

The regular meeting of the Tech Valley Game Space Board of Directors was held on Wednesday 12/9/2020 at 6:10 pm.

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

Taro Omiya (Acting Chair)

Jamey Stevenson (Interim Executive Director)

Dan Tanguay (Acting Secretary)

Neil Yoshi Alers

Mitchell Patterson

Taro posted a link to this meeting's agenda in the Discord chat.

We have a quorum!

We reviewed the previous meeting's notes. There was at least one typo ("Waggoner"), so we delayed official approval of the minutes until we got edit access to revise the minutes.

We reviewed the progress on the 2020 Center of Excellence Grant. Jamey reached out to Ben about the following:

- Is there a no cost time extension? RPI is investigating that. If that goes through, there may be time to still get the 2020 subaward in 2021 and make use of it.
- Will there be a 2021 grant? There is no news on that yet.

There is likely no action the board can take on this in 2020 proper since most of the board members are out on vacation soon.

Next, we reviewed the Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement between TVGS and Queenship Game Studio for the NYSCA DEC grant, due 12/18. Jamey provided some context to start things off. Yoshi recommended that a lawyer review the Agreement before the Board approves it; also should the Agreement better represent TVGS's interests? This will necessitate an emergency meeting prior to 12/18 to approve the Agreement once Wagoner (or another firm) reviews it.

There was some additional discussion about whether we should have explicit approval over whether the TVGS logo included/removed at our discretion, as well as approval over any TVGS references in the credits. Jamey also discussed the risk of having Queenship doing something that would risk TVGS's tax-exempt status.

Should TVGS incur the costs of having the lawyers review and revise this agreement? The Board agrees, as it could lead to creating a template that future studios can use (alleviating the burden on those studios). Jamey checked and there's plenty of retainer funds with Wagoner; he'll follow up with them on that.

What's the appropriate revenue sharing percentage fee in return for TVGS support? Jamey has proposed a sliding scale based on how much additional in-kind support Queenship feels it needs. Jamey doesn't want to overcommit TVGS resources, so we need to make sure we're compensated appropriately. Taro asked if this sliding scale is part of this agreement? If so, this also needs review and revision before approval.

Taro recommended setting a quick Doodle poll for when that emergency meeting should be.

Next, Dan reviewed the new SWOT/5-year goals/2020 postmortem exercise with the Board. The Board agreed to do their individual brainstorming before the end of the year (likely in the week before Christmas). Dan agreed to collate all the brainstorming together by News Years and report out the summary in the first week of January. Dan will set a Doodle poll for a dedicated meeting in the second week of January to take next steps on strategic planning (TVGS report out & 2021 strategy).

Next, Abigail wanted to borrow equipment. Taro went to get it for her, and the equipment wasn't where he expected it to be, and he was unable to find it. Jamey will provide updates to the Board on the missing items, but the larger issue is improving the protection of TVGS equipment. This can include inventory tracking, insurance, and security.

- Taro recommended inventorying everything, and tracking the inventory in software.
- Taro also recommends labeling everything. This makes it VERY clear that the equipment is the property of TVGS.
- Both of these are critical first steps before we reach out to our current insurer for a price quote.

Dan asked if physical security of the equipment was contingent on the grant. The grant-based plan was for storage lockers that promoted security & visibility. There is likely simpler security we could provide without the grant.

Next, Frederika made the corrections to the minutes offline. The minutes were approved.

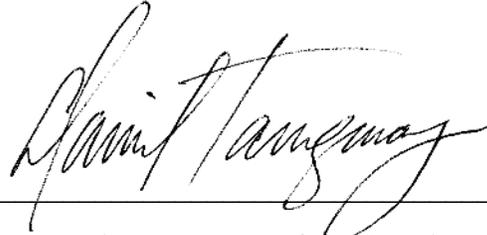
Next, Jamey & Taro discussed the streamlining of membership tiers. The Board reviewed the Membership Tiers proposal. Allowing Subscribers to rent TVGS equipment outside of the coworking space was removed, as that is not something currently allowed. This is something that Jamey recommends having the Financial Committee weigh in on this proposal and make changes to it. The Board will approve it during the next meeting.

Next, Taro wanted to propose getting approval on the Theme for 2021. Yoshi brainstormed a number of ideas, and Taro recommended "Dreams." Jamey proposed that this maps well to our strategic planning, and recommended doing as part of that. Dan recommended that we do the first round of strategic brainstorming ("what's our current state" and "where do we want to go"), and then address the Theme as part of the next round of planning ("how do we get there").

Next, Taro and Jamey reminded the Board that new Board and Coordinators are being nominated in April. We should propose nominees by February.

Taro also recommends appointing a Vice-Chair, as he's moving to Chicago in 2021 (exact date TBD). He's seeking out volunteers. Any volunteers should read up on the by-laws and know them well, as they inform many of our deadlines.

The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dan Tanguay", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Dan Tanguay, Acting Secretary of the Board