

NESEA Board Meeting – Monthly Meeting
August 5, 2021
Zoom Conference Board Meeting

Participating

Miriam Aylward
Florence MacGregor
Loic Chappoz
Arlen Li
Jodi Smits Anderson

Ben Southworth
Andrew Webster
Rachel White
Lauren Brust Moss
Matt Root

Not Participating

Andrea Mancino
Nancy Ludwig
Daphany Sanchez
Kate Stephenson
Betsy Glynn

Meeting brought to order at 9:04 a.m.

Approval of meeting minutes from July 1, 2021

Motion from Arlen to approve, Jodi seconded - approved by all present.

Discussion on Organizational Updates issued prior to meeting for review

• **Pro tours**

- Staff is waiting for final decisions on pro tours until after Flo is back from maternity leave.
- There will be no tours between now and Building Energy NYC.
- The expectation was to do half year virtual, half year in person.
- Intend to run an RFP soon, regardless, as there is flexibility and time to finalize the planning.

• **Building Energy Boston**

- Ben has done some planning on BE Boston to confirm our ability to plan and run a conference at the end of Feb if needed as that is the current date in discussion with the venue. This in consideration of open meeting occurring mid-September as recently announced.
- This manages the contractual risks that are present with a currently complex and still volatile market.
- Date discussions include: March is tough due to snow potential; April is ideal; February is wicked early but we can pull it off; May is too late.

• **Building Energy NYC**

- Working on three scenarios. Including financial modeling. Currently still fully in plan A.
 - For shorthand - A is in-person unmasked (day 2), B would be fully virtual access only, and C is in person (day 2) including limiting by capacity with masking and other controls.
- Venue is about a third our past size.
- Attendees can get refund of difference if in-person piece must be cancelled.
- Sponsors interested in in-person.
- Will decide by August 31 as venue fee is due Sept 1
 - Due to descriptors of purpose, we have a legal leg to stand on if we cannot be in-person and unmasked, and then choose to not use the venue.
- Using Pathable for keynote and loads of sessions anyway. So, shifting to full Pathable will not be AS difficult.

• **Big picture**

- Org Report is inspiring especially regarding financials
- Staff is handling conferences with exceptional skill, and this is tremendously appreciated.

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Working Group/Committee Updates

- **Strategic plan - Matt**
 - Five focus groups went off very well and were valuable and reconnecting
 - Good discussions
 - Many people even Miriam did not know...
 - Flo will be tasked with assembling data and inputs to inform strategic planning and this will be done to maintain all of the inputs, even seemingly outlier insights
- **Nominating Committee - Ben**
 - Committee discussed the slate and who to reach out to
 - Striking a balance with needed skills/experience and diversifying the board
- **Development Committee - Andrew**
 - Workforce development plan with HS (with Paul E)
 - Proposal includes 9 days out of the school year working with NESEA members
 - Connecting to conferences and with NESEA
 - Still waiting on the DOE grant
 - Will also be applying for the Mass CEC Empower grant

Next Meeting

September 2, 9am – 10am

Motion to adjourn: made by Ben, seconded by Arlen. Approved by all present

Meeting closed 10:00 AM

Minutes submitted by Jodi Smits Anderson

jsmitsan@dasny.org for corrections/additions

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