

FIREPONY CREATIVE SOCIETY

Board of Directors Monthly Meeting Agenda

March 13, 2024

Zoom:

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/7506604772>

Backup Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89714249596?pwd=UXVNYINza3ZPS291eWIJMFpGZEhqUT09>

firpony.org/zoom

Meeting ID: 750 660 4772

Current Board members: m4, Smiles, Miles, David, Wax, Aye, Lotus, Hatter, Cramer, Tovia- 10 people

Attendance: m4, Smiles, Hatter, Lotus, Whatever, Dave, Aye, Wax, Miles, Tovia

Quorum - 6 people

Agenda Review and Update Time

Upcoming Board Meetings:

- April - Thursday 18
- May - Touchpoint? - Thursday May 16 / after safety call
- June
 - Thursday or Sunday

Review and Vote Prior Meeting Minutes:

January 2024 Board Retreat - WIP

February 2024 External

Motion to approve prior minutes:

February Vote: Passed unanimously

New Business:

- Technology Committee - Money for burn tech to include radio antennas, chrome books etc
 - Originally brought up the proposal in Slack, consensus there
 - Technology is for a better way to log ranger notes and to help with sign ins for other departments such as golf cart waivers and sign ins
 - A good start for a future onsite intranet system, Wax wanted something low cost and durable
 - Budget Request \$1,000.00
 - Vote: motioned to approve, passed unanimously
- Radio repeater and commercial license
 - Expecting handhelds alone to not be sufficient to cover the entire site for either event. Moving to use a repeater is the standard solution to this problem, but would require moving to a radio band that requires a commercial license
 - Originally brought up the proposal in Slack, consensus there
 - Requesting \$1500
 - Radio repeater - approx \$500
 - <https://www.retevis.com/rt97s-portable-repeater-and-frp-antenna-bundle-us>
 - Business band license would cost approx \$500
 - License covers for 10 years
 - Padding funds for damaged items and incidentals
 - Intention is to have this before the first work weekend to see how the range is
 - Whatever has all of the radios currently
 - Vote :motioned to approve, passed unanimously
- Arts-centered Events Project Support
 - Burner Art Odyssey: Alexandria VA
 - This program is all about strengthening community through an art based project and offers an alternative to meetups at bars
 - kick off event by hosting a gathering near in Alexandria which would include a tour of a local maker's space at the Torpedo Factory
 - No financial support requested, however resources such as mailchimp be accessible to invite the community etc
 - Vote: Motion to approve, Passed unanimously
- Vote Of No Confidence Procedure
 - Initial document created, everyone add their thoughts so that we as a board can have a standardized procedure
- Additional Funding for Keeper
 - Budget for an additional 120/year for 5 additional licenses.
 - Note - there will be a Google solution that will be launched soon, it's free as well
 - Vote: Motion to approve, Passed unanimously

Old Business:

Board Retreat:

- 2024 Board Retreat Report
 - Work in Progress

Event Operations Committee (Aye, Miles, Hatter)

- Updates
 - Neither PDF nor Constellation has accurate info on BMORG SITE
 - Still no response from contacts on this
 -
- Fleshed out some of the details of cart policy from bod retreat
- Inaugural Committee Meeting 02/07/2024
 - Mission Statement
 - Provide a forum for event organizers and a subset of the Board Liaisons to discuss issues that affect the operations of all our events and form recommendations for the Board
 - Facilitate discussions with the larger community to take feedback and request input on rules, policies, and the events at large
 - Vehicle Agreement (aka Golf cart agreement) has been finalized.
 - Topics Committee covered:
 - PDF Contract
 - First payment for Constellation contract went out
 - Still needing to sign a revised edition of contract with Constellation.
 - WWW coordinator motion to add a disclaimer to the WWW was approved.
 - “All events must comply with all federal, state, and local laws. Events that violate the FirePony Code of Conduct (<https://playadelfuego.org/code-of-conduct/>) will be removed and not included in the WWW. FPCS assumes no liability for events submitted by participants.”
 - Discussing how to make both events more ASL Accessible without the use of interpreters.
 - Ideas floated: white boards for all theme camps, departments will have dry erase boards, suggest camps have scripts for some of their events so people can read along.
 - Still searching for reliable interpreters, one of 2 can no longer make it.
 - Ticketing to work with conduct on restricted list
- Vehicle Agreement
 - Will be voted on in slack within 48 hours

