

TIMC Board of Directors Meeting | January 9, 2021
Minutes

Attending from the Board: Scott Bryce, Mike Hall, Cynthia Hughey, Sarah Tillis, Ron Vereen

Absent: Leah Rutchick

Attending from the Community: Sarah Gardner, Bree Kalb, Francesca Morfesis, Erica Rothman, Robert Seyler

Opening:

The Chair called the meeting to order and read the agenda. There was a 10-minute meditation.

The Board read the Communication Guidelines.

Discussion:

Updating the Bylaws

The bylaws approved at the 2020 Annual Meeting contains the following sentence under **Section 8.1 Chair: General Powers**.

“The Chair will maintain contact with all Board members and Advisory Board members to ensure full and active participation of all members.”

Board Decision:

The Board agreed that the statement is not in alignment with our movement to a more peer-like structure with “a leader in every seat.” The board agreed to vote on removing the statement at the annual meeting. In accordance with the bylaws, notice of this change will be given at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

Communicating Agreement

It was agreed that protocols to reach formal decisions like those from Robert’s Rule of Order are not particularly helpful for this group. The simple 5-finger hand signal was again proposed as a way for individuals to indicate a decision along the spectrum of consent ranging from strong agreement to strong disagreement. Reservations about such mechanisms also were expressed. Bree Kalb volunteered to describe to the board the decision-making process utilized by her co-housing community. Bree’s offer was met with support.

2021 Annual Meeting

The Board agreed on Saturday, February 20, 2021, 10 AM - 12 PM to hold the 2021 Annual Meeting. Leah was informed later and agreed to this also.

Election of Officers

The Board agreed to meet in a closed session during the 2021 Annual Meeting to choose the Chair and the Secretary for 2021 and then return to the open meeting to formally announce the results.

Cynthia Hughey agreed to serve another term as Treasurer. At present, no current board member has indicated willingness to serve as Chair.

Closed Session: Nominees for Officers and Adding New Board Members

During this discussion it became apparent that a closed session might seem appropriate to discuss more sensitive issues. A person attending from the community suggested all from the community could exit the meeting to allow this process to continue. The others from the community supported this suggestion. The board expressed appreciation and the decision was made to go into closed session to continue the process of exploring (1) how we would select nominees for Chair and Secretary, as well as and (2) a process for nominating and selecting new board members. Those attending from the community left the meeting. The time for ending the meeting was extended, and upon further discussion of the two issues it was felt that we would need another closed meeting of the board to complete this process in preparation for the 2021 Annual Meeting. Mike agreed to send a Doodle Poll to the board for selecting a date for the closed meeting.

No Board member has volunteered yet to assume the position of Chair.

The meeting was adjourned.