



BAGRS Board Meeting

Sunday Oct 2, 2022

Called to order at 9:31 am- Present: Mick Spilsbury, Larry Silverman, Gregory Hile, Lynn Gerber, Richard Murray and Ray Turner. Absent: Channing Cheng

Action Items:

Lynn & Channing to send Pix and short two paragraphs to Greg for T&T article. All others have been sent

Mick: following up with Chicago Area GRS about how they help members with RR construction guidance

Mick to send list to Russ of Former members and non renewals to District Supervisors

Mick and Larry to research if Wild Apricot can produce our P&Ls

Mick to draft 2 Surveys, one for newer members and one for long time members

Mick to draft memo on Wild Apricot automated features and place on Google drive

Board to look at rebalancing districts and supervisors

Mick to obtain District Supervisor job description from Russ (or Google drive)

Mick to ask Collin for Google Drive password and fix access for board members

Minutes:

1. Minutes from July Meeting were approved
2. Proposal was made to allow automatic renewal payments. **Board approved** the proposal. We will need to change the text of the renewal message.
3. Reminder to send pix and bio to Greg to put in the T&T. Lynn and Channing need to send in
4. Swap Meet- discussed holding swap meet 10/23 but date very close and Channing not at meeting to clarify if it would be possible to hold at Accucraft. Doubtful can be arranged in time for the end of this month. Proposal was made to hold a swap meet at the annual meeting. **Board agreed and approved** holding a swap meet at the annual meeting.
5. Open Houses- only two to open on 10/23 Mick and Rob Ronconi. Last open houses of the season
6. Wild Apricot automated features were researched. Mick will put a write up on Google drive for board review
7. Member Experience Survey Discussion of a survey that would cover the member experience. Decided two would be better to determine what appeals to new members and differentiate (maybe) on opinions of longer term members. It was mentioned that responses are usually low. Superintendents will be engaged to help encourage responses. A suggestion was made that we might offer prizes at the annual meeting



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8. Newsletter help needed. **Board agreed and approved** the hiring of an Associate Editor to help Greg. Software that will help the editing was approved which will cost around \$150.
9. Marketing report – the UTube site was launched. 230 people are following.
10. Ray submitted a membership report via Google drive. We have three new members. The membership application calculates 297 active members but 13 are delinquent. A discussion followed on Former Vs Lapsed members. The Board reviewed many names and the reasons they are no longer members. Russ asked the list be sent to him as he can either contact them or already knows the disposition of their membership. Mick would like to adjust the numbers before the end of the month. Ray mentioned we should consider adding a field to describe “why” no longer a member.
11. Richard reported on the two last steam ups for the year: Ardenwood and Los Altos. All went well despite the heat. He mentioned there may be some steam ups in individual locations through the end of the year.
12. Greg reported that the East Bay open day was held despite some rain showers. Russ reported 12 visitors. Greg brought up discussion on the effectiveness of some District Supervisors. He felt we should re-evaluate two of the supervisors. This led to a lively discussion on the need to rebalance the districts. It was decided to look at rebalancing the districts and then look at the supervisors.
13. Google drive access is still not working for three board members. Mick will ask Collin’s for his password and fix access.
14. An update on the website by Mick was provided. The next phase is discovery. The build with existing templates will cost approximately \$1,000. A proposal was made to move ahead with the discovery phase. The **board approved** moving ahead with the discovery phase. We should have results by the end of October. The plan is to introduce the website at the annual meeting and go live shortly thereafter. (After completion of the discovery phase, the Board approved by email vote the first phase of development of the new site and payment to the developer (MemberFix) of \$4,000)
15. Larry gave a brief financial report which is available via Google drive. It launched a long discussion on whether to increase dues. Mick originally suggested increasing to \$37.50. Consensus was to move to \$38-40 instead. However, several members inquired about whether the current dues were sufficient for expenses and what might need to be paid for by increased dues. Richard indicated a P&L would help us decide on the need to increase dues. It was decided to wait on the question of dues until Larry presented the P&L at the next meeting. (Dues increase from \$35 to \$40 was subsequently approved via an email vote of Directors)
16. Another discussion ensued on how we produce our P&L (currently on Excel). The question was whether Wild Apricot linked with QuickBooks or other financial statement software.



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17. A concern was raised about convention funds. They are coming through Stripe or PayPal but info about payments are not reaching Treasurer Larry Silverman.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Board will be on Sunday December 4th at the home of Lynn Gerber. Last two meetings of the board for this fiscal year will be 1/8/2023 and 3/5/2023.

The December 4 Meeting was subsequently changed to be via Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:28 am