



VTGFOA Board Meeting

March 17, 2021, 1:30 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Abbie Sherman, Dawn Monahan, Casey Rowell, Suzanne Lowensohn, Michael Gaughan

Regrets: Cheryl Lindberg, William Kriewald

1. Call to Order / Review of Agenda

Abbie Sherman, President, called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

We did not have a quorum, so we were unable to conduct any business that required voting, therefore, we only reviewed items that did not require voting action. Minutes and financials will be reviewed and voted on at our next meeting when we have a quorum.

2. Membership Committee Report

Suzanne reported that we have 78 active members. Casey compared the membership list to our Mailchimp mailing list and added any to Mailchimp that were not on the mailing list. Dawn reported that we had 8 people attend the recent workshop and paid the non-member fee. However, they did not decide to join.

3. Education Committee Report

Recap of Winter Workshop –

Michael and Suzanne met to talk about the next workshop. They also went over the surveys and Suzanne reported that they showed more positive feedback about the timing for questions. She did wonder if it would be better to allow questions after each section.

Discuss Future Workshops –

Fixed assets were brought up again from the surveys. A panel on policies and implementation of a Fixed Assets policy was also discussed. We might be able to have NEMRC be on the panel to talk about their fixed assets module. Michael mentioned that the timing of our workshop will coincide with municipalities finding out what they might get in funds from the American Rescue Plan. It appears that most municipalities will receive funds, and all the details of eligibility and rules for spending have not been finalized yet. Abbie said maybe someone from the Congressional Delegation could speak on this. So as of now, it sounds like we will do something with Fixed Assets and have someone or multiple people from the Congressional Delegation speak about the relief funds. The group talked about possible dates of June 9 or June 16.

4. Government Relations Committee Report:

Cheryl and Will were not in attendance, no report available.

5. President's Report

March 2021 Newsletter:

Abbie sent out materials for the newsletter, which included news from GFOA on ending the acronym about the Comprehensive Annual Financial report, as well as upcoming event opportunities. It should go out early next week and she will send Casey some additional narrative for the workshops.

6. Other Business

NESGFOA Spring Seminar Update:

NESGFOA is having a virtual Spring Seminar on April 8 & 9. There will be info in the newsletter about it.

Abbie reached out to Tom Galinet, Board member, via email. He had stepped back temporarily, and she wanted to see where he was at as far as the Board goes but has not heard back yet. She suggested that we should consider looking for a replacement. We currently have 3 open seats on the Board if Tom does not want to continue. Casey mentioned changing our by-laws for a smaller board, maybe of 8. Abbie said that we could consider this and present it to the members at the annual meeting. It is becoming difficult to have a quorum with being down several members.

The group discussed that not having in-person workshops has decreased costs associated with the three workshops we hold each year. There was also discussion about what the next year might look like in terms of virtual vs. in-person workshops. The consensus was that it was a little early to tell, but it might be nice to do a combination of in-person and virtual once things are more normal again.

Abbie mentioned that it is almost time to start working on our next budget that will start on July 1, 2021. The idea of creating two budgets, one with in-person workshops and one with virtual workshops was brought up. Dawn will plan to start working on a draft of the budget. In general, our budget has been similar from year to year.

Meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Casey Rowell, Secretary