

Minutes of the Kansas Academy of Science Winter Board Meeting

February 15, 2024

Present:

Lynnette Sievert, Leland Russell, Dustin Wilgers, Joanna Gress, Mark LaBarge, Amanda Yamasaki, Hank Guarisco, Erika Martin, Sam Leung

The meeting was conducted on Zoom, and as those present waited for others to join, Joanna mentioned that the registration portal for the annual meeting was nearly done, and that there would be a new logo, and some new shirts being printed. Abstracts for posters and presentations will be due March 15th. There will be an optional field trip this year.

Sam gave the Secretary Report – memberships at 103 right now but will spike as registrations for the meeting come in (membership required for registration). The 103 number is down somewhat from previous years at this time.

Erika gave the Transactions Editor's Report. We have 10 submissions for spring with 4 done, 4 in review, 2 very recent submissions. Mike Everhart may provide a photo submission. There will also be a book review. Abstracts will go from Joanna to Erika for printing in the Transactions. Print and online versions should hit at the same time. Erika mentioned that she is in year 3 of a 5 year deal so a new person could come in and learn the ropes for a smoother transition but there was general consensus that if Erika wanted to stay beyond that 5 years she would be welcomed. Erika also indicated that the special edition on tardigrades (Randy Miller) still may or may not happen.

Jill was not present to report on the KJAS but that is moving forward as indicated in an attachment to an email that went to board members.

In the Newsletter Update, hanks said it has gone out and so far has been well-received.

No formal Treasurer's Report as Shaun also could not be presents, but there were indications that the KAS attempt to be recognized as a Non-Profit was moving forward (Shaun sent an email a few days later with an update – non-profit status has now been approved!). A written Treasurer's Report will be provided via email later this month.

In **New Business**, we still need a President Elect, but there was discussion about whether or not there is a specific procedure for such a process. Lynnette will check on that as we may need an emailed special election, but this is something that may (hopefully) get sorted at the annual meeting.

In **Old Business**, new Vice President, Patrick Mathews said that Friends University had been penciled in as site for the 2025 annual meeting, but that construction projects on campus would hamper that. Instead, Friends would like to host in 2026. Discussion about where to hold 2025 centered on Baker University since their hosting for 2020 got cancelled last-minute by the Covid epidemic. Erin Morris is the apparent contact person for this.

The meeting came to a close by discussing when and how to have a summer meeting. It was decided that Zoom would be the best method to meet. Stay tuned for details.