



VTGFOA Board Meeting

April 18, 2022

Minutes

Present: Abbie Sherman, Cheryl Lindberg, Angela Aldieri, Courtney Bushey, Michael Gaughan, Jennifer Silpe-Katz

1. Call to Order/Review of Agenda
 - Abbie Sherman, President, called the meeting to order at 12:02pm.
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. March 21, 2022 Meeting

Cheryl Lindberg sent a correction to item 6.b. to clarify that someone from the VTGFOA membership can be on the NESGFOA Board not just VTGFOA Board members. Anyone appointed must be a member of the VTGFOA. Angela Aldieri has submitted updated minutes.

 - Cheryl Lindberg motioned for approval of the minutes as amended, seconded by Courtney Bushey. The board approved the motion.
3. Treasurer's Update
 - Cheryl Lindberg noted that revenues continue to exceed expenditures. Current net income for the year stands at just under three thousand four hundred dollars (\$3,400). There are just two outstanding payments for the February workshop and one refund of thirty-five dollars (\$35) owed for overpayment. The certificate of deposit was successfully renewed last month.
 - Angela Aldieri made a motion to approve the financials as presented, seconded by Jennifer Silpe-Katz. The board approved the motion.
4. 2022 Annual Meeting/Summer Workshop
 - a. Review of Contract from Lake Morey
 - The Lake Morey contract has not yet been signed, but they are holding the date for us. There is no deposit required and the contract is their standard format.
 - Cheryl Lindberg made a motion to approve the contract with Lake Morey as presented, seconded by Angela Aldieri. The board approved the motion.
 - b. Update on Topics
 - Lisa Parker of GASB is confirmed but due to another obligation will need to present first starting at 9:00a. Michael Gaughan stated that he would follow up with Beth Pearce's office about a possible presentation and/or discussion around the implementation of the leases standard. The Vermont Department of Labor has confirmed they would be willing to give a presentation regarding identifying independent contractors versus employees. The annual meeting will take place in the morning before lunch to ensure we have members in attendance who would otherwise leave after lunch. Discussion followed about having a session longer than an hour for Lisa Parker since she has a lot of content in her presentations. This led to a discussion regarding the CPE credits offered for the training. Historically the VTGFOA has tried to offer whole credits rather than half credits for trainings. Consensus was to have the list of topics and schedule set at the next board meeting.

c. Review Draft 2023 Budget

- At the annual meeting one of the items covered is the adoption of the next fiscal year budget. The board reviewed the proposed draft compiled by Cheryl Lindberg. Discussion surrounding potential funding from NESGFOA for scholarships which was not included in the budget. Cheryl Lindberg expressed a desire to use some of our fund balance. Discussion followed regarding if scholarships for the Vermont hosted NESGFOA conference may have been taken from the Vermont Scholarship funds rather than the NESGFOA pool. Cheryl Lindberg and Abbie Sherman will take a look at the historical records. A suggestion was made to change how the budget is presented to make it clear that we are intentionally using fund balance either as a transfer in the revenue section or below the line showing a decrease to the funds on hand. Additional discussion followed regarding why scholarship pools are tracked separately due to restrictions on use and increasing workshop fees as the costs to run in person workshops are going up. Consensus was to set workshop fees based on the costs to run the individual workshop. Discussion about the amount of scholarship we should offer for the upcoming NESGFOA conference in Mt. Washington this year followed. Consensus was to offer the cost of registration but to allow flexibility depending on interest. The intent to generate funding on an annual basis to contribute to the 2025 Vermont hosted NESGFOA conference was discussed. An increase in membership fees was discussed later in the meeting.
- At 12:40p Michael Gaughan left the meeting.

d. Board Nominations

- The VTGFOA Board has a total of ten seats of which seven are currently filled. There have not recently been nominations from the floor to serve as a board member. It was recommended that current board members notify Abbie Sherman if they do not want to continue to serve or if a board member knows someone who would like to join. Discussion regarding a couple of possible candidates to be reached out to followed.

5. FY'23 Membership Renewal

- Discussion around increasing the membership renewal fees continued from the budget discussion. Current fees are thirty dollars (\$30) for active members and forty dollars (\$40) for associate members. Eventual consensus was to raise the membership fees five dollars (\$5) for each category. Additional discussion about how to broaden our membership followed including expanding the topic types to get financial operations level staff.
- Jennifer Silpe-Katz motioned to increase the membership fees starting in fiscal year 2023 to \$35.00 and \$45.00 as discussed, seconded by Courtney Bushey. The board approved the motion.

6. Other Business

a. NESGFOA Spring Seminar Scholarship Reimbursement Request

- Cheryl Lindberg mentioned the requested reimbursement of \$300 was sufficient for the recent conference in light of available funding from the Town of Norwich. She did note that funding in the coming year for training was decreased and she hopes to apply for a scholarship to cover future conference fees. Consensus was that no additional motion was needed to approve this reimbursement as it was previously authorized.

b. April 2022 Newsletter

- Courtney Bushey noted that she recently had seen some information including YouTube videos regarding ARPA reporting. Courtney Bushey offered to check with Katie Buckley at VLCT so that information the VTGFOA provides doesn't conflict with what is being distributed elsewhere in the state. Abbie Sherman will update the section regarding membership renewal and prep the newsletter to be sent later this week.

c. VTGFOA Listserv

- Abbie Sherman stated that some inquiries had been made about having a VTGFOA Listserv where members can ask questions of each other. Vital Communities is an option as a platform. Jennifer Silpe-Katz volunteered to get information regarding the cost and commitment of using that platform before the next meeting.

d. Appointment of NESGFOA Board Representative

- A third NESGFOA representative is still needed. The board meets eight times a year including two to three times in person. Remote participation is available. Participants help plan the 2025 Vermont NESGFOA conference and interact with peers from other states. Michael Gaughan had expressed interest at the previous board meeting. It was noted that we could solicit a representative from the VTGFOA membership at large.
- Cheryl Lindberg nominated Michael Gaughan as the NESGFOA Board Representative, seconded by Jennifer Silpe-Katz. The board approved the motion.

7. Adjourn

- Courtney Bushey moved that we adjourn the meeting, seconded by Angela Aldieri. The board approved the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.