

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: January 12, 2021, 7:30 pm (via Zoom).

Present: Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, Cathy Becker, David Epstein, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Susan O'Loughlin, Shelley Powsner, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Not present: Stan Corfman, Sally Easter, Gabrielle Prochaska

Minutes from December meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar's Report—no updates, SIC has not met since early December.

Treasurer's Report--David Yermack: 990 forms discussed at last meeting were submitted by David. No financial activity since last meeting.

Update on Media Technology Committee—per David Epstein, there was an initial meeting with 4 people, with two others following up by email & planning to participate. There is agreement that media could/should be used to keep connections going all year, including suggestions such as a mid year social event. This year an online event could be held in March, as both a social activity and a way to bring folks up to speed on plans and do a Q&A about the conference plans. It was agreed that the Island should provide infrastructure for live streaming events, but the definition of that still needs to be sorted out. Chairs were asked to bring up the issue of island infrastructure/planning at next weeks' meeting, with input from David Y and David E. There was discussion about the need to include folks with tech experience as well as those who put together creative content.

Healing & Reconciliation update: The first of two listening circles was held Jan 4, with another one coming up on January 17 from 230-4:00 PM EST. A total of 17 people attended the first meeting and feedback was positive. They are considering putting together a mid year newsletter similar to the Boat News, to enable folks to share updates.

New Business

Keith asked: assuming we have an on island conference, and the attendance numbers are reduced—what will this mean for the on island Governing Council meeting? In the past, if folks could not attend, they did not participate in the on-island meeting. This year there may be people who can't participate for safety reasons, and that may include folks who would like to be chairs. Do we keep the on-island meeting closed to only folks who attend in person? Bylaws say folks can participate virtually.

Suggestions were made and discussed, including: holding the meeting online prior to the conference; having the meeting on island but having everyone log in on devices, whether on or off island, and figuring out a way to manage voting (in the moment or later, by email or google form or similar).

Decision was made to have the meeting online, prior to the conference, as this seemed to offer the best options for high attendance and ease of facilitation. Voting solutions may still need to be figured out given that some couples log in on one device.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 2nd

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: February 2, 2021, 7:30 pm (via Zoom).

Present: Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, David Epstein, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Susan O'Loughlin, Shelley Powsner, Gabrielle Prochaska, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Not present: Cathy Becker, Stan Corfman, Sally Easter

Minutes from January meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar's Report—Susan O'Loughlin—registration to open up on 3/10. We need to decide about our on-time registration date. With a later date, we give folks time to see what's happening & make plans. If we go earlier, it may make decisions about who can attend easier. Likely we will have a large waitlist this year. SIC survey results—showed that if people were vaccinated they wanted to go, that was a big factor. Kids & young parents are a bit of a wild card since they may not be vaccinated (kids don't have an approved vaccine). There is pent up demand because we missed a year, but folks may not feel safe. And the virus variants may change things, so it's hard to get a sense of what will happen. Keith asked if the chairs want to recommend a date—is 30 days post registration reasonable?

Also discussed if we should have conference fees fully refundable at any time up until the conference starts. This might give people more confidence to register early. It was noted that the conference will almost certainly run a deficit, so we may want to consider raising conference fees slightly (and they have not gone up in several years). Some members expressed concern about this since room and board fees are remaining the same (and covering 6 nights instead of 7). General feeling is that we have usually refunded fees in the past and we should go along with what the island is doing.

A bigger budget (and planning) issue is the size of the children's staff. If we have fewer kids, can we reduce children's staff? This is a safety/ programming/ child development issue. We could look at cutting out the nestlings and young adults. Also discussed the possibility of reducing the comp rates for teachers and encouraging them to use financial aid instead. It was noted this might feel bad to staff, and they might not feel comfortable applying for aid; could we use the financial funds to pay them directly? Ann expressed concern because some of the funds were restricted by the donors; but some of that money might have been auction donations and could possibly be redirected if we did some auditing & made that decision.

