



AASHE Board of Directors Meeting

June 21, 2024
11.30 pm -1.00 pm

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

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

Board

x	Francois Miller
x	Stephania Fregosi
A	Rania Assariotaki
A	Daryl Pierson
x	Raghu Raghavan
x	Ashwani Vasishth
x	Chris O'Brien

x	John Madden
x	Jillian Buckholz
x	Sophia Agtarap
x	Kristin Parineh
x	Chris Ewing
x	Joseli Macedo
x	Greg (G.L.) Genco

Management & Guests

x	Meghan Fay Zahniser (Executive Director)

x	Domna Gallion

1. **Call to Order – Francois Miller**
 - Determination of Quorum
 - Opening Round

2. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Motion to Approve Board Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2024
 Moved by: Jillian Buckholz
 Seconded by: Ashwani Vasishth Motion Carried

MOTION: Motion to Approve Executive Committee Minutes – May 3, 2024
 Moved by: Jillian Buckholz

MOTION: Motion to Approve Board Meeting Agenda - June 21, 2024

Moved by: Jillian Buckholz

Seconded by: Ashwani Vasishth

Motion Carried

3. Executive Director Update - Meghan

- Professional development offerings were reviewed; new offerings highlighted
- STARS 3.0 is the culmination of nearly 5 years and thousands of hours of labor. Board asked Meghan to pass along appreciation to staff for all their hard work. Joseli suggested strong marketing efforts to promote 3.0 to every university. Jillian suggested peer to peer encouragement for 3.0
- Advocacy opportunities cited
- Organizational efforts reviewed

4. Committee Updates**4.1 Finance/Audit Committee - Daryl Pierson**

- Budget is stronger in the second half of the year - STARS 3.0, conference, membership
- Deficit is smaller than expected at this point in the year

4.2 Governance Committee - Francois Miller

- Discussion about adding a student to AASHE Board
- Jillian recommends having the term align with the school year
- Questions raised about tokenism, contributions, connections with other students
- Where can AASHE provide value to students (student membership)?
- Should students participate in advisory capacity first before ascending to Board?
- Ashwani recommends a listening session of students at the 2024 conference
- Chris recommends promoting student involvement opportunities to [Sharing the Power Foundation](#) who sponsors Black students in renewable energy fellowships and advances environmental justice
- Governance committee will meet again before motion is brought for vote, in order to discuss these concerns.

5. Strategic Plan Update & Discussion**5.1 Progress since the retreat**

- Meghan, Julian, and Kimberly met to create draft goals and objectives for strategic plan
- During staff retreat, much discussion about the goals and objectives
- Various audiences engaged in this discussion (membership, board, advisory council, staff)
- Strategic plan committee meets again in July to review updated draft

5.2 Draft for review

- Draft should be available for next Board meeting in August
- John asked how we will align resources to match new strategic goals
 - Will be addressed during annual board meeting in October

6. Other Business - Francois Miller and Meghan Fay Zahniser

6.1 ACE/Carnegie Update - Meghan Fay Zahniser

- Carnegie Foundation is in the process of development an elective sustainability classification for colleges and universities
- Several meetings with ACE over past year about elective classification
- Their suggestion for collaboration and their subsequent actions do not match up.
- When and what will a sustainability classification look like?
- Members have expressed interest in a letter to other rating/ranking organizations to have them use STARS data
 - This worked in the past with The Princeton Review and Sierra magazine and resulted in STARS data sharing partnerships that are still in practice.
- Should we create a task force to address this alternative classification?
- Consider what else staff & board can do; cautionary note that we don't want to bring attention to something that isn't known by many in our community yet.
- Meghan suggests that we dispel the myth that STARS is too hard to complete
- Creation of STARS badges (for each category) could add momentum for 3.0
- Does anyone have connections with Carnegie Foundation? Who can we contact to influence in this process?

7. Closing Round - Meghan Fay Zahniser

Meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm.

Next regular meeting is August 30, 2024