



## Board of Directors Meeting

**April 16, 2021**

2 PM – 3:30 PM ET

### Approved Meeting Minutes

**Attendance (X – present; R – regrets; A - absent):**

#### Board

x	Jay Antle - Chair
A	Srinivasan (Raghu) Raghavan – Vice-Chair
x	Ashwani Vasishth - Secretary
x	David Phillips - Treasurer
x	Ann Erhardt – Past Chair
R	Guilbert Brown
x	Monica Dean

x	Jenny Hirsch
A	Audrey Jamal
x	Cindy Klein-Banai
x	Maghna Tare

#### Management & Guests

x	Meghan Fay Zahniser (Executive Director)

x	Margueritte Williams (Acct & Payroll Mgr)

#### 1. Welcome and Opening Round – 14:05

- How are you, what is going on you want to share?
- Determination of Quorum – Quorum met

#### 2. Consent Agenda – 14:16

- February 19, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- March 19, 2021 Executive Committee Minutes
- Today's Board Meeting Agenda

**MOTION: Motion to Approve Consent Agenda - Jay**

**Moved by:** David

**Seconded by:** Maghna

**List of Those Who Dissented or Abstained:**

**Motion Approved:** 14:16

**3. Executive Director Update - Meghan – 14:17**

- Q1 2021 Highlights
  - Membership
    - Members continue to express gratitude for extended grace period (because of Covid) and we are still having late renewals pay
    - Exceeding budget and have achieved 59.8% of our budgeted revenue
  - Conference
    - Conference schedule has been finalized (timeline)
    - Shorter days
    - Same number of breakouts
    - Signed contract with new virtual platform, Pheedloop
    - Working on sponsorship prospectus
    - Host sponsorship sign-up went live on website today
    - Theme is “The Future is...”
  - STARS
    - Sierra & Princeton Review submission deadline has past, now looking at submissions
    - Working with ACTS to recruit new members to STARS cohort
    - Subscriptions are doing well
  - Education
    - Call for content was combined this year, conference and workshops with fewer submissions this year. Hard to say why there are fewer submissions.
    - Several virtual events / workshops planned this year
  - Resources & Publications
    - “Ditching Desktop Printers” has been released
    - Call for abstracts open for “Practical Approaches to Teaching Sustainability”
  - 2021 AASHE Sustainability Awards
    - Just launched promotion, submissions open
  - Partnerships
    - Potential collaboration with SupplyShift
  - Hiring is open for three intern positions
- Comments & Questions:
  - Some may have not realized call for content was asking for conference content as well.
  - Speakers with RESJ focus this year?
  - Some people missed deadline to submit content.
- Principles of Engagement
  - Need to take a step back and look at AASHE’s values before redoing this. This aligns with one of the recommendations from 122 Consulting. Staff to review at Staff Retreat in June. Once values have been redefined then can redo Principles of Engagement.
- RESJ Action Plan
  - Still working with 122 Consulting, hoping to have finalized in May. This will be looked at during Board Retreat. Staff have drafted a bunch of different goals. Board and Staff to work on how to implement it.

#### **4. Committee Updates - 14:45**

- **Audit Committee - David**
  - Everything has been wrapped up.
  - No comments or concerns from board
- **Financial Committee - David**
  - Looking at financial advisors for investing cash reserves, have been doing rolling CDs but interest is too low. Trying to improve rate of return with low risk.
  - Expenses are down relative to budget, and revenue is up
  - Received 2<sup>nd</sup> round of PPP
  - NYSERDA dropped group membership contract negotiations, don't know why

#### **5. Chair Update - Jay**

- **Retreat Purpose and Date**
  - Looking at one or two afternoons in July for Board Retreat.
    - Look at AASHE values
    - Results of RESJ action plan
    - Brainstorming what sustainability means in a post-pandemic world
  - Let Jay know of other topics
- **Status of Board Recruitment**
  - Need replace at least one position at the end of the year. Numbers are thin this year, so need to add more and add people with RESJ expertise.

#### **6. Discussion**

- Meghan and Magna had proposal to UNESCO accepted, presenting May 17

#### **7. Closing Round – 14:55**

- What are you watching on Netflix or whatever platform you watch stuff on? Anything else you want to comment on?

#### **8. Adjourned – 15:09**

**The next regularly scheduled full board meeting is:** June 18, 2021