



VTGFOA Board Meeting October 21, 2020, 1:30 p.m. Minutes

Present: Abbie Sherman, Cheryl Lindberg, William Kriewald, Suzanne Lowensohn, Dawn Monahan, Michael Gaughan

Regrets: Thomas Galinat, Casey Rowell

1. Call to Order / Review of Agenda: Abbie Sherman called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.
No changes were made to the agenda.
2. Approval of Minutes: September 16, 2020
Upon motion by Will, seconded by Cheryl, the Board voted to approve the September 16, 2020 meeting minutes, as written.
3. Treasurer's Report:
Dawn reported that the only transactions in the past month were interest and the \$500 contract payment to VLCT.
Upon motion by Cheryl, seconded by Michael, the Board unanimously voted to approve Treasurer's Report, as presented.
4. Education Committee Report:
 - Casey sent an e-mail noting that everything was set for the Fall Conference on Tuesday, October 27.
 - Abbie reported that 17 people were registered as of 10/20. Board members expressed surprise at the low number of participants given the effort in organizing a conference. Conversation ensued about increasing participation in the future. Potential use of Mail Chimp was mentioned.
 - Suzanne discussed the evaluation that was set up in MS Forms.
 - Abbie suggested that Michael be added to the Education Committee. All agreed and noted that a vote was not required.

5. President's Report

- a. VLCT Contract – Abbie, Cheryl and Will met with Elena Esteban of VLCT on October 20 to discuss issues with the diminishing quality of service that has been received over time. Specific issues included slow response time to calls and e-mails, errors and duplications on the membership list, releasing the VTGFOA membership list on an e-mail blast, and delayed remittance of checks. Abbie will draft a letter to VLCT requesting a discount on the annual contract fee due to the aforementioned issues.
- b. Related to above, the Board had an extensive discussion about becoming more independent and discontinuing the VLCT contract. Abbie has set up a VTGFOA email account for questions/inquiries, and Dawn will open a P.O. Box in Montpelier. Michael offered to develop a spreadsheet of activities that VTGFOA will have to take over as the group transitions away from VLCT. It was noted that the Board will need to ensure segregation of duties.

6. Membership Committee Report

The last mailing went to 56 members. It was noted that three members paid the full rate for membership when the fees should have been reduced for additional members.

7. Legislative Committee Report - no updates anticipated until January

8. Other Business

- a. No NESGFOA updates. Board meeting in November.
- b. Board member, Thomas Galinat, will be taking a few months off from the Board for personal reasons. Abbie will make an announcement at the conference that we are seeking additional board members.

Upon motion by Cheryl, seconded by Will, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:41 P.M.

9. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by:

Suzanne Lowensohn, Board Member
(substituting for Casey Rowell, Secretary)