

## SAML Annual Business Meeting Minutes – May 2, 2022

Prepared by Jayne Gardiner, SAML Secretary

- **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order by President Sue Ebanks at 1:35 pm Eastern time.

- **Approval of Minutes.**

Motion (R. Leuttich, M. Allen): Approve the minutes of the 2021 SAML Annual Business Meeting as submitted

*Approved by a vote*

- **Old Business**

- **Tax Exempt Status**

- Tabled to allow L. Burnett to speak with the Board first

- **New Business**

- **Bylaws revisions** (S. Ebanks)

- Changes align SAML bylaws with NAML bylaws, especially for terminology (e.g. Board of Directors), see Appendix.

Approve the revised SAML bylaws (presented by Bylaws Committee, no motion required)

*Approved by a vote (19 Yes/0 No).*

- **Nominating Committee** (D. Eggleston)

- Committee: John Valentine, Mike Allen, Dave Eggleston (Chair/Past-President)
- Thank you to Quint White for his service as President/Past-President
- Need nominations for:
  - President-Elect to replace Read Hendon who has recently accepted a NOAA Branch Chief position
  - Member-at-Large to replace Al George (2021-2023), who has recently changed positions
  - Member-at-Large to replace Jim Gelslechter who will rotate off at the end of 2022
- Process: committee receives suggestions for nominations, confirms that they are willing to serve, then an electronic ballot will go out for voting by delegates of regular members; ballot remains open for 30 days
- Committee has one nominee who has confirmed their interest (Clark Alexander for President-Elect) and a few additional suggestions that still require follow-up
- Please self-nominate for these positions!

- o **Education Committee Brief (A. Busse)**
  - Have created a series of opportunities for the NAML education community:
    - Quarterly webinars, next one is May 29 (Minorities in Shark Sciences)
    - Community of practice class: informal space for conversations about education topics, open to everyone in NAML; occur during months without webinars. Upcoming:
      - o June 24: citizen science
      - o July 22: internships/REU-type programs
    - Collecting names for an interest group to be more involved (contact A. Busse or L. Burnett)
  
- o **DEI Committee Brief (M. Wetz)**
  - DEI panel during the recent NAML public policy meeting; more to come
  - Preparing a proposal to NSF INCLUDES:
    - Ran into some issues with getting NAML registered with NSF, but are working through these
  - NAML survey (if you have not yet done so, please complete the survey)
  - Modifications to the NAML website to boost the DEI section:
    - Activities page with more information about what various institutions are doing
    - Opportunities page
  - Discussion:
    - Since this is a NAML committee, membership is open to NAML members; this may have unintended DEI impacts
      - o Note that non-member institutions can participate in panels
    - Consider accountability and how success of committee efforts are being measured; consider metrics such as: changes in retention, recruitment, demographics of marine laboratory personnel, etc
    - Student awards: discussion of adding demographics question so we can examine diversity reflected among the applicants, track trends over time
  
- o **Audit Committee Report (F. Dobbs)**
  - Committee: Mike Allen, Scott Knoche, F. Dobbs
  - No points of great concern
  - Related to the change of banks at the end of June, the closing statement from the prior bank shows a wire transfer to Main Street Bank, however committee did not receive an opening statement from the new bank (but does have more recent statements): committee requests that this opening statement be obtained to complete the file prior to approving the audit; E. Milbrandt will obtain this statement (was not provided when he took over as treasurer on Jan 1)

**Treasurer's report for 2021 (E. Milbrandt)**

- Starting balance of \$66,561.26 on Jan 1, 2021
- Regional dues come from NAML as dispersals, some were delayed due to the change in banks; \$20,841.75 in deposits reflected, but some date back to 2019
- \$7,141 expense for student awards (2020 and 2021)

- Other regular annual expenses: corporate filing fees, CT Corp certificate of good standing, and website maintenance fee
- Two miscellaneous fees: wire transfer fee (\$25) and a \$1000 donation to LUMCON for hurricane relief
- Closing balance of \$77,551.02 on Dec 31, 2022

### **2022 Budget**

- Per updated bylaws, budget is now approved by the Board
- Board to review additional information, determine level for student awards, and approve the budget at a later meeting (summer), then provide approved budget to the membership

### **o Student Awards (S. Ebanks)**

- 2022 awards named for John Vernberg
  - Received 40 applications, made 13 awards of \$200-300 each, totaling \$3,810
  - \$3621 total out of the \$4000 budgeted
  - Committee: Fred Dobbs, Deana Erdner, Eric Milbrandt, Sue Ebanks (chair)
  - Awards include research and conference funds; approximately 60/40 (or 70/30) conference vs research
  - Some awardees were unable to attend the Aquatic Sciences meeting, which changed format; some gifted their award to another student who could attend a conference
  - Awardees were asked to provide responses about how they used the funds, these are stored in the President-Elect gmail account
  - Discussion of how awards are listed on the website, consider adding title of the project/conference presentation
  - Nominations for naming of the 2022 award. John Vernberg was suggested last year.
- 2023 awards
  - Naming: board received a suggestion for Larry Pomeroy
  - Opened to other suggestions: Eugenie Clark, Evelyn and Barry Sherr, Mary Rice, Madilyn Fletcher
  - Discussion of criteria for naming as we do not currently have guidelines: do they need to have served SAML in some capacity?
  - Naming vote will be included in the electronic poll for elections

### **o Future Meetings**

- Typically alternates East Coast/Gulf Coast
- Self-nominate and think about suggested locations
- Dauphin Island Sea Lab suggested as a possibility for 2023

### **● Other Business**

#### **o Future Meetings**

- o Growing membership: consider neighboring institutions who are not currently members

Motion to adjourn (M. Alber, J. Gardiner)

*Approved by acclamation*

Business Meeting adjourned at: 2:45pm