

ExCom Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2020

In attendance:

Lisa Schwartz, President

Matt Server, Vice President (arrived at 10:25 AM, EDT)

Alka Sharma, Treasurer

Ellen Stanley, At Large

Aengus Finnan, Executive Director

Jen Roe, Director of Operations

Regrets: Deana McCloud

Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM EDT

Discussed proposed succession plan for Executive Committee and determined potential slate of officers to be presented to the Board. It was agreed that Lisa will reach out to all of the individual directors to determine their interest in the role and will report back to ExCom. After confirming interest and discussion with ExCom, Lisa will then discuss with the full board and invite others to come forward and voice their interest by contacting Lisa offline. Should there be multiple individuals who seek the same officer seat an internal runoff election will be needed.

Aengus brought ExCom up to date on the alleged copyright infringement situation by a volunteer who used an online image for last year's FAR-West region conference. The plaintiff's lawyers accepted FAI's lawyer's clarification about the distinction between the two organizations, and consequently FAI is no longer a named party in the situation. This situation is an important reminder of the requirements in the Regions' Agreement that all regions maintain both Director and Officers Insurance as well as General Liability insurance, and that FAI must be named as an additional insured on all policies. FAI staff track this compliance annually.

Appreciating the significance of having all board members aware of the responsibilities of being on a board, it was suggested that FAI offer an annual Zoom meeting/webinar on Nonprofit Board Governance Best Practices as a resource for FAI and regional directors.

FAI's digital conference, Folk Unlocked has been announced and slated for February 22-25, 2021. ExCom discussed potential dates for the digital AGM to take place in advance to build excitement towards the conference and hopefully increase attendance. We also discussed dates for the Board Meeting and having the newly elected directors join the current board to observe and get comfortable and more familiar with the experience. At that time, officers would be elected and the newly seated ExCom would debut at the AGM.

FAI Staff will send out a poll to members to ask if there is a preference for the AGM to take place during work hours on a weekday or on a Saturday. We will use this information to determine date and time for the meeting.

Aengus let us know that he is looking into Board and Staff Training specifically around Cultural Equity. This training will be at a deeper level than past facilitated events. We do have budget allocated and the hope is to schedule the sessions in 2021.

The meeting ended at 9:59 am.