

## **Minutes of AGF Board Meeting | Tuesday, April 14, 2009**

Pursuant to call and notice of the meeting, Carol Peck called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 1:15 pm on Tuesday, April 14th, at the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust at 1202 E. Missouri Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85014.

Directors present included Steve Alley, Kerry Blume, Pat Miles, Carol Peck, Barbara Poley, Ed Portnoy, Roy Pringle, Mary Jane Rynd, Don Snider, Merl Waschler, Deborah Whitehurst, and Jerry Wissink. Guests included Roger Hughes and Charlie Thompson. Marissa Theisen and Erin Dow were also present. Carol chaired the meeting and Erin acted as secretary.

### **Approval of Minutes**

*Upon a motion by Roy Pringle and a second by Mary Jane Rynd, the board approved the minutes of the Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> board meeting.*

### **Review of AGF Financial Statements**

Roy reviewed the financial statements for the first quarter of 2009, stating that all expenses were in line with what was expected. Roy then reviewed the Austerity Budget Marissa had prepared which reflected a projected revenue decrease of nearly \$20,000 as well as projected cuts in expenses. While the Austerity Budget still reflected a positive year end balance, Roy noted that, if necessary, he would prefer to have a net loss of income for one year rather than make substantial budget cuts that would seriously impact programs and services.

### **Status of Dues**

Marissa reviewed the dues status report, highlighting which members had not yet paid dues. Most of those are expected to pay in the next few weeks. She noted that she expects a few more not to renew and that the Austerity Budget reflects an expected dues shortfall of around \$11,000 for the year.

Carol raised the question of how to retain government members who may not be able to put dues into their budgets this year. She presented the option of: 1) upholding the current dues schedule and terminating the membership of those who cannot pay, 2) having other organizations sponsor government members and pay their dues for a year, or 3), waiving dues for government members for a year. Carol suggested that AGF had much to gain from having the Governor's office remain a member of AGF. Don suggested that AGF waive membership dues for 2009 for all government members that hadn't yet paid. Jerry Wissink noted that the Membership Committee was of the same opinion based on discussion at their last meeting. Carol stated that previous members should be contacted regarding their renewal and offered the waiver if they cannot pay. Steve raised the concern that the waiver be limited to one year, and AGF should clearly communicate that limit to all government members. He recommended that the Membership Committee review the policy at the end of the year to decide whether or not to continue the policy for 2010.

*Upon a motion by Steve Alley and a second by Mary Jane Rynd, the board agreed to waive 2009 membership fees for government entities that have recently been AGF members but are currently unable to pay 2009 dues.*

### **Form 990**

Roy Pringle discussed AGF's 2008 Form 990. He mentioned that he'd talked with Carolyn Sechler, AGF's accountant who prepared the document and was confident that it was accurate.

Don commented that AGF should be aware of the lobbying portion of the 990 in Part 6, page 4 for future reference. If AGF coordinates meetings for Foundations on the Hill while a bill affecting foundations or 501(c)(3) organizations is pending, AGF would need to complete the section for lobbying on the 990. As an alternative, AGF might consider filing Form 5768, electing to have the provisions of Section 501(h) of the tax code relating to lobbying expenditures. Don also noted that on the last page of the document, Part 3, line 28 there was no heading. Roy said that he and Marissa would review the missing heading before sending in the 990. ***Upon a motion by Roy Pringle and a second by Don Snider, the board voted to accept the 2008 Form 990 as completed.*** Marissa stated that she intends to file the report by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **AGF Annual Report**

Marissa directed board members to review the copy of the annual report in their board packet. She mentioned that AGF's accountant has reviewed the financial section of the report, and Roy has reviewed the full report for accuracy. The report is ready to post for public viewing on the website. Roy suggested one small change in wording on the Statement of Financial Position which Marissa agreed to make before posting the document to the AGF website.

### **Membership Committee Report**

Jerry reported out on the first Membership Committee meeting for 2009. He noted that participation in the meeting was good. The group first decided to increase the new member goal from 5 to 10, recognizing that 7 new members had already joined. Committee members reviewed the list of members who hadn't yet paid dues and some agreed to make follow up phone calls. They also reviewed a list of prospects prepared by AGF staff and committee members identified any people that they knew and would be willing to contact. Jerry noted that Erin had sent the prospect list to the board and asked that they also review it to see if there was anyone on the list they would be willing to contact. He also encouraged board members to bring prospective members to programs. Carol noted that part of the purpose of the retreat would be to develop the board's ability to communicate the benefits and resources AGF has to offer. Marissa reminded the group that the first year of membership is half price and dues are prorated based on the month joined.

### **Program Committee Report**

Don Snider asked Marissa to report on the progress of the Federal Stimulus Package program that AGF is co-sponsoring on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Marissa reported that over 225 folks have registered for the program designed to educate funders and non profits on how federal stimulus dollars may be allocated in Arizona. Steve noted that staff will post a video recording of the program at the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits website. Don then discussed upcoming programs for the third quarter. Kerry and Barbara are working with Marissa to create a program in Flagstaff for July or August. The committee is considering a summer social event for July or August. Don and Marissa will work on a program for September that coincides with the Conference of Southwest Foundations conference, possibly utilizing one of the speakers from the conference to speak at a separate AGF program or organizing a social that includes both AGF members and conference attendees.

### **Special Events Committee Report**

Kerry announced the theme of the 2009 special event: *Multi-Generational Philanthropy Building the Next Generation of Donors and Doers*. Plans are moving forward on schedule and the primary need is for sponsorships. Marissa talked about the speaker, Nathan Dungan. She highlighted his

background and reviews from other regional associations that had used him as a speaker. The Arizona Community Foundation and Lowry Hill have signed on as silver sponsors. ACF will have an afternoon session with Nathan and invite their donors to participate. Each guest at the luncheon will receive a tool from the Share Save Spend catalogue, either a money bank or a discussion-starter booklet. Carol inquired about the books from last year's event and suggested that if books were not shipped soon, we should offer last year's guests a refund or a book from the Share Save Spend catalogue.

### **CEO Report**

Marissa reported that AGF is currently on track for meeting critical goals for the year and invited board members to review the update on the Strategic Work Plan in their board packets for more details. She highlighted the recent Education Funders meeting, the Small Foundation Roundtable and the planning of a meeting for corporate members around the STEM initiative.

Carol Peck adjourned the meeting at 2:05 pm.