

Minutes of the January 15, 2015 AZAALAS Board Meeting

Members present: Grace Aranda, Melissa Birkett, Pamela Bortz, Stephanie Curtis, CJ Doane, Tom Greene, Eilene Janke, and Jaime White-James

Members absent and excused: Cheryl Johnson, Timothy Martin, Frank McFadden

1. After a delay due to connection issues the meeting was held via conference call. President Jaime White-James called the meeting to order at noon. Future board meetings will be held at 11:30 a.m.
2. Minutes from November's meeting were approved as written.
3. New Board member's President Elect CJ Doane and Technician Branch Representative Eilene Janke were welcome to the board.
4. Newsletter Editor Grace Aranda reported the membership roster for Secretary Pam Bortz. All memberships expired December 31st as usual and so renewals are coming in now. Everyone was invoiced for their membership through Paypal to make credit card payments possible, although the option is always there to pay by check if they prefer.
5. Treasurer Stephanie Curtis provided the financial report: savings \$876.99; checking \$6,441.35 with about \$300 in outstanding items, and money market \$4,079.20 for a total of \$11,397.54.
6. The 2015 National AALAS meeting will be Nov 1-5. Letters were sent out from National AALAS to those serving on subcommittees. Volunteers are needed for details such as bag stuffers, local arrangements, etc. Everyone will need to be prepared to volunteer as needed. We may need extra board meetings than our bimonthly meetings already on the schedule. Tim will let us know more at the March meeting.
7. Tech week is Feb 1-7. The Tech week items we ordered have been delivered to St Joes and UA Tucson. Posters were in short supply so they were distributed sparingly. All institutions will be mailed bags, flashlights and whatever supplies were received from our commercial members. Each institution will be requested via email to let us know what activities are planned and to share photos after.
8. Jaime pointed out that as president elect, CJ is charged with finding speakers and arranging the branch video conferences. We will be using the UA's streaming system for our March and July conferences this year though we may be charged a fee for using the system. Using this format anyone should be able to log on and view the presentation. Jaime has found a speaker from UA Phx for March, and Tom will speak to one from NAU for July. Grace will work on the web page and flyer for distribution.
9. Our branch fun events are rotated around the state each year to allow members to see what each area has to offer and to allow members to meet each other. This year's rotation is Flagstaff and Tom suggested Bearizona Drive-thru Wildlife Park in Williams. The Lowell Observatory was another suggestion though weather dependant, and the Deer Farm near Williams was also suggested.
10. Jaime brought up the Leadership Academy at the National AALAS meeting, a workshop to teach leadership skills training. Each branch can nominate 1 person and an alternate to attend. If anyone knows of a good candidate who will be attending the national meeting pass the name along to Jaime.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.