

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 4/14/2019

The regular meeting of the Tech Valley Game Space Board of Directors was held on Sunday 4/14/2019 at 1:08 pm.

The following members of the board were in attendance via Teleconference or in person:

Taro Omiya (Executive Director)

Jason Harlow (Chair)

Frederika Edgington-Giordano (Secretary)

Abigail Mathews via Discord

Elavarasi Dharmalingham via Discord

Stephanie Jennings via Discord

Jamey Stevenson attended as a guest via Discord.

Technical difficulties delayed the beginning the meeting. The members onsite we unable to hear the members on Discord.

Difficulties were resolved by Taro hosting the call.

The meeting notes from 2/10/2019 were reviewed and approved.

The meeting notes from 3/31/2019 were reviewed and approved.

The next item were the potential board members.

Jamey left during this discussion.

The first candidate discussed was Stacie McIlduff.

Sarah Lauser, the current TVGS Treasurer was discussed. According to Taro, Jamey had reportly spoken to her and reported that she was not clear about her intentions on staying on as a board member or as the Treasure. There was an issue with the temp agency, an unpaid \$900 bill from December. Taro paid the bill from his own money to resolve the issue.

Ela asked if Stacie would be interested in becoming the Treasurer.

Abby made a motion to consider Stacie McIlduff as a nominee. Ela seconded.

Taro mentioned that Stacie had also sent in a resume.

Ela lost audio.

Taro pinned a link to her resume to the Discord chat.

There was a discussion of how many board members could be added. according to the by-laws 3 is the minimum and 10 is the maximum number.

Increasing the maximum number of board members were discussed. issues with doing this include achieving quorum. The by-laws were reviewed. Action item for the board – revision of appointment process to require letters from current board members that have terms are up.

The discussion of the new appointments should put on hold.

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 4/14/2019

There was a discussion of changing meeting times to Saturday, since Laquana is unable to make it to the Sunday meetings.

Laquana was discussed. Expectation that board members will be available on Discord on a regular basis. Written guidelines were discussed. The challenges with people's availability was discussed. She was approved as an appointee to the board.

Frederika stepped out of the room.

Started discussing about Frederika as an appointee. A few jokes aside, board agreed that she has done a lot for the organization.

Motion to approve Frederika as board has been conducted. Frederika is approved as an appointee.

Jason stepped out of the room to bring Frederika back.

Frederika returned back into the room.

Stephanie dropped off for discussion of her being an appointee. Her tenure was discussed, as her insight was valuable when she was able to attend. It is expected that she will continue to be a good connection to the academic side of games. She was approved as an appointee.

Stephanie was messaged to come back. Stephanie returned to the call.

The board turned to the remaining new potential appointees and Sarah Lauser.

Taro mentioned he was thinking of stepping down as the executive director. This was discussed. The possibility of having an executive director who is not on the board was discussed.

Dan Tanguay with Vicarious Visions was discussed. His perspective is one that TVGS is missing. He also has a potential to assist with reaching out the Vicarious Visions community.

Audio was cutting out for Stephanie and Abigail during this time.

Jamey Stevenson was discussed next. Jamey has a very clear commitment to TVGS. It would improve the odds of reaching quorum. He is also committed to the TVGS goals. The possibility of not including him on the board was discussed, because he is already involved as the founder.

Sarah Lauser was discussed next. Her contributions to TVGS were discussed, including how to run meetings and the administrative skills. Sarah has not been attending meetings. She was very involved and invested, seems she was only recently difficult to communicate with. Issues with communicating the financial information and the volunteer hours. She has not expressed a firm desire to continue. The 990N form was discussed and was reported to have been completed a few months ago.

Stacie McIlduff was approved to be a board member.

Dan Tanguay was approved as a member of the board.

Jamey Stevenson was approved.

Sarah Lauser was not appointed as she did not express an intent to continue.

Jason has an action item to notify Sarah that she will not be continuing with the board at this time but would be welcome to return at a later time, if she so chose. Frederika offered to assist.

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 4/14/2019

Jason has an action item to notify the new board member appointees.

Abby suggested that there be a Treasurer report during each meeting in the future. This is an action item for the next Treasurer.

Taro has an action item to arrange a hand off meeting between the former and new Treasurers.

Ela left the meeting.

Other agenda items were discussed.

990N form was already discussed, Sarah had taken care of it.

The current drop in membership and event attendance was discussed. Attendance at most events is not stable. Flyers and the newsletter might help. Saturdays have worked well for Orbit. Returning to the previous schedule, or to a schedule where all events occur during the same day of the week is not feasible, because it is not preferred by TVCOG. Targeted marketing was discussed. Jamey had a discussion with Maria about expanding outreach efforts. The newsletter is being sent out monthly. Leveraging the email lists was also discussed.

Lesson night was discussed, as attendance to that event has not been high. The microtalk format was discussed, due to its popularity.

Ela has returned and had been listening for a few minutes.

Taro mentioned that the budget needs to be approved during this meeting.

Ela was disconnected.

The agenda items proposed by Ela were discussed, as to not run out of time. The Electric City Mini Maker Faire would be a good event for TVGS to attend and this should be taken to the volunteer coordinators. Action item – create Trello card for this event, this should include bringing flyers.

The second item from Ela, working with colleges, was discussed, including service learning, scholarships, and possible credits Advertising to students.

Abigail stepped out.

Jason stepped out.

The idea of sending out the TVGS newsletter to organizations that could send it out to their members was discussed.

Abigail and Jason returned.

An example of an organization to do this with is IGDA Albany, but currently job postings are taking up the space that would normally go to local events.

Frederika mentioned that she would need to leave soon.

The RPI grant budget was reviewed next. The amounts and changes to the budget were presented by Taro and Jamey.

The Cost Share letter was reviewed.

The Statement of Work was reviewed at a very high level. It is similar to the previous Statement of Work.

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 4/14/2019

The budget was approved.

The meeting adjourned.

Frederika Edgington - Giordano

Frederika Edgington-Giordano, Secretary of the Board