

AS1 Governance Meeting July 5 2023

Present: Elissa Best, Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, April & Ray Castoldi, Joy Close, Deborah & Stafford Cohen, Michele & Matthew Cohen, Dave Cook, Kim Corfman, Stan Corfman, Jenny Easter Nelson, David Epstein, Judy Ettenhoffer, Ann Etter, Joel Fredericks, Lisa Gresser, Jane Trudeau Griffiths, Ken Hallows, Liz Hendrick, Lisa Jennings, Paul Jennings, Connie Lentz, Keith Knox, Scotia Miller, Susan O'Loughlin, Carla & David Osgood, Steve Parr, Nuria Pastor-Soler, Shelley Powsner, Janice & Jim Prochaska, Steve Skrovan, Dale Stewart, Deb Weiner Soule, Deb Walton, Lois Williams, Lisbeth & Norm Winarsky, Wanda Wood, Elizabeth & Larry Yermack

Welcome from current chairs (April and Ray Castoldi)--all going well with the week so far!

Registrar--Susan O'Loughlin

Our conference was asked to fill 280 spots. We ended up with 272 spots but that included 41 COGS (conference overnight guests). We are at about 80% of capacity. We had 22 cancellations prior to the conference but that is in line with previous years.

Treasurer--David Yermack

We will lose 15-20 K this year due to lower registrations and the waterfall effect has on other donations (social hour, t-shirts, etc.). Other conferences seem to have recovered from the pandemic, but not AS1. Overall our revenue is down about 30% from where we need it to be, so we need to work on filling the spots for next year's conference. We also may want to consider increasing our registration fees--which have not changed in a long time.

We gave out more financial aid than we have in past years.

Inflation has also affected us, with a 9% increase in room & board fees.

Usually we donate all of our auction proceeds to the island, but this year we will need that money to make up for losses.

There are not many places we can cut costs other than children's programming staff--which cost us about 25K per year. But there are policies about having 2 adults per each group of kids, and it is very challenging to combine age groups; and making changes to that program may then further affect our ability to attract new shoalers.

We had a brief discussion of various issues that may be impacting attendance/revenue, and a decision was made to set up a smaller working group to look at budget, marketing, and encouraging attendance by new and returning conferees. Folks who are interested in participating should reach out to Keith.

Annual fund--Louise Williams--as of June, AS1 contributions to the annual fund are 15K more than last year; some of that is due to memorials to Tom Walton
We gave about 120K last year.

Next year's chairs—Matthew & Michele Cohen

They have arranged for a speaker—more details to come!

Selection of 2024 Chairs—Nominations made and voted upon, nominees will be approached by this year's chairs.

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron