

Animal Charity Evaluators
Board of Directors Meeting
Type of Meeting: Standard Meeting
Date: 21 June 2020

In attendance:

Chairperson: Persis Eskander
Secretary: Eric Herboso
Treasurer: Allison Smith
Board Member: Jeff Sebo
Board Member: Jonas Mueller
Executive Director: Leah Edgerton

Absent:

Quorum established: Yes

1. Call to order: PE called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m. EDT

2. Approval of minutes: Minutes were approved via email on 13 May 2020

3. ED items

- Financials:
 - Budget. In Q2. Monthly accounting on track.
 - Fundraising.
 - \$13k grant received from Tiny Beam Fund
 - 1-on-1 meetings with key donors going well
 - Secured \$300k match for Sept EAAF fundraiser.
 - Planning July/early August ACE fundraiser, looking for a matching donor
 - Initial calls with some new foundations in our network
- Strategy
 - Will begin drafting new 3-year strategic plan in Q3
 - Considered but declined to switch to 1-year strategic plan due to COVID-19 & recession uncertainty
 - Discussed how to factor additional uncertainty into our 3-year strategic plan
 - On track with annual goals (we are holding biweekly check-ins with Leads)
- Activities
 - Charity Evaluations
 - Charities were selected for evaluation. Invitations have been sent
 - Modified how ACE will handle evaluations in 2020 due to COVID-19 & recession after discussion with stakeholders
 - RCF

- Mid-year updates to be received at the start of July, mid-year grants to go out at the same time
 - Anticipating Double Up Drive matching fundraiser for December
 - EAAF
 - Round 3 grantees selected. Going through final admin steps before grant administration. About \$500k will be disbursed to ~20 recipients
 - Round 4 call for applications is open.
 - AARF
 - Round 8 underway. Committee reviewed “expression of interest” applications, will be reviewing full proposals by the end of the month.
 - Potential new funders on our radar for continuing AARF
- Legal and HR
 - No updates
 - Upcoming: developing a formal compensation strategy, developing a sabbatical policy
- Other
 - COVID-19
 - Staff appear to be getting used to our “new normal” with productivity rates closer to normal and wellbeing recovering for most team members.
 - We will be publishing a blog post with COVID-19 related updates from our recommended charities, per the request of our donor stakeholders.
 - Black Lives Matter uprising
 - Staff have been very affected by the news of police brutality and the associated Black Lives Matter uprising. Staff are encouraged to use sick leave for mental health; we held a staff-wide discussion on how to share personal reflections on June 11th; we will suspend work on June 19th for the day for a day of solidarity; we have decided to all read some books to discuss together in a couple of months; we published a blog post on our stance on the issue.

4. Officer items

- PE: Board’s role in fundraising
- PE: Role changes / transitions
 - Clarified committee lead/member role expectations.
- PE: Retaining institutional knowledge & onboarding
 - Discussed formalization of procedures for each role.

5. Committee items

- AS: research committee met with research team to discuss 2020 plans
 - Anticipating work throughout summer on charity evals
- AS: research committee membership

6. New business

- AS: quarterly financials will come from Treasurer via email in future

7. Closed session

8. Next scheduled meeting: August 16, 2020; 12:00 PM EDT

9. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM EDT on 2020/06/21 by PE

Submitted by:

Eric Herboso, Board Secretary

Persis Eskander, Board Chair