

The regular meeting of the Tech Valley Game Space Board of Directors was held on Monday 11/8/2021 at 6:04 pm.

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

Taro Omiya (Acting Chair of the Board)

Daniel Tanguay (Secretary of the Board)

Jamey Stevenson (Executive Director)

Jarell Pryor

Neil “Yoshi” Alers

A quorum is present at the start of the meeting.

The Board pulls the Public Meetings Policy out of the Consent agenda. The Board approves the Consent Agenda.

The Wagoner Firm is next. Neil got a response for his personal dealings with them, but not TVGS. Taro asks if it would work better if Taro and/or Jamey reached out to them instead to avoid any potential confusion. They might not be aware of the change in leadership, e.g., Jamey is now Executive Director and Neil is on the Board. Jamey wants to join in on future conversations because he has a few things he needs to discuss with them now.

Jarell updates his work on Giving Tuesday. He has access to Powerpoint, so he doesn't need to coordinate with Dan to get access. He has a draft movie together, and he'll open it up to feedback shortly. Taro recommends looping in Matt Rice, the Communications Coordinator for feedback as well. Jamey also has some references and logo imagery to share and reminded folks the Board can reach out to Coordinators in #board-and-coordinators.

The Board gives an update on their fundraising efforts. Taro has already donated to kick things off and has stated that Giving Tuesday will count toward this year's Board fundraising goals. Given that Dan intends to donate then to take advantage of matching. Others may too. Taro expressed some concern about putting too many eggs in that basket, so Dan said he'll spread his donations out.

Jamey gives an update on the Financial Committee scheduling. So far, he's only heard responses from two folks. He'll set a deadline for responses from everyone else and set a new time for it.

Jamey gives an update on the cloud engineer curriculum development opportunity. He met with Nehme two weeks ago, but he hasn't heard back since then. He'll share out updates once he has them.

Jamey gives the Board a reminder of the Grant Writing plan, process, and priorities. He notes that he expects the Board to provide a lot of feedback on priorities in Phase One when we're setting direction for Nancy Warner. He also set the expectation that the grant writers

recommended that we pursue private grants to start. Taro poses a question to the Board--how do we as a Board respond quickly to Nancy Warner's questions/needs to avoid them getting blocked? What's the best communication method and cadence? They can't wait a month for a Board to reconvene. Taro recommends email and Discord; Jarell recommends that the Board should be consulted but not approve every decision. Taro again brings up the need to find a point person to help own the Nancy Warner. Taro said he might be able to help; Jamey appreciates having the safety net.

Taro provides an update on his investigations into charity/NPO mentorship. He kicked it off last Friday, and initial investigations seem promising.

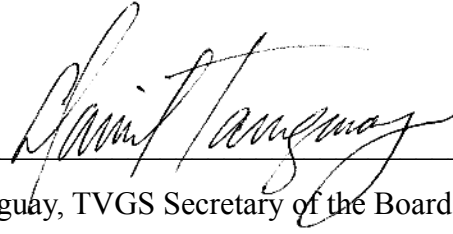
Taro introduces the Policy on Negotiating with Business and Financial Arrangements. He doesn't expect to approve it this meeting, but it'll likely be part of the next meeting's Consent Agenda.

Taro shares a recent "exit interview" from a member who left the Discord server. In short, he felt that there wasn't content for him in TVGS. Taro poses it as a question to the Board--are they seeing something similar? Is there additional context to this person leaving? This member felt he wasn't getting the support he needed from game design and his interactions in the community. Jamey feels this might be a unique case, but it does point to a perception issue within the local game development community that views TVGS as a place for beginners due to TVGS's focus on inclusivity. This is an issue we've identified in the past. Taro also notes potential ways to communicate this outward to folks, such as with supplemental materials that clearly outlines some basics as a stepping stone toward something bigger. Jamey also notes potential ways to fold that into Protostar, but that isn't (currently) coming back until 2023. He also notes that the new Incubator might be a good partner here. Dan recommends pinning this conversation until we begin planning TVGS's 2022 Strategic Objectives so that we can more competently execute on addressing this issue next year. Taro recommends we do some research on our audiences between now and then. He makes this an action item, and Dan volunteers.

Taro then outlines the Public Board Meeting policy through the following lenses: how it differs from our current Board Meeting policy, as well as the increase in Level of Effort required to conduct them this way. Jarell asks what is the Return on Investment on changing this Policy? Taro's main reason for pursuing this is to make the organization more appealing to external grants. The actual number of public attendees are fairly low; most of them might be Coordinators. Dan and Jamey note that transparency with the Coordinators seems like a good benefit, and Jamey suggests this could help with recruiting new Board members. Taro proposes (and Dan seconded) the idea of creating a mock trial of a Public Board Meeting to work out the kinks. Jamey also recommends reaching out to Nancy Warner to see if they have any advice on how to make TVGS more attractive to external grants as well.

Board members give updates on their search for new candidates. Taro reached out to Josh, and Josh is willing to help us investigate new Board candidates. The other Board candidates have not been able to turn up anything yet. Taro notes that we should prioritize getting new full-term Board candidates over appointing replacements for Josh and Stacy.

Finally, there is a motion to adjourn the meeting. It is approved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel Tanguay", written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Tanguay, TVGS Secretary of the Board