

MINUTES OF THE SARA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING July28, 2024 And activity at Green Bank August 4 to 6, 2024

Compiled by Bruce Randall, Secretary

Officers, Directors, and Editors in Attendance at Zoom meeting

On Zoom Teleconference Connection:

Officers:	President	Rich Russel
	Vice President	Jay Wilson
	Secretary	Bruce Randall
	Treasurer	Tom Jacobs
Directors:	Ed Harfmann	
	Stephen Tzikas	
	Charles Osborne	
	Ted Cline	
Dir at Large:	David Westman	
	Bob Stricklin	
	Wolfgang Herrmann	

Unavailable:

Directors at Large: Paul Butler
Founding Director: Jeff Lichtman

A quorum was present.

Also in Attendance:

Tom Crowley	Grants
Ciprian Sufitchi	Web Master

EMAIL ACTIVITY BY BOARD

Activities of last year Included for context of meeting.

1. November 2023: We had several email exchanges to assure SARAs tax status and Alabama registration is in order. All is OK.
2. November 2023: We had email discussions of possible bylaws changes. This was tabled because changing bylaws affects Alabama registration. Changes discussed:
 - Eliminate Director at Large. Make all directors the same.
 - Make teleconference meeting attendance equal to being there in person.
 - Formalize an Assistant to Treasurer. This would eliminate questions about putting an assistant on bank account access.
 - Define a budget process.
 - Clarify some wording in bylaws.
3. November 2023: Problems for the treasurer caused by Wells Fargo bank were resolved.

AGENDA

Called to order 14:00 EDT

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

President

1. List Serve has 1200+ members. It is very active with many good discussions.

2. We have 3 Zoom meetings per month, Drakes Lounge, RTOP, and Drakes Lounge Australia.
3. We held a Western Regional Conference at UT Dallas in line with April 8 eclipse. Thanks to David Westman and Bob Stricklin for coordination and planning.
4. We are now using Shipify in SARA Store for make to order shirts, Etc. We had sales of \$2270 at a cost of \$1962 giving a profit of \$310. Seems much better than SARA trying to stock these items.
5. Journals have been over 100 pages.
6. We now have an index system to find things in past Journals.
7. Super SID cost to make has risen. It is still acceptable.

Vice President

1. At this time, conference registration is at 47 in person, 5 guests, and 33 on-line participants.
2. Receipts are about \$12,500, and present expenses look like about \$7,500.
3. We are working on solving some problems for Zoom link to Green Bank Auditorium. We are working with their IT to solve problems.

Grants: Tom Crowley

We had 18 grants last year. More are available. We do not get many serious applications.

Secretary

Bruce Randall gave a short power point recap of the last meeting.

Treasurer

Tom Jacobs gave a PowerPoint presentation on our financial status.

Total assets as of 06/30/23 were \$108,382.20.

Total assets as of 07/26/24 were \$106,292.49.

A budget for the coming year was produced.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SARA proposed a grant to Green Bank to Support 40 ft. telescope maintenance, improvements and other education outreach.
 - SARA has large assets for a 501c3
 - Bob Stricklin brought up possibility of supporting Green Bank education programs and the 40 ft. telescope
 - Motion by Rich Russel to donate \$10,000 to Green Bank
 - 2nd by Bob Stricklin
 - PASSED by Vote
 - Bob and Rich to coordinate with Green Bank
2. Motion by Rich Russel to pay travel expenses for Conference Chairman. Bob Stricklin noted we need some limits and controls on this. (No 1st class air travel! Etc.) Ed Harfmann 2nd the motion. It was passed by a board vote.
THIS NEEDS TO BE REVIEWED by the board before the next conference.
3. Election
 - a. We need a candidate for Vice President.
 - b. 1 more candidate is needed for Director.

- c. 1 more candidate is needed to Director at Large.
- 4. Web Site: Ciprian Sufitchi (Chip)
 - a. Chip is to supply secretary with passwords for website to have some redundancy.
 - b. Chip is working with our keynote speaker Dr. Jay Lockman to get SARA member access to his on line course material at a discount for SARA members.

Motion made by Rich Russel to adjourn meeting, seconded by Bruce Randall, motion passed by the Board.

Adjourn 15:57 EDT

Green Bank Conference Activity August 4 and 5, 2024

Election:

22 email ballots and 22 paper ballots at the conference were received.

At the conference:

Marcus Fisher said he would accept VP position.

Don Latham said he would accept a director at large position.

Total Votes * **marks elected individuals**

President:	* Rich Russel	43 votes
Vice President:	* Marcus Fisher	24 write-in votes.
	Charles Osborne	1 write-in vote and declined position.
Director: (2)	* Steve Tzikas	41 vote
	* Jay Wilson	18 votes
	Ken Redcap	1 write-in vote.
Dir at Large (2)	* Dennis Farr	42 votes
	* Don Latham	22 write-in votes
	Ellie White	1 write-in vote