Joe Watts has also mentioned the possibility of waiving room & board for children's staff; more info is needed. We have one more board meeting right before registration. Chairs should know more after meeting with Deb on 2/8, and will pull together information for us to go over on March 2nd.

Treasurer's Report--David Yermack: It looks like Star will be receiving more PPE money, which will help with long term stability. More information to come.

Update on Media Technology Committee—The group hadn't met since last Exec Council meeting, so nothing new; but it appears island has not yet done a lot of planning for AV. We aren't the only conference asking about it.

Questions came up as to whether the island was planning a virtual info session for possible attendees on what summer conferences might look like, or do we want to have one? Should we have one and invite

some folks from the island to be part of it? People will want more information before registering. Bulk of it could be question & answer or presentation, maybe with an intro and benediction. There is a meeting on Feb 16th open to chairs and other leaders. Keith will send link to David E. if he would like to attend. We also need alternative planning in case the island can't open or opens late, and then we will need a virtual alternative. It would be good to see if the Loewers could help with a virtual conference if that came to be. Keith will reach out to them to get their thoughts. Purely hypothetical at this point.

Healing & Reconciliation Updates: Recent listening circle—only a few people attended, folks may be thinking that there has to be a serious issue going on in order for them to attend. May try doing them 1x/month. Laurie Powsner to reach out and create a “Drydock Boat News”. We had some discussion about how best to share information about upcoming events. Lisa suggested posting information about these on our website. Susan noted that she has two email lists—those who have registered for a conference since 2018, and a master list. Can we send one email out to the master list to invite folks to listening circles, and also use that to remind people to check the website for upcoming events. ...if we start using the website more effectively for that. Note to be wary about putting zoom links on public sites.

Council of Conferences—who are our delegates? Maybe Beth Corsa? Pam Pierce? Louise Williams is now on the board so she is the link between the council & the board. We need 2, possibly with a couple alternates.

New Business

Recent SIC meetings on 1/16 and 1/26—a lot of that information was summed up in the letter recently sent out by the chairs.

Acknowledgement that this conference will be very different from other years. This puts a lot of weight on the chairs. How can we offer additional support? Need to figure out which events can be done outside, which can be adjusted to meet restrictions. Volunteer jobs may need to be adjusted, and we may need off-island volunteers as well. No babysitting from Pels; major changes to meals and social hour. It may be a quieter year—which is not a bad thing.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: 9/7/21, 7:30 pm EST (via Zoom)

Present: Cathy Bertasi, Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, David Epstein, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Jill Loewer, Jeff Loewer, Susan O’Loughlin, Shelley Powsner, Gabrielle Prochaska, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Not present: Stan Corfman, Sally Easter

Minutes from last meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar’s Report: Susan O’Loughlin—Nothing to report

Treasurer’s Report: David Yermack--

New Business: Jeff and Jill Loewer gave updates from this year’s evaluations; 43 were returned. Will talk offline with David Yermack re: some possible expenses. Lisa to send them the report from the nominating committee. Working title for next year’s conference is ‘consideration, respect & honesty’

Upcoming Governing Council Meeting (9/25/21): Keith walked through the agenda and asked for feedback. Noted that the Media Committee was new this year; it is mentioned in the chairs report, but do we want to bring it up for special mention? Decision was made to move the Chairs Report out of the Consent Agenda and into its own agenda slot.

Discussion of conference evaluations and a few issues that came up, including questions about possible follow up/response to a specific housing complaint (late registration who was unhappy that they were not housed in Cottage A although they did not initially request accommodations and accepted a motel unit without complaint before their arrival). Shelly will bring the issue to Healing & Reconciliation to discuss doing some community education around disability rights and privacy, and the importance of requesting accommodations ahead of time so that the chairs and housing coordinator can work with the island staff to provide those accommodations.

