

Animal Charity Evaluators
Board of Directors Meeting
Type of Meeting: Standard Meeting
Date: January 22, 2024

In attendance:

Chairperson: Verónica Díaz Carrai
Vice Chairperson: Zach Freitas-Groff
Secretary: Alanna Devine
Treasurer: Ravi Mulani
Board Member: Kieran Greig
Board Member: Anju Goel
Board Member: Mo Esan
Board Member: Tom Billello
Executive Director: Stien van der Ploeg
Board Admin.: Eyren Semper

Absent:

Board Member: Allison Smith
Board Member: Andrea Gunn - LOA

Guest: n/a

Quorum established: Yes

1. Call to order

- a. VDC called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm (PT).

2. Board Votes

- a. Previous minutes were approved via email on November 23, 2023.
- b. Updated bylaws were approved via email on November 13, 2023.
- c. Authorization to change the ACE staff 401K administrator approved via email on January 17, 2024.

3. Executive Director items

- a. Updates:
 - i. Financials:
 - 1. Reviewed current P & L.
 - 2. Budget for fiscal year 2024/25 has started.

- ii. Fundraising update - on track so far.
 - iii. Program updates - Strategic Plan:
 - 1. Increase rigor and quality of our work.
 - 2. Diversify our funding sources.
 - 3. Interact with a wider audience.
 - 4. Strengthen ACE's internal sustainability.
 - iv. Planning for fiscal year 2024/2025:
 - 1. Theme: Collaboration.
- b. HR Update:
- i. New researcher has been hired and has now started.
 - ii. 360 feedback for staff now complete.
 - iii. Internal DEIJ committee is in place.
 - iv. Updated Health and Safety guidelines.
 - v. Staff retreat planned for March 11-15, 2024.
- c. ED Discretionary items:
- i. Impact assessment plan is in place.

4. Officer items

- a. Updates:
- i. Board Chair
 - 1. Update on committee work:
 - a. Annual ED Evaluation is underway.
 - ii. Treasurer
 - 1. Discussion around acceptable level of investment risk.
 - 2. Update on investment manager selection process.
 - 3. Auditor evaluation volunteer(s) needed.

5. Committee/RITW Representative items

- a. Updates:
- i. Governance Committee
 - 1. Next project - Board self assessment.
 - ii. ED Evaluation Committee
 - 1. Updated committee role document.
 - 2. ED annual evaluation is in progress and everything will be completed by the end of February.

6. Guest items

- a. No guests in attendance.

7. Staff items

- a. No submissions.

- 8.** New business
 - a. No new business.
- 9.** Closed session - excludes ED and other invited guests.
 - a. Meeting has moved into a closed session at 6:23 pm (PT).
- 10.** Next scheduled meeting
 - a. March 25, 2024.
- 11.** Adjournment
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm (PT) on January 22 by VDC.

Submitted by:

Alanna Devine, Board Secretary
Verónica Díaz Carrai, Board Chair