Agenda for September 5th, 2017:

The Board determined the following discussion items for the Voting Meeting, which was agreed to take place on Tuesday, September 5th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Sasona.

* Check-In
* Staff Report
* Approve Minutes
* CTAP Partnership with ROC-USA
* D&O Insurance and Worker’s Comp
* Mission statement
* Web domain registration and hosting
* ACBA Bylaws vote

***In Attendance:***

*Gatlin Johnson, Treasurer*

*Joshua Sabik, Chair*

*Natasha Madison - Community Board Rep*

*Natalie San Luis - Staff*

*Matt “Trip” Maker - HR*

*Indya Flanagan - Secretary*

*Sam Bean - Sasona Resident*

Staff Report (Abridged)

* ARNL has been in a holding partner with ROC USA. Have been working on other issues in their community. Tracking water usage, possible double-charge by management.
* Bookkeeping training with Andy Shivley, better idea of how much money put in and saved by Natalie doing bk stuff instead of Andy
* Worked on mission statement
* May not fit cleanly into Meadows grant categories, hoping to get application sent off next week
* NASCO institute coming up in early November, Natalie will be going, have scholarship money available as well for other people to attend
* OOO September 12-18th, email only

Staff Report (In Full)

* ARNL Update
  + Last week, I had a call with Mary O’Hara (ROC USA) and Andy Escobar (BASTA Austin). I told them about our concerns (that we don’t yet have the capacity or the capital to move forward, but that we’re working on it).
  + Mary said she has been speaking with a representative from the JP Morgan Chase Foundation in Houston, and that they may be interested in supporting CTAP efforts in Texas. The Foundation has historically helped with the CTAP process for other network affiliates. The Foundation rep and Mary will be coming to Austin on Sept. 19-20 and we are planning to meet in person. Let me know if you would like to meet up! (Side note: These plans were made before Harvey, so they may change.) Mary is also interested in continuing the conversation between NASCO and CHEA about organizational support and coming up with a joint business plan.
  + Andy said that ARNL has been working on lobbying/organizing to get management to improve the property. They successfully got a new manager, filled potholes, got new lights. Currently, some of the residents are working to track water usage, because they are pretty sure the management is double-charging them for water.
  + I have a meeting with CM Casar’s office, Hannah, and Andy on Thursday. Also, Andy and I will be meeting up for coffee sometime this week or early next week.
* Grants
  + Currently drafting the Meadows grant application, for which we need:
    - Latest verification of tax-exempt status
    - Certified audits for the past three years, or last year’s financial statements and recently filed 990
    - Current operating budget and financial statements
* Mission statement brainstorming
  + Document is open! We can discuss at the meeting.
* Bookkeeping training
  + Andi said her fee was $60/hour for training. Setting up a call to discuss an estimate of how many hours I need
* Impact Hub
  + I’m interested in applying for the Impact Hub Affordable Housing Accelerator. If we’re selected, we could get mentorship, networking opportunities, and coworking space from Impact Hub.
  + We seem to qualify under the “Financial Modeling” track: “Austin’s land and infrastructure are expensive. This is a huge component to lack of affordability city-wide. Under this track, we are soliciting teams that will utilize innovative financial models that enable production and/or preservation of affordable units in Austin. These teams will use strong partnerships and other methods to buy the cost of units down. We are looking for these initiatives to have potential for broad application.”
  + Hoping to get the application sent off by the 11th.
* NASCO Institute
  + At the board meeting, we should discuss who’s going and scholarships
* Etc.:
  + I’m out of town September 12-18 but will be available via email

Approve Minutes from Last Meeting

Gatlin moves to approve minutes from August 23, 2017.

Seconded by Natasha **Motion passes unanimously.**

**In Favor: 5**

**Opposed: 0**

**Abstaining: 0**

CTAP Partnership with ROC-USA

See staff report for details.

* **Meeting regarding ARNL this Thursday September 7th at 4pm.** Josh and Gatlin interested in attending
* Trip, Gatlin, and Josh may be interested in meeting with Mary from JP Morgan Foundation in a couple of weeks. Details TBA

D&O Insurance and Worker’s Comp

Josh has nothing to report, working with Daniel Miller because insurance form is obtuse.