2022 Fall Governing Council Meeting: possible to hold it out on Star Island? Would have to hold it earlier in the fall, possibly the weekend after Labor Day. Need to be aware that there is also a Pel reunion conference and a music conference at Ferry Beach over Labor Day that may present competition. Mid September (Regatta weekend) might also be possible. Will bring to Governing Council Meeting for discussion.

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: April 6, 7:30 pm (via Zoom).

Present: Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, David Epstein, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Susan O'Loughlin, Shelley Powsner, Gabrielle Prochaska, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Guests: Jill Loewer

Not present: Cathy Becker, Stan Corfman, Sally Easter

Minutes from March meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar's Report— 109 people have registered so far. 21 kids, fairly evenly split between ages 1-9, ages 10-15, ages 16-18. Other conferences are also having low registrations so far. Ann asked if we are hearing what is holding some folks back. Shelley: not sure what travel will look like at that point; waiting to find out more about variants; concerned that many folks are being very lax right now; waiting to find out more about what happens when vaccinated folks get COVID (possible long term issues even if not hospitalized). Noted there may be more clarity soon. Didn't want to register/commit if they really were not sure. Susan has heard "I don't want to take someone else's spot". Susan noted that Joe Watts wants everyone to be sure they have a quarantine plan if they get exposed while en route to or at Star, and this may be more challenging from folks who do not live within driving distance. Janice: folks who are now vaccinated may prioritize visiting family or doing other trips instead of going to Star. Gabrielle: young adults not sure what it will be like socially, feeling unsure. Katy: some families may be worried about kids under 16 who cannot be vaccinated. David: mask requirements may be a deterrent for some; some folks may be waiting to see if restrictions will be reduced. Other folks may worry that rules will be changed and they will feel less safe. Keith has heard that "all these restrictions make it feel like it's not a vacation"—plus concerns about having fewer people.

What can we do to boost enrollment? Reach out to friends, have conversations, answer questions, hear them out. Let them know that the chairs are working on places for teens to hang out; and that they are hopeful that folks will be able to participate in many outside events without masks. It was suggested that the chairs put out some information about what Star will be like this summer.

Treasurer's Report— Received \$1100 gift from Dug Miller to help defray the costs of the children's program. Not really ready to make a budget yet; we need more time to see about total registrations and plans for a very different conference. Question about social hour: can we try to collect social hour costs ahead of time? David said that Paypal was set up a year ago, but there may be some legality issues re: collecting for social hour. We should be able to figure out ways to reduce the use of cash on island this summer.

Question re: financial aid for this year—only one family has applied so far.

Question about charging conference fees for babies, if there will not be a Nestlings option: Ann says there is maybe a 20% chance there will be some version of Nestlings. She suggested we hold off on considering refunds for families with babies but that we keep it in mind.

Update on Media Technology Committee— David Epstein—Not much to report. Some committee members assisted with the recent virtual information session.

Healing & Reconciliation Updates: —next Listening Circle is scheduled for 4/21 at 7 pm EST

Update from Chairs: Thinking about logistical issues, such as the need for outdoor seating in multiple locations. Island looking at the opportunity to add more permanent seating. Social hour will have to be all individually portioned food. Island is looking into possibly assisting with this. Still don't have the 'blueprint' spreadsheet for mapping out all the events/needs for the conference but hopefully that will come soon.

Jill asked what she & Jeff should be focusing on for this summer. Suggestions: line people up for volunteer commitments for the next year (although many won't be on island). Attend events you might not otherwise attend to get familiar with them.

Fall meeting: 9/24/ to 9/26—contract at the Guest House has been signed, deposit given. We have the right to cancel up to 30 days prior to that. Will plan to start registration after the conference.