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PDF Planning (Hatter):

- Planning
 - How are things going?
Things are going well. Most coordinator positions are full. Planning is moving forward.
- Ticket Cap
 - 1100 currently. After the reserved round the PC will gather and if volunteerism is decent around the priority positions (medics, rangers) then they will ask to increase to 1200 for round 2.
- Ticket Price
 - 90
- Ticket Sale Dates
 - Round 1
 - Reserve
 - Round 2
- Art Grant Contracts
 - Status: Contracts are waiting on minor updates and will go out after
- Contract
 - Landowners agreed to in terms, but waiting on their lawyer to gather signatures
 - Relevant Dates City map 3 weeks out, safety plan by 4/28/24. Potty plan and number of participants to be provided one week out. Power plan one week out.
- Work Weekend
 - Dates Saturday March 30th (29-31 for house)
 - Airbnb paid? Yes
 - Waivers Finalized
 - Time we can be onsite: 11am - Waiver required for all onsite participants
- Insurance
 - Miles and Aye to begin this process week of 3/18
- Budget / Coordinator Purchases Miles to reformat and redo budget
- Safety / Rangers
- Radios and Tech
- Vendor Payments Waiting on a call back from the cart company. DPW contacting wood vendor this week waiting on potty info from DPW
- Wristband Purchase Order is placed and they have payment info.
- Ticket Aid Form
- RIDE: See RIDE section
- AB Reports
- Other / New

- Security:
 - Verbal agreement with the person who did security last year, PC Coord will talk to Tamaqua point of contact about a backup plan just in case.

Constellation (Aye, Cramer):

- Planning - General Operations
 - How are things going? Well so far.
 - There is a virtual retreat on 3/24/24
 - What's working
 - What's not working
 - How can we help?
- Virtual retreat happening next week to kick off Constellation
- Ticket Cap
 - Staying the same as last year.
- Ticket Price
 - Same. \$100. No carpasses, No Rv passes.
- Ticket Sale Dates
 - Round 1
 - Reserve
 - Round 2
- Art Grant Contracts
 - Status
- Contract
 - Link
 - Status
 - Relevant Dates
- Work Weekend
 - Dates
 - Airbnb paid?
 - Waivers
 - Time we can be onsite
- Insurance
 -
- Budget / Coordinator Purchases
 - Were the outstanding two reimbursements paid?
- Safety / Rangers
- Radios and Tech
- Vendor Payments
- Wristband Purchase
- Ticket Aid Form
- RIDE
- AB Reports
- Other / New

Community Art and Civic Engagement (Lotus, Wax):

- Tabled for time
- Status & Updates
- MALC 2023 Wrap Up
 - Report status? Report was finalized by organizer and has been shared with the Local Leadership Event Organizer group associated with Burning Man
 - Finalized Budget
 - Art Grant Recipients
 - No response from MALC team (from Dec meeting) – Still no response has been received on this. It seems it has been dropped
- 2024 CACE Grant Series
 - Discussion
 - Maybe
 - Create accountability policy
 -
 - Website Update
 - Review and Update published info
- RIDE
 - Status & Updates- Ride form for PDF is Live, we are having a call April 2nd to discuss.
 - 18 total applicants so far
 - 13 first time attendees of PDF
 - 4 total absolute first timers
 - 9 vocalized interest in joining ride, another solid handful as “Maybe”
 - 13 people left comments stating appreciation for this program <3
 - 100% of applicants are open to a post event feedback form.
 - Recruited help
 - We will be working on a post event feedback form together, and have it ready before the event.
- Local Workshop Events
 - Budget
 - Philly Event
 - Lancaster Event
 - DC/Baltimore
 - See above, Art Odyssey
 - Event at Maryland Meadworks (not official FirePony)
 - Huge response!
 - Art fund donations
 - Possible URL/QR code for interested people/artists
 - Content Multiple short presentations
 - art/craft seems a big draw!

