

Animal Charity Evaluators

Board of Directors Meeting

Type of Meeting: Standard Monthly Meeting

Date: April 24, 2016

In attendance:

Chairperson: Jonas Mueller

Treasurer: Peter Hurford

Secretary: Jeff Sebo

Board Member: Claire Zabel

Executive Director: Jon Bockman

Absent:

Board Member: Sam Bankman-Fried

Board Member: S. Greenberg

Quorum established: Yes

1. Call to order: JM called the meeting to order at 10:02am PST.

2. Approval of minutes: Minutes were approved via email.

3. Items considered:

1. Brief financial update (JB)
 - a. Updated financials
 - b. March Financials
 - i. Beginning balance as of 3/1/2016: \$344,704.67
 - ii. March income: \$24,879.98
 - iii. March expenses: \$29, 619.37
 - iv. March net income: \$-4739.39
 - v. Ending balance as of 3/31/16: \$339,965.28
 - vi. March GD Donations (\$4,675.80 to ACE, \$7097.94 to top charities, deposited 4/16/16)
 - vii. Equivalent to approx. 15 months expenses (\$332,867.34 with \$7,097.94 in top charity obligations removed from ending balance)
2. Progress update (progress in relation to [strategic plan](#)) (JB)
 - a. Current focus areas and challenges
 - i. ACE growth
 1. Expanding Ops position: Increased to 20-hour/week position, hired new employee
 2. Research Associate: Finishing second round of interviews.

3. Development: Focus would include raising more money for ACE as well as top charities.
 4. Communications: Increased to 20-hour/week position, recruiting for replacement to begin soon.
 5. In total these changes add 12-15% to annual budget.
 - ii. Working on Development and Marketing plans
 1. Segmenting audience
 - a. Working to improve messaging for specific audiences. Need to showcase the value in our free third-party evaluations for all groups, value in free resources and advice on site.
 - iii. Preparing for conferences (7)
 1. Sentience, TAFA, AR, EAG, International, Grantmakers, Academic
3. Advisory board responses to strategic plan questions (JB)
 - a. Animal Studies initiatives seem promising, but hard to evaluate.
 - b. Considering cap on standouts, or rebranding the category altogether. Also considering separate category for speculative choices.
4. Conflict of interest policy (JB)
 - a. Affiliations of board and staff
 - i. Seems ok. Tough to find experts who are not affiliated in any way. Should have universal policy for all staff, regardless of department.
 - b. Formal or voluntary
 - i. Staff: Should not have any formal positions with groups we might evaluate, paid or unpaid. Can volunteer.
 - ii. Board: Can have unpaid formal affiliations with other groups. Need to recuse themselves if any discussion on affiliated groups. Can volunteer.
 - c. Applications for Advocacy Research Program funding
 - i. GB working on COI policy. We don't want to discourage applications, may have oversight committee member review applications from people connected to ACE to avoid appearance of favoritism.
 - d. CEVA
 - i. JB can join advisory board if parent group recuses from consideration for at least one year following departure. Otherwise no.
 - e. JB to draft formal policy summarizing thoughts of board, will get approval and then publish on site.
 - f. Also considering publishing all affiliations for full transparency.
5. Officer role transitions (JB)
6. Investment update (PH)
 - a. Draft policy
 - b. PH investigating current status.
7. Recruitment committee (JS)
 - a. Will meet with JB soon re: succession planning.

- b. Will make proposal to board soon about board member recruitment.
- 8. Evaluation committee (CZ)
- 9. Next board meeting (JM)

4. New business:

5. Closed session (optional: excludes ED or other invited guests): [N/A if the session was not closed]

6. Next scheduled meeting:

7. Meeting adjourned at 12pm PST on March 13, 2016 by JM

Submitted by:

Jeff Sebo, Board Secretary

Jonas Mueller, Board Chair