Issue on the forefront is the children's program. Deb sent out a proposal earlier this week, introducing the concept of "scrambles" in the morning where kids move between activities/stations. No afternoon kids programming except for 4th of July games. There will be some optional afternoon programming & activities available but parents will be in charge of their kids. Typically staff work 2 hrs in the morning and 1.5 hours in the afternoon, but more time will be needed in the morning to get through stations (so that's 3 hrs). Challenges: fewer children (means fewer staff) and kids may need to be grouped differently, plus distancing requirements. Deb divided kids into 4 groups + senior teens (5 groups total), 4 in the rotations. Bad weather? We don't have a plan B yet. We could handle maybe one day of bad weather, might be able to use the art barn as a station. Suzanne & Dave offering help & activity support, Tom will do the physical activity station. Science would be combined with lab, will try to get volunteers to help. So far only 9 definitive yes'es from staff. If Bernds do not come back, Deb & Tom will need to find someone to lead senior teens. Deb is estimating 40-50 kids, some might be senior teens. We will have to revamp if things don't work, flexibility will be key.

Chairs want to keep speaker, talks on the rocks, book club—keep similar activities but fewer. Changes in kids program allows more flexibility with afternoon scheduling, everything needs to be outside as much as possible. Stunt afternoons & adult stunt night will be different, musicale will be different, 15x20 outside. New thing—more story hour time before bed. Island is providing three tents/covered areas.

Keith wondered if we will get more than 170 folks who want to come? We are going to have to adjust on the fly. We just don't know yet. Still makes sense to have the AS1 governing council meeting ahead of time, online.

SIC corporation from 2/16—anything else to share? No

Fall Meeting: per Deb Weiner Soule—she needs to confirm the off island spot for September meeting at The Guest House 9/24/ to 9/26. Do we still want to commit to that? We have to put down a deposit. Seems like a risk unless there is a clause to get out of it. We need to see the agreement and get more details. Attendance has dropped off, this may be an ongoing issue but we may need to make them hybrid. The Guest House has not had great wifi, can they handle several connections? We will ask Deb to come back with more details.

Next meeting: May 4th, 7:30 EST, Zoom

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: May 4th, 7:30 pm (via Zoom).

Present: Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, Stan Corfman, David Epstein, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Susan O'Loughlin, Shelley Powsner, Gabrielle Prochaska, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Guests: Jill Loewer

Not present: Cath Bertasi, Sally Easter

Minutes from April meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar's Report: Susan O'Loughlin—had 141 registrations, then 3 people cancelled—so currently at 138. 30 are <18 years old. 21 of those are over 12. Final list will go to Deb Walton w/ housing requests shortly.

Update from yesterday's Chairs & Registrars meeting: although vaccinations are not required they are recommended & expected. Some housing rules relaxed to allow vaccinated folks from different households to live together, and there will be some ability for grandparents to room with grandchildren (from one household). Not using Cottage D or Founders and not sure yet about Gosport, still figuring out how/where to house the Pelicans. Wifi should be improved fourfold. Check in at the doc will include reviewing vaccination cards or photos of those cards as well as a negative PCR test (required before you can get on the Loughton, must be within the past 72 hrs). Concerns about lab slowdown over the 4th of July. What will they do if tests aren't back on time? Maybe rapid tests? Dining rules/plans are not fully developed. Rules/guidelines about singing are still to come.

Treasurer's Report: David Yermack—No financial activity in the past month. Need to pull together a budget.

Media Technology Committee Updates: David Epstein— need to figure out what events we want to stream & then work on the logistics. Chairs are waiting for some information on room capacities. Looking at opening up the 15x20 to the entire conference as a hybrid event.

Healing & Reconciliation Updates: May schedule one more listening circle.

Update from Chairs: Speaker is all set. Leon Dunkley may be minister of the week. Several young adults/teens are bringing friends. Working on figuring out volunteer jobs. Concerns about rules and about how much 'policing' will be needed. Conferees will be asked to agree to a covenant. Hard to plan without knowing room capacities. Discussion of locations for social hour. We also need a rep for the Annual Fund on island (since Corey Easter won't be present).

