policy created a directory making it easier for people to network with experts within certain areas. An update on advocacy side, the KY assembly has ended for the year. They will begin session June 1st. Today is primary election day. Legislative section bills that passed this year include a new literacy resource center in Ky based on the science of reading, medicinal cannabis bill (will have a way to purchase cannabis within Ky), a bill that save lives by having heart defibrillators in every school in the state, an anti-trans bill that will prevent accepted standards of care ban that cares for minors. A motion has been filed in federal court regarding the anti-trans bill but if there is no action (injunction on this bill), then such current care will be stopped this summer. This concludes the report if no further questions.

Mark Wilson motioned to approve the report. Noel Novelo second the approval; all in favor.

Junior Academy of Science

Melony Stambaugh presented the Junior Academy of Science Report. We are in the process of contacting high schools to inform them we will be presenting this year. We are looking for partners to attend the annual meeting and help fund the national meeting. The next meeting is in Denver. We are considering how to revise/narrow down the criteria who will be presenting at the national meeting. Questions comments or concerns?

Mark Wilson motion to approve the report. Ann Kingsolver second the approval; all in favor.

Annual Meeting Progress

Julie Reizner provided an update about the planning of the annual meeting at NKY. The meeting discussion included the logistics for the meeting and a tour of the campus including buildings. Looking for career fair, networking companies to give money and sponsorships, booths, and the national guard as well. There is interest in providing companies exposure. Amanda Fuller wants to flag that NKU is not going to fund parking and encourage people to car pool. The minors on campus policy is changing on the campus. We will likely be impacted by that policy on how to incorporate minors into the Junior Academy of Science KAS annual meeting. Noel Novelo was excited about visiting Newport aquarium. Noel Novelo wants to identify the keynote speaker who will address diversity initiative and contributes to science (LGBTQ) and can provide experience serving their country. He has sent an email to James Tidwell (retired agriculture professor nationally and internationally known). He is still waiting for suggestions. Any feedback or comments? Elizabeth Thomas suggested contacting Berea College scientists for the speaker suggestions. Scott Wicker wants us to consider the student audience in as how they engage with the speaker (STEM identity and engagement). Amanda Fuller wants to think about targeting younger audience in the scheduling of the keynote speaker (JKAS). Melony Stambaugh added that the JKAS will be in the library so the biggest issue at this point is the parking issue.

Committees

Mark Wilson presented the industry committee notes. The goal is to build relationships with companies. We need a database of companies and have a plan what we need from these companies. We started developing a charter for the committee. The participants that showed up at the first meeting were added as members. The committee is open to any and all who want to show up. We need to figure out how the level memberships for the industry will be defined. We want to advertise to the groups and have them provide sponsorships. We hope to have another meeting in a month or two and want to get this completed before the annual meeting. We are building a flyer that can be introduced to companies. We have three levels of affiliate memberships include: Thoroughbred $5000, Northern Cardinal $2500, Viceroy Butterfly $1000.Those that are not an affiliate member can participate in specific sponsorships (marketing). We would like to find direct sponsors for Junior Academy of Science, Student and Faculty Scholarship funds (toward grant funding). This information is being incorporated into a marketing flyer by Jon Dixon with edits being completed by Amanda Fuller. The hard part is getting direct contacts into industry. We need friends and associates to contact the companies. Amanda Fuller contacted GeoScience, Dirk Grupe visited a few places and got contacts. Anyone that wants to provide direct contacts can email them to Mark Wilson. Once we build the database and get the flyer made we will contact the companies. Ann Kingsolver made a motion to make sure one of the requirements require they agree with the diversity and inclusive policies, perhaps add a code of conduct on the membership form? Mark Wilson said absolutely. Scott Wicker wants to know what that means for our bourbon industry? Li Li Zyzak stated that her research is on the flavor research and we can possibly integrate this into the program. Noel Novelo likes the way this discussion is going to include diversity and inclusion and use this as a guide as we move forward creating documents. Mark Wilson says we always put a mission statement on documents but also should include the diversity and inclusion statement as well. Mark Wilson says he will make sure the board will see the contact list before we send out the first mailing list.

Rob Weber asks if there is anything else to add? Rob Weber states we have covered it all.

Announcements

Julie Reizner is concerned about the incorporation of the health and medical resource center at the NKU KAS annual meeting, since the nursing center already has plenty of funds and whether this should be a KAS meeting topic? Amanda Fuller says every year is different depending on the campus and what to show case at theses campuses. Julie Reizner says geology is planning on offering continuing education courses and was wanting other topics to be proposed and lead this fall. Amanda Fuller and Melony Stambaugh asks if there are any other items to announce? Melony Stambaugh says if your colleagues or students are doing research recruit and encourage them to present their research at this meeting. Li Li Zyzak has agreed to chair the strategic planning committee and was wondering if we could meet anytime next week? Amanda Fuller says let’s plan on next week. Scott Wicker announced that Kentucky State University is looking for several faculty positions (biology- human and anatomy and math). J. Scott Miller announced that the governing board roster is not update. Elizabeth Thomas will no longer be teaching at Morehead State University. Trent Garrison says the Geology conference this year will be in Cincinnati.

Dirk Grupe motioned to adjourn. J. Scott Miller seconded the motion; all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.