Mission Statement

* Natalie collected statements from other organizations and brainstormed a few
* Board to individually write down the one they like best in the google doc for next time

Web Domain Registration and Hosting

* Trip paid for the web domain registration after last week’s meeting
* Hosting: Trip not directly involved
* Gatlin’s idea re: hosting is to set up hosting on system for $5 per month pretty easily
* Gatlin is comfortable setting this up, he is also keeping log of services paid for by the organization to make debit card switches more smooth
* Gatlin is hosting it now, wants to migrate off of his computer to something the organization runs

Gatlin to move hosting of CHEA’s website to a service that CHEA pays for and controls by the next CHEA board meeting. Gatlin moves to pay for it with the CHEA debit card assuming costs are under $100 for the year. Trip seconds

**Motion passes unanimously.**

**In Favor: 5**

**Opposed: 0**

**Abstaining: 0**

ACBA Bylaws Vote

* Josh never heard back from Ryan
* No new information - full text of bylaws but not details
* Deadline to vote is September 11th
* Josh to email another ACBA person explaining why we are not voting

Gatlin moved to abstain from voting in ACBA by-law amendments, seconded by Trip.

**We voted to abstain from voting on ACBA by-law amendments, unanimously.**

**In Favor: 5**

**Opposed: 0**

**Abstaining (of abstaining): 0**

New Business:

**NASCO co op visit**

Director of Community Engagement at NASCO sent us a message. They want to visit our co ops this month, provide training around specific projects and general co op life. Would like to stay at one of the co op houses throughout the visit if possible. Dates: September 26th and 27th. A meeting with the board + Natalie would be quite productive. The last NASCO visit was hosted by Sasona, maybe this one could be hosted by La Reunion?

**Sam’s new business:** Someone at La Reunion brought to Sam’s attention the gradual phenomenon of white members of La Rey creating an environment in which non-white members have less and less of a desire to live in. Concerning, would like to have addressed.

**Josh**: very disturbing. Notes that La Reunion is getting more diverse, going in the right direction. Lack of engagement in house processes on a widespread level (low meeting attendance, low dinner attendance), from everybody. Can review with house harassment policies and recourse.

**Gatlin**: bridges a topic we have discussed re: how to engage marginalized communities. Does not know of specific instance of telling people how to participate, but house has had discussion led by non-white residents about how members are treated differently within the house according to race.

**Josh:** analyzing why meetings on Sunday nights, a better night may be found for accessibility

**Sam:** concerns re: sexual assault

**Josh:** came up in the middle of developing the grievance policy last year, worked to make that policy as relevant to that assault as possible. Genieva worked diligently with persons making the report, but unable to engage with victim directly. Person speaking up on behalf of the victim was acting as a relay between board and victim. Unable to move forward, talked to NASCO about what to do. Took up the better part of several board meetings. Board unable to document and do fact finding, so unable to move forward.

**Natasha’s new business:** approached to be on board of Evolve Austin (extension of Imagine Austin). Deliver content to city, take on partners. Partners include College Houses and Austin Justice Coalition, Austin Chamber of Commerce, Austin Housing Coalition, Austin Tech Alliance, among others. Partnership doesn’t entail much, but eventually could engage with local gov’t around specific issues. Board meeting tomorrow, **Natasha will let us know when the next board meeting is.** If nothing else, helpful to get in a room with all these other great organizations. Natalie can attend the next meeting.

Action Items:

**Gatlin** to pay late fee for IRS tomorrow (9/6).

Agenda for Next Time:

The Board determined the following discussion items for the Voting Meeting, which was agreed to take place on Tuesday, September 26th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at La Reunion.

* Check-In
* Approve Minutes
* Staff Report
* D&O Insurance
* Mission Statement
* UT Law Community Development Clinic
* NASCO’s role in CTAP partnership
* Maintenance Budget Tracking
* General NASCO queries

Next Next Time:

* Executive Session
* Harassment Policy Recap
* Maintenance Money: Sasona v. La Reunion