Summer Meeting: need to make plans, figure out a date, think about best way to proceed. Could we skip choosing chairs for 2023 this year? Or move it to the fall meeting? Bylaws say we need to meet on island unless the conference is cancelled. Could we combine it w/ orientation? Space will be an issue. David & Keith will discuss this offline and bring recommendations to the group.

Fall meeting: 9/24/ to 9/26—Still planned.

Next meeting: June 1st, 7:30 EST, Zoom. Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: June 1, 7:30 pm (via Zoom)

Present: Cathy Bertasi, Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Susan O'Loughlin, Shelley Powsner, Gabrielle Prochaska, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Guests: Jill Loewer, Jeff Loewer

Not present: Sally Easter, Stan Corfman, David Epstein

Minutes from May meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar's Report: Susan O'Loughlin--Had 150 registrations; 9 cancellations—currently at 141. Of those, twenty-eight are under 18, only nine under 12 years old. Early conferences have been asked to have their registrars gather information about vaccination statuses and 'dining groups'; this has been challenging for the registrars. No longer requiring PCR tests from those who are vaccinated. Susan will reach out to Deb Walton to check vaccination statuses of those conference staff who will be working with children. 96% of the Pels will be vaccinated. Unvaccinated Pels may be reassigned to different roles behind the scenes.

Discussed current plans/guidelines re: dining changes as well as masks/social distancing guidelines. Social hour will likely be in the stone village. Singing guidance will be updated on June 10th. Setting up big tents didn't really work as ground was too rocky but smaller tents and awnings will be set up. Questions came up about day visitors who might be connected to the conference and how that will be managed; David reached out to Justina about this and she responded while meeting still in session:

"It's totally fine for All Star folks to come out as day visitors – surprise or not. Day visitors will not be allowed in buildings, including bathrooms (they'll use the Lughton bathrooms), and will be using the same social distancing rules as everyone else, so it will be fine to safely visit outdoors. The conference could even decide to invite them to an outdoor event, such as a memorial service at the memorial courtyard, or lawn games etc."

Treasurer's Report: David Yermack—We now have a credit card reader & can take mobile payments. Venmo is more challenging. Creating a budget has been very difficult because everything is a moving target. Much less money coming in from registrations; but fewer children's staff to pay. Talked about possibility of having folks pre-pay donations for social hour/events; have to be sure to keep within NH laws. David will check in with chairs off line.

Healing & Reconciliation Updates: None

Update from Chairs:

Volunteer list coming out shortly. Working on location & plans for art auction. Need to find ways to keep off-island folks involved. Nice to include everyone, but presents technical challenges, and some things just aren't as fun/interesting when you aren't there in person. They have some concerns about wifi connectivity and live streaming. Most of the usual activities will be happening although they may look & feel different. Everything is changing quickly so some things may change on the fly, flexibility will be key.

New Business: Cindy Parr will be the representative for the Annual Fund at the conference.

Tom Walton checked in to see if teens will still need to sign pledges re: alcohol/drug use; group agreed that this should still happen this year.

Pre-conference meeting to select 2023 chairs: Agreed upon the Saturday before the conference. Keith will send out a link for the governing council, along with guidelines. Will have to waive the guideline that the persons who are selected will be present, on island, during the conference. Deb Weiner had ideas about using breakout rooms to seclude folks during discussion if needed. Keith will follow up with her.

Fall meeting: 9/24/ to 9/26—Still planned.

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: 8/3/21, 7:30 pm EST (via Zoom)

Present: Cathy Bertasi, Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, Sally Easter, David Epstein, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Jill Loewer, Jeff Loewer, Susan O'Loughlin, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Not present: Stan Corfman, Gabrielle Prochaska, Shelley Powsner

Minutes from last meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar's Report: Susan O'Loughlin--We had 125 full week conferees, 15 partial week conferees, 28 cancellations (12 at the last minute).

Treasurer's Report: David Yermack—overall good news. 4K deficit on the conference, but art auction brought in about 13K to help cover that, so we have a net of about 9K. Electronic payments were a good thing. But \$300 deficit on social hour this year.