- Burner-friendly businesses?
 - Libraries
 - What are the extra things we want? Food, drink, reception after?
- Other / New Topics

Finance and Governance (Dave, Miles, Whatever, Lotus, Aye, Tovia)

- Status & Updates (General)
 - Dave going over high level updates
 - Go over profit and loss in slack
- Tax filings
 - 990 Fed and St taxes will be submitted on time (no extension)
 - On track? Miles has lost some steam due to contracts and PDF items. Will get back on track.
- FSA Funds
 - Cash and Short term investments at FSA of \$604.400
 - Swollen from recent PDF ticket sales
 - Reimbursement from Well Fargo for Short Term transfer in September
 - Completed
- D&O payment update (Deadline is in May)
 - Discussed Purchase Worker's Comp for event
 - Will discuss options in G&F
 - Need to go back over this, WC is based on a rate times wages and we have no wages.
- 1099s
 - Submitted 1099-NEC forms for 28 grantees on 26-Jan, totalling \$35,706.24
 - Quickbooks should have both mailed and e-mailed recipients
 - Sent a separate reminder email to recipients and treasurer on 10-Feb
- Event overages
 - Discussion
 - Create a formal plan for how/when to sweep overages into FSA
 - Will discuss in March
- Mailing address and Service / Registered Agent in one.
 - Will discuss in March
- Bank Move
 - Will discuss in March. Chairperson wishes to remain with the current bank and migrate automated checks and billings off of Wells Fargo's systems and into the QuickBooks accounting system of record. This would include vendors and art grant recipients
- Reports
 - 2023 P&L
 - <https://firepony.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2023-Profit-Loss-Statement.pdf>
 - Review for publishing

- 2022 Annual Report
 - 99% done
- 2023 Board Retreat Report
 - Draft - WIP
- 2023 Burning Man AB Reports
 - Complete!
- 2023 Annual Report
- 2024 Board Retreat Report
- Align Budget Categories across events
 - Budget categorization will be pursued using “Category” classifications for each transaction in QuickBooks
 - Should this line item be moved to Event Ops?
 - FSA Accounts must be segregated by intended use and different risk profiles assigned

Technology Committee (m4, Wax, Hatter):

- Tabled for time
- **Keeper**
 - See above
 - .
- **Radios**
 - See above
- **PeaCock**
 - Status & Updates General
 - Ticket Sale
- Other Updates
 - Website Permissions for Appropriate Committees
 - held
 - Transitioning for m4’s departure 🥲

Safety/Ranger Committee (Wax, Lotus, Dave, Tovia):

- Note: February Board Meeting This committee was skipped for Time
- Updates
 - Good partnership with PDF Ranger leads about training and general ranger department issues
 - Want to try to put together DC and Philadelphia in person training before the PDF event
 - Lots of good rangers are returning
 -
- Pre-Event Safety Training
 - Discussion
 - Loop in impacted parties
 - Rangers leads, rangers, safety departments, liaisons, PC Coordinator
 - Stonehedge again

- Radio Focus Group
 -
- Other / New Topics

Land Committee (Miles, David):

- Note: March Meeting canceled. No Update. Will realign and reform with updated Board direction.

Conduct Committee (Lotus, Smiles, Aye):

- Cases in Progress

Communications Committee (Smiles, ??):

- Status & Updates
 - Not much started on Retreat Tasks
 - Need an overarching Communications to align
- Website
 - Need picture and blurb from Tovia
 - Website publishing
 - Partner with G&F for Taxes and P&L
 - Partner with CACE for updates
 - Partner with Conduct for updates
 - Update RIDE page?
 - Communications Matrix
- Other / New Topics

Motion to adjourn: Seconded and adjourned at 9:24 pm