

## Minutes

### **Kansas Academy of Science Winter Meeting Board Meeting by Zoom: February 2, 2021**

In attendance: Brian Maricle, Stewart Gardner, Mark LaBarge, Keri Maricle, Erika Martin, Jill Fisher, Pam Everhart, Mike Everhart, Sam Leung, Shaun Schmidt, Lani Witters, Hank Guarisco and Dustin Wilgers

Called to order at 11:03 am.

Approval of minutes from the Fall 2020 meeting, approved.

#### Reports

##### **Treasurer's Report:**

Shaun Schmidt reports that we have money. The Treasurer reminds the Board members that the overall financial goal of an annual meeting is to break even and keep the member registration fees down. Typically, \$ 1000.00 is the assumed budget cost of a physical annual meeting and can be used to support meeting expenses when costs exceed the break-even level. The budget for the upcoming virtual meeting is set at \$200.00.

KJAS support was not the \$3000.00 as planned by the Jan through Dec 2020 budget (see center column of the Treasurer's Report). The amount paid out to KJAS was zero due to cancellation of KJAS activities.

A question was asked of Jill Fisher (KJAS Director) if the \$3000.00 could be used by KJAS on something else, like Teacher Education Grants. A brief discussion occurred, and it was suggested to add a line item to the budget and title "Teacher Education Grants". A vote occurred to approve the budget as amended. Approved.

##### **Secretary's Report:**

Membership by Sam Leung as of January 29, 2021 is reported to be 120. The Secretary's Report was approved.

##### **Committee Reports:**

**Kansas Junior Academy of Science** – Jill Fisher reports that there is no interest in KJAS competitions this year. Jill also reports that the Science Fair is in the planning stage for the month of May (precise date TBD). Students will produce a scientific paper to accompany a 3.5 min YouTube video.

**Transactions** – Editors, Mike and Pam Everhart report that 10 papers have been submitted for the Spring issue of the *Transactions*. A journal format discussion occurred with alternative methods of delivery considered. An Eco-copy of the journal could be available on Dropbox for download by members. This would be a trial run for possible

continued use in the future. All members would receive a hard copy with the plan to ask members on the 2022 membership form if they would prefer a digital vs hardcopy of the *Transactions*.

**Newsletter** – Hank Guarisco, *KAS Bulletin* Editor reports that the February edition is looking “thin”. Hank made the request for additional book reviewers to be included in future editions. The February edition will include registration and abstract submission information about the 153<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, April 10<sup>th</sup>, virtual via Zoom.

**Grants Coordinator** – no report

### Old Business

**Research Grants to K-12 teachers** - \$3000 will be added for this proposal. The deadlines and details will be discussed during the Spring meeting.

#### **Future annual meetings:**

**2021 Annual Meeting** - Dustin Wilgers reports that this meeting will be virtual through via Zoom with a proposed date of April 10<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will have different Zoom room links for the different categories of presentations. There will be poster breakout rooms with the presenter and their poster. A reminder that the most updated version of the Zoom app should be used to prevent connectivity problems. The meeting fees were discussed with the suggestion that this will be free to current members. Fees will also be waived for students during registration when they pay membership dues.

Photographs of Board Members will be added to the meeting page.

**The 2022 annual meeting** may be hosted by Kansas Newman College. This is not yet confirmed.

**The 2023 annual meeting** at McPherson College is under consideration.

**Grants Coordinators description of bylaws** – no report from Erin Morris, the Grants Coordinator. A discussion occurred to remind the Board that a 2/3-member vote is required to approve a change in the bylaws. Any changes will need to be made available to members two weeks prior to the KAS business meeting.

**Print vs Digital format of the *Transactions*** – It was agreed that a test of the digital delivery of the Spring edition of the *Transactions* should occur before that option is provided on the 2022 membership form.

**Strategic Planning** for the future of KAS occurred with the following items discussed:

Grants for K-12 teachers to help finance supplies and equipment used for science projects in the classroom.

A series of Town Hall talks on YouTube (or some other platform) over current science topics (Covid-19, vaccinations, global warming, etc.).

A Presidents Message written by Dustin Wilgers will be published in the Spring edition of the *Transactions*. This will be due to the editors by April 10<sup>th</sup>.

### New Business

**KAS Officer recruitment to involve new officers:** Please send member names of those interested in serving as an officer to Immediate Past President Brian Maricle for recruitment.

There is a vacancy for the **Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council**. This is a volunteer appointment.

The **Kansas Board of Regents policy** on the elimination of tenured faculty without due process. It was suggested that a solidarity statement in support of science and science faculty be drafted and signed by KAS members.

Next **Spring KAS Board meeting** – this will be held via Zoom before the annual meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Adjourn at 12:32 pm