

## Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 6/4/2017

The regular meeting of the Tech Valley Game Space Board of Directors was held at TVCOG on 6/4/2017 at 2:00pm.

The following members of the board were in attendance:

Sarah Lauser (Chair)

Taro Omiya

Patrick Totaro

Frederika Edgington-Giordano (Secretary)

Abigail Mathews

Jason Harlow

John Ceceri III

Sarah Lauser called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm.

There was a discussion about adding items on the agenda. The list topics was finalized.

The following guests were present via teleconference: Jamey Stevenson

The minutes from the previous meeting on 4/30/2017 were edited and approved unanimously.

John has an action item to create proposals for Social Media and Web Coordinator positions, which will split up the current duties of the Web Coordinator.

Frederika has an action item to create a proposal for the new Education Coordinator.

The next item discussed on the agenda was the RPI grant. Patrick reported on progress with getting insurance to meet the requirements for the grant. He estimated that it would cost around \$400 to \$700. This is a requirement that must be fulfilled prior to signing the grant paperwork. He also reported on his progress writing the 2016 budget report.

Patrick has an action item to post the grant paperwork somewhere on the TVGS google drive.

Jamey offered to pay the insurance costs. There was discussion of possible fundraising efforts.

The Board moved into the conference room because of noise in the Community room.

There were no other items to discuss for the RPI grant.

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The next item was defining a process for nominating board members. Sarah said this could be taken care of in November and Taro has an action item to write up the proposal for a nominating process.

The next item discussed was the board members who would voluntarily take 1 year terms to allow for staggered terms. The directors who volunteered were Jason, Abigail, Ela, Taro, and Patrick. Motion was passed.

The next item discussed was membership numbers. Taro thought we can do better with membership numbers and event attendance. Taro stated that TVGS should widen our audience to include more members who are just generally interested in games. Also, he wanted to include more diversity in the membership. A concern is that the message of the group is a bit muddled. This can be ironed out in a future meeting, or by having a separate committee to review the mission statement/elevator pitch. Sarah and Abby discussed that the marketing aspect would be a separate issue. Possibilities included having a Google Doc that could be edited by the group and supplemented by an in-person/virtual meeting.

Sarah has an action item to share the Wordpress widget for managing events on the TVGS webpage.

Taro has an action item to reach out to the larger community to get feedback on what the message should be and incorporate that feedback into the discussion process.

In regard to event attendance, Sarah suggested that TVGS is holding so many events that it may be overwhelming to someone who is just coming in. The possibility of combining Orbit groups was discussed. The group will discuss the event attendance issue more at a later time.

Next, Abby discussed funding. She suggested tiered memberships, similar to Patreon tiered subscriptions. This might be attractive to non-co-working members. Sarah Lauser suggested calling them something other than members, because it has implications for the bylaws.

Patrick reviewed the bylaws regarding members and voting rules for the group. There was a discussion of how the members would be defined. The decision was made to call tiered members "members."

Sarah pointed out that this needs a more in-depth discussion. Abby has an action item to create a proposal for making changes to membership rules.

Next, Abby discussed the possibility of selling curricula to homeschool groups or other educational organizations. Possible online venues were discussed, such as Udemy. Also, TVGS could provide additional assistance to customers to add value. This could also be provided to low-income groups for free or a sliding scale rate.

Next there was a discussion of the paperwork associated with filing as a charity. Patrick had questions for the individual board members which need to be answered, and he will send them

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out to each individual board member. These questions will need to be answered by all board members prior to filing as a charity.

All board members have an action item to respond to the questions which be sent out by Patrick.

Frederika will provide a draft of the minutes from today's meeting.

The conference room will be reserved for future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.

Parking lot items:

-Packaging the education curricula for other groups.

-Expanding educational partnerships.

-Defining the immediate goals for TVGS. Next meeting everyone is tasked with coming up with 2 goals for the next year.



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Frederika Edgington-Giordano

Secretary of the Board

