

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 11/11/2020

The regular meeting of the Tech Valley Game Space Board of Directors was held on Wednesday 10/11/2020 at 6:02 pm.

The following members of the board were in attendance via teleconference:

Taro Omiya

Frederika Edgington-Giordano (Secretary)

Jamey Stevenson (Interim Executive Director)

Neil Yoshi Alers

Dan Tanguay

Mitchell Patterson

We have quorum!

Taro acted as the Chair.

The meeting notes were reviewed. Some corrections were made. The meeting notes were approved.

Taro post a link to the agenda in the Discord chat.

The RPI grant was discussed first. There has been no response from Ben Chang. Jamey is still working on finding out about the possibility of RPI filing for an extension. De-coupling the TVGS budget from the grant was discussed. Creating a draft for next year's budget for the next board meeting was discussed. The financial committee will be gearing up.

Obtaining funding from NYS was discussed, specifically the likelihood that there would be funding provided for the grant that TVGS receives through RPI. It is more likely that the budget for NYS will be focused on more necessary core services. If funding is possible somehow, the board may need an emergency meeting to discuss if the money should be declined or accepted. The later, accepting the funding, might need to be considered, as refusing money could look bad when applying for future funding.

Looking at what TVGS would need and then planning on getting grants and other cash flow options based on those identified needs was discussed.

Jamey posted link to the cashflow forecast in the Discord chat. Jamey and financial committee will review and revise it.

One of the sub-items for RPI grant was storage/furniture for equipment. Lock down will be soon, based on the increase in COVID-19 cases.

Jamey stepped away and came back.

Checking the stability and configuration of the equipment that was moved into the mezzanine office was discussed. A quick check might be better than just leaving it. When the equipment

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was initially moved, it was not placed with the intention of longer-term storage. The deadline to move the equipment might be 10pm the following Friday. Security concerns were discussed. It was agreed that going in to check (and possibly move) the equipment will be coordinated outside of the board meeting

The Volunteer Coordinator appointments were discussed next. Two new potential candidates were put forward. Jawica as the Communications coordinator. They are an artist and has writing experience. Kat as the Media coordinator, she is also an artist and has experience with video production.

Both were approved for their respective positions.

Dan stepped away for a minute.

The strategy for licensing educational content was discussed next. Jamey had a meeting with the Small Business Legal Clinic at UAlbany. Jamey posted his notes in the Discord chat. They suggested getting copyrights on materials we want to license and we will need a licensing agreement. It was suggested that TVGS err on the side of restricting licenses as much as possible, while still being useful to other party.

Copyrighting each work individually is better. Having the Wagoner firm do it was discussed. TVGS should still have credit with them. Jamey has an action item to look into it.

Jamey's meeting with Hopeworks was discussed next. The program is coming together on their side and they are still aiming for next year.

#GivingTuesday was discussed next. It will be on 12/1, but there might be a delay as to when funds will be received. Previously on Facebook, but other social media avenues can be used.

Frederika offered to upload and set up the fundraising page. There is a video from a prior year. There was a discussion of what would be mentioned in the posting.

The membership payment tiers were discussed next. Taro just got the membership report from Jason as the meeting started and he posted the link in the Discord chat. All months from 2020 were included. Most funds are from Paypal/TVGS membership (as opposed to the Patreon memberships.) Membership was steady, despite COVID. Taro was going to create a proposal, but he has not had enough time to review in order to make those changes.

Patreon amount is offsetting the amount TVGS would be losing due to the fees from Paypal going through TVGS and TVCOG. No money is lost due to Patreon. There was a discussion of whether Patreon income could be expanded or should be removed.

Focusing on grants was discussed. Mitch offered to help.

The Treasure report was reviewed next. It has money from May and June that needs to be double checked. Jamey has an action item to follow up with Jason.

The previous action items were reviewed.

Suggestions and proposals for the 5 year plan were touched on briefly.

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The TVGS #Metoo response was discussed briefly. No response from volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned.

Frederika Edgington - Giordano

Frederika Edgington-Giordano, Secretary of the Board