



Trustee Meeting Minutes

Date & time of meeting: September 19, 2023, at 10:00am Central Time via Zoom

Attending: Chair: Beau Brodbeck, Chair Elect: Patrick Franklin, Treasurer: Jacques Brunswick, Trustees: Lori Brockelbank, Jeff Edgar, Dan Herms, Steve Geist, David Gorden, Sharon Jean-Phillipe, Pete Smith, Paul Putman, and guest Jonathan Cain

Absent: Rachel Barker, Gordan Mann, Sam VanMaanen, Kathy Wolf

Chair Brodbeck began meeting at 10:02pm Central Time and welcomed new trustees Pete Smith and Sam VanMaanen. Also welcomed back Gordon Mann and welcomed new TREE Fund CEO Paul Putman to his first official trustee meeting. Meeting officially called to order at 10:05pm.

10:05. Minutes from July 12: Chair Brodbeck asked for any changes to the minutes; none was requested. Motion made by Trustee Geist to accept the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Trustee Brunswick. Motion carried.

10:10. CEO Update: Dr. Putman noted a correction to the December board meeting dates listed on the meeting agenda to December 7 & 8, 2023 and thanked Mr. Cain for taking minutes.

A search for a new Operations and Governance Coordinator will begin soon. A job description is currently being put together and we are hoping to have someone in that position by January.

He pointed out that his report included recommendations regarding the future of the Development and Communication committees.

Dr. Putman is very appreciative of the help and connections made from the board so far during his tenure. He has made many trips already and is grateful for the opportunities to do so.

So far, during the current Fall Grant Application Cycle, TREE Fund has received 100 applications for available grants.

Dr. Putman met with Davey Tree about the Community Education Grant Fund, which is planned to launch in 2024.

Chair Brodbeck commented on the positive start to Dr. Putman's tenure at TREE Fund.

10:15. Finance Report: Treasurer Brunswick gave a report on the current budget. Above estimates for this time of year. Currently saving a lot of money and are in good shape, based on the revised budget from May. A



change was made to the Grant Chart with the help of Paul Putman and Heath Hupke to make it easier to understand. Trustee Smith had questions about the Chicago Corporate Trust administration fees.

10:30. Tour des Trees Update: Jonathan Cain gave an update on the planning for next week's Tour des Trees. 77 riders riding with 22 new riders; all but five riders are full-time. Recon trip went well. Stop and engagement locations are in place. Ride route is beautiful and challenging. ISA CEO Caitlyn Pollihan will join us for the opening dinner. Western Chapter hosting a party at dinner in San Jose. Job fair has fewer vendors than hoped for, currently, but students and community are reported to be excited about the opportunity.

350/350 Challenge virtual event ended in August. 23 people successfully completed the Challenge, so it was seen as a success for the first year with room to build.

10:45. Old Business:

Board member recruitment update. Chair Brodbeck reviewed the work of the ad hoc board recruitment committee and encouraged board members to submit names for consideration. Board members of diverse areas of specialization as well as different dimensions of human diversity are of special interest. Several strong candidates have been identified but given the turnover that the board will experience at the end of 2023, more names are needed.

Chair Brodbeck also reviewed committee chairpersons and board Vice-Chair needs. Any board member interested and willing to explore a leadership role with TREE Fund should touch base with him.

11:00. New Business:

Chair Elect Anderson and Dr. Putman began discussion on need to rebuild the Communications and Development Committees. A suggestion was made to split into two committees as it had been structured in the past. Chair Brodbeck made a motion to approve split; Trustee Edgar seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Putman presented proposal regarding approval of future Tour des Trees locations with planning of more than one year in advance. Chair Elect Anderson made a motion to approve the locations, Treasurer Brunswick seconded. Motion carried. 2024 location will be New York/ New England (2024). Tentative locations for 2025 and 2026 were also approved.

Discussion regarding inviting newly selected board members to the December meeting in Atlanta before being officially sworn in. Discussion regarding initiation of new board members, voting ability, and attendance during certain parts of the meeting. Discussion tabled and suggested to let Executive and Governance Committee discuss further.



Treasurer Brunswick and Dr. Putman discussed the need to update the signatory ability on Vanguard account so that both of them could access the account:

Motion to approve board treasurer Jacques Brunswick and President/CEO Paul G. Putman as the authorized signatories for the Tree Research and Education Endowment Fund Vanguard account.

Trustee Geist made a motion to approve; Trustee Edgar seconded. Motion carried.

11:45. Atlanta Board Meeting, December 7 & 8: Proposed new meeting schedule for two-day event to allow time for board discussion, with a slightly earlier start time than last year.

Thursday: 11am gather/ social. Noon to 5pm Board Meeting. 6pm Trustee/ Liaison dinner at Max Lager's.

Friday: 8-9am Joint meeting recap and action items. 9-10am Trustee/ Liaison meeting. 10am-Noon Liaison meeting.

11:50. Closing Items: None

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Geist; seconded by Trustee Brunswick. Meeting adjourned at 11:50am Central Time and the Board entered Executive Session.

Dr. Arnold "Beau" Brodbeck, Chair, TREE Fund board of trustees

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