

Minutes
Kansas Academy of Science
Winter Board Meeting by Zoom: February 10, 2023

Attending: Mark LaBarge, Lynnette Sievert, Brett Whitenack, Sam Leung, David McKenzie, Joanna Gress, Lani Witters, Amanda Yamasaki, Hank Guarisco

Dustin Wilgers attended as an invited guest to discuss the upcoming Annual Meeting at McPherson College.

Call to Order 3:02

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Lani, Second by Lynnette – Approved

Approval of the minutes of the fall meeting: Motion by Brett, Second by Hank – Approved

Reports

Treasurer's Report – Shaun Schmidt was not able to attend the meeting due to another commitment. He sent an email with two reports and a comment:

- 1) "Treasurers report 22_12_31.pdf" is the 2022 year-end report which needs to be approved so that I can send it forward to our accountant so we can file 2022 taxes.
- 2) "Treasurers report 23_02_16.pdf" in the most current report. On page two is a proposed 2023 budget.

As of February 16, 2023 KAS has total assets of \$113,232.37

3) Our accountant has filed a short version of a 501.c.3 reinstatement which was for some unknown reason denied. We will be working on doing a complete reapplication later this year. He is certain that we will be able to get back past taxes once reinstated.

Shaun asked in his email on how shall we proceed on the two action items (Year end 2022 and proposed 2023 budget). He suggested we do an electronic vote on the 2022 year end and postpone action on the 2023 budget until our next council meeting as it is consistent with last year's budget and spending.

Mark made the motion to vote on the 2022 Year End Report. Sam made a second of the motion. The board voted via email and the motion passed with all yes votes.

Other budget issues for 2023 will be considered during the Spring Board meeting.

Secretary's Report – Sam reported that numbers are looking good with 122 members as of February 10, 2023. In 2022 at this time there were 136 members. Numbers generally increase at the time of the Annual Conference so we can expect to see and increase throughout the year.

Sam mentioned that 50% of members still pay dues by check.

Dues can be paid though the KAS website using the Member Planet website.

Motion to accept the Secretary's report made by David and second made by Lani. Motion approved.

Junior KAS – No report at this time.

Transactions Report – Mark reported on behalf of Erika Martin. There have been 12 submissions so far with 9 of them being accepted. Reviews for the rest should be done in time for the Spring issue. Additionally, there have been two Every Day Science and a book review submitted for consideration.

Newsletter – Hank reported the newsletter will have three historical accounts. The first is a *Historical Perspective of the Kansas Academy of Science* taken from the 1903 *KAS Transactions*. The second account is on the *Quaint Perspectives on the Health of College Women in the 1890s*. The third account deals with the *Historical Meanderings through the Biodiversity of Single-Celled Life Through 19th -Century Scientific Illustrations*. He also has two book reviews that are highly recommended. The first book review is *A New Guide to Kansas Mushrooms* by Sherry Kay, Benjamin Sikes, and Caleb Morse. The second book review is on *The World in a Grain* by Vince Beiser.

Hank also wanted to reiterate that the KAS Bulletin is published two times a year in February and August.

Grants Coordinator Report – No report at this time.

Old Business

Lynnette reported that Emporia State will host the 2024 KAS Annual Meeting. Possible dates listed were March 22-23 or April 5-6 with the April dates preferred. Possible fieldtrips are being considered to a local distillery and the Tall Grass Prairie.

Lynnette asked about an internal audit for 2022. This will help protect the organization as well as Shaun if we are audited. Mark will look into this so we can have it done by August 1, 2023.

Dustin dropped into the Zoom meeting to report on the upcoming KAS Annual Meeting at McPherson College.

- This will be a joint meeting with the Kansas Entomological Society.
- The website is up and running and attendees can register and make abstract submissions.
- Non-members of KAS or KES can join when they register for the meeting.
- Abstracts are due by March 24, 2023.
- There has been one abstract submission.
- Must be a member of KAS or KES to present at the meeting.
- Those who are members of KES will be directed from their website to the meeting register page.
- Two speakers have been reserved for the meeting. Friday's evening's speaker is Dr. Greg McDonald, a leading expert on extinct giant ground sloths and their relatives and will speak on this subject. Saturday's speaker is Dr. Lee DeHaan from the Land Institute and he will discuss the work done on sustainable agriculture systems.
- Two fieldtrips have been planned. The first will be to the Land Institute and the second will be to the McPherson Museum.

TKAS discussion – Stewart Gardner sent email but there has not been much process with the cease and desist letter concerning the Cengage issue. There is some worry about getting KAS into legal trouble if the issue is not resolved. It was suggested to ask for volunteers to write a cease and desist order to Cengage with the possibility of reaching out to Emporia State University lawyers for assistance if needed.

New Business

TKAS electronic version – no issues reported.

Social Media Editor – Erin Moore sent an email with reference to social media position. Do we make an offer of a stipend for a social media editor? An outline needs to be made about what we want on social media besides Facebook. What do we put out on social media? Articles, reports on new things happening in science, goals of the KAS?

David suggested using students to help with this project. Lani proposed doing a live poll at the annual meeting to see what issues members are most interested in. Mark suggested we ask Dustin for an easy poll to use at the upcoming annual meeting. David had an idea to put out QR codes on the tables at the meal tables as a way to ask for feedback. Mark said that we need to do something with this or let it go.

Retirement gift for Pam Everhart – Erika has been working on this and David suggest an official certificate of appreciation for service to KAS to be signed by Stewart and Lynnette. Other suggestions?

Mark asked if KAS has an official letterhead with our logo for correspondence. Sam has a digital copy and will send it to Mark so he can draft and send a letter to Pam for appreciation of her service.

Scam emails – Mark says this happens every time KAS changes officers. He suggests we just ignore them and block the sender.

Public domain issues with JSTOR – With more articles being made available through open access the concern has been will this affect revue for KAS from JSTOR. It was decided that this probably won't affect us much.

CKJ Group – It is too early to tell if this will affect the printing of the *TKAS*. David suggests to wait until it's time to renew the contract. If we aren't happy with them then we need to find another printing company.

Mark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by David. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:59

Addendum

The following item was discussed and voted on by the KAS Board members via email communications

Seid Adem sent an email to the KAS Board saying the review for KAS Graduate Student Research Grant was completed. The number for graduate students is set at four for each year. After talking to Dr. Schmidt, Sied made a motion to the council to accept five graduate students for this year. Shaun Schmidt seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion passed with 10 yes and zero no/abstaining votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Whitenack
Vice President