Update from 2021 Chairs: Lisa offered 3 highlights: fewer numbers led to lengthier, more in depth conversations; events were well attended; media & streaming went well (and it was nice that the chairs did not have to worry about that because the committee took care of it). It was also nice that there were volunteers in different roles. Speaker was well attended and enjoyed the week. Volunteers did a great job with social hour and the new Marshman stage was great. (But need to figure out how to get people inside to bid on the auction items.) Picnic tables on porch & lawn were well liked. For future discussion: what is the right number of conferees?

Welcome to 2022 Chairs: Jill & Jeff Loewer! Plans are under way. Speaker will be Dan Senning from the Emily Post Institute, exact title/theme still in development. Nancy Wood will be minister of the week.

New Business: Fall meeting is scheduled for 9/24 to 9/26. Physical location is The Guest House in Chester, CT. Reservation can be cancelled up until 8/24. Registration link was sent out by Deb Weiner Soule. Meeting will be hybrid, we hope to have several zoom connections set up. We will want to touch base a few days before 8/24 to see if attendance in person seems feasible. May want to consider limiting attendance to vaccinated folks; may want to talk to venue about any rules they may have. Keith will do agenda; had discussion of other reports that are needed and who will be responsible for them. Lisa, as convener of the Nominating Committee, raised question about elected spots on the Governing Council. We have 5 spots on the governing council that can be filled by folks who have not been chairs in the past. Katy was in one of those elected spots, but because she is now in the secretary role, she can

move into an ex officio spot on the governing council, which frees up another elected spots.

Media/Tech Committee: newly formed this year; do we need a proposal for where to go with this?

Since the island has now set up some good tech, maybe it's a volunteer job? Do we want off-season programming during the year? Keith asked David Epstein to write a report for the September meeting so that we could have further discussion.

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: 9/7/21, 7:30 pm EST (via Zoom)

Present: Cathy Bertasi, Katy Biron, Andy Bristol, David Epstein, Ann Etter, Lisa Gresser, Keith Knox, Jill Loewer, Jeff Loewer, Susan O’Loughlin, Shelley Powsner, Gabrielle Prochaska, Janice Prochaska, David Yermack

Not present: Stan Corfman, Sally Easter

Minutes from last meeting were reviewed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Registrar’s Report: Susan O’Loughlin—Nothing to report

Treasurer’s Report: David Yermack--

New Business: Jeff and Jill Loewer gave updates from this year’s evaluations; 43 were returned. Will talk offline with David Yermack re: some possible expenses. Lisa to send them the report from the nominating committee. Working title for next year’s conference is ‘consideration, respect & honesty’

Upcoming Governing Council Meeting (9/25/21): Keith walked through the agenda and asked for feedback. Noted that the Media Committee was new this year; it is mentioned in the chairs report, but do we want to bring it up for special mention? Decision was made to move the Chairs Report out of the Consent Agenda and into its own agenda slot.

Discussion of conference evaluations and a few issues that came up, including questions about possible follow up/response to a specific housing complaint (late registration who was unhappy that they were not housed in Cottage A although they did not initially request accommodations and accepted a motel unit without complaint before their arrival). Shelly will bring the issue to Healing & Reconciliation to discuss doing some community education around disability rights and privacy, and the importance of requesting accommodations ahead of time so that the chairs and housing coordinator can work with the island staff to provide those accommodations.

2022 Fall Governing Council Meeting: possible to hold it out on Star Island? Would have to hold it earlier in the fall, possibly the weekend after Labor Day. Need to be aware that there is also a Pel reunion conference and a music conference at Ferry Beach over Labor Day that may present competition. Mid September (Regatta weekend) might also be possible. Will bring to Governing Council Meeting for discussion.

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: 10/5/21, 7:30 pm EST (via Zoom)

Present: Jill Loewer, Katy