

## **YS Chamber**

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, March 11, 2021 9a-10:30a

Zoom Conferencing

**Present:** Ari Greenwald, Gery Deer, Ashley Mangen, Brittany Baum, Gariot Louima, Nick Gaskins, Sarah Courtright, Terri Holden (YS Schools), Alexandra Scott.

**Absent:** Minerva Bieri, Ryan Aubin.

Meeting called to order at 9:03am by Board President Gery Deer.

## **Liaison Reports**

### **YS Schools - Terri Holden**

The facilities process for YS Schools is ongoing. There is a website, [ysforward.com](http://ysforward.com), for information about the process. Next community forum is Wednesday, March 17. Schools started back in a hybrid model starting last Monday, March 1. Students are switching days in-person and at school. Terri proposed to the board at their most recent meeting to go back to fully in-person school, starting April 5, with school four days a week. This proposal will be discussed at tonight's board meeting. YS Schools staff will have their second dose of the vaccine this Friday. YS Schools have a higher rate of staff vaccination than many other school districts.

### **Antioch College - Gariot Louima**

The College is continuing their president search. Yesterday there was a forum with faculty, staff, and students, and the organization helping with the search believes they will have a search profile ready by the end of the month. Antioch continues to recruit 2021 class. Antioch is currently in the midst of their "million dollar march" fundraiser. Options for online and hybrid courses will continue through the spring. To date there have been a total of 12 positive cases on campus that have all been resolved. No positive cases among students this quarter. Kevin McGruder, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, is returning to full-time faculty status at the end of the academic year.

### **YS Arts Council - Nick Gaskins**

The February Virtual Member Show has been extended through March, as the next show has rescheduled to 2022. April show will be Greg Jankowski. Fundraising for Wheeling Gaunt Sculpture Project continues and is progressing well. The web version of the YSAC Artist Directory, created in 2014, is being updated.

### **February Meeting Minutes**

Gariot requests "Admissions" be removed from the title of his report. April Welford is the Acting Vice President of Advancement. Alex will correct. Gariot moves to approve minutes as amended. Nick seconds. Gery abstains. All others approve.

### **February Financials**

Current assets are up significantly from November-December 2021. PPP funding came in and revenue is moving in the right direction. Plenty of membership revenue is coming in, not much stands out in financial report. Ashley suggests finding more income streams, but things are looking up.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Membership** - Alexandra Scott

Significant number of renewals coming in. No negative feedback on structure changes yet.

### **Marketing & Communications Committee** - Brittany Baum

Brittany and Alex have been working on putting together a Facebook group for YS Chamber members. Alex created the group and set rules, and Brittany has posted to the group to add informational posts that will be useful to members, and creating "topics" to tag the information. Brittany feels that the group could be rolled out in the next month or so. Brittany would like to add an introduction section and would be interested in adding surveys/polls to the group. The two will meet soon to go over next steps, before inviting the full board prior to the group going live.

"Chamber Chats" used to be membership meetings as opposed to informational meetings. The Committee suggested reintroducing this form of Chamber Chats and making informational meetings a separate type of event. This type of event would allow member participation and help the Chamber learn more about the member's needs and get active feedback and discussion with and between members.

The committee discussed other ways to gain revenue, and ways to combat "zoom fatigue."

### **Scholarship Committee** - Sarah Courtright

The board and staff portion of the committee will meet today at 1:00 PM. The YS Schools scholarship app opens Monday the 15th. The committee will discuss issue of scholarship amount and how to fund it, as well as a new communication from the YS Community Foundation about the cost of remaining on their platform. Remaining on the platform will cost a minimum of Gariot asks if there is a minimum balance for a YSCF fund.

### **Leadership Committee** - Nick Gaskins

No new developments, but Nick reminds the board to submit names for potential board members. Brittany suggests Danyel Mershon, Bryan Rogusky, and Kate Plesk. Brittany mentions that this meeting time might not be the best for some with full-time jobs and suggests polling the membership about best meeting times.

### **Committee Action Items:**

- Meet & determine 2021 Scholarship Details (Scholarship Committee)
- Suggest Potential Board & Committee Members To Nick (Any/All)
- Continue work on Facebook Group & Invite Board (Alex & Brittany)

### **Staff Report** - Alexandra Scott

Written report included with packet. Wayfinding Signage project stage 1 signs were installed March 2. Signs are being used by plenty of visitors and have gotten compliments, as well as criticism, from residents, but are supported by many business owners.

2021 Visitor's Guides have been printed and received. Staff will begin delivery ASAP.

Alex is working with the Village of Yellow Springs on Shred-It 2021. After receiving Grant Funding from YSCF, Village Manager Josue Salmeron suggested holding the event in conjunction with YSCF's Repair Café in the fall. Alex is working on coordinating.

Nick and Alex discussed the idea of a central online location for Board Documents. They look to the board for suggestions/ideas about how to go about this. Gery is willing to help with learning Google Drive. Antioch College has a robust online system for these types of communications and Gariot will share with Alex to assist with ideas.

### **Staff Report Action Items:**

- Follow up/Collaborate with Nick & Gery about online platform for board docs (Alex)

### **Annual Meeting - Alexandra Scott**

Nick, Ryan, and Alex met Monday, April 8 about the Annual Meeting and are requesting that the board vote on a date for the Annual Meeting. Proposed date is Thursday, August 19 with Thursday, August 26 as a backup date.

Gariot asks if Wirrig Pavilion has been considered. Board will vote on dates and discuss location further in the future.

Gariot moves to approve the dates. Nick seconds. All present approve. (Sarah, Gariot, Brittany, Nick, Gery)

Board discusses ideas around showing video of award presentations at the event.

Alex requests that the board send in ideas for Annual Report themes and topics.

### **Annual Meeting Action Items:**

- Get Cost Estimates From Both Potential Venues & Share w/ Board (Alex)
- Annual Report (Alex)
- Continue to Convene Annual Meeting Planning Committee As Needed (Alex)

Sarah moves to adjourn. Brittany Seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 10:33 AM by Bord President Gery Deer.

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### **Email Vote**

On Thursday, March 11, 2021, after the YS Chamber Board Meeting, Chamber Staff requested an email vote from the board. The YS Community Foundation's Scholarship Platform, which houses the YS Chamber's Scholarship Application, is adding a \$250/yr fee for scholarships to be included that are not attached to a fund managed by the YSCF. As setting up a fund with the YSCF will incur a one-time fee of \$250, and donations made to the fund will be tax-deductible, the Scholarship Committee suggests the Chamber set up a fund with YSCF.

Gariot moves to authorize Chamber Staff to enter into a fund agreement with the YS Community Foundation. Ari seconds.

The motion was declared passed on Friday, March 12, 2021.

**Yes votes:** Brittany Baum, Gery Deer, Minera Bieri, Ryan Aubin, Ashley Mangen, Nick Gaskins, Gariot Louima, Ari Greenwald, Sarah Courtright.

There were no abstentions or "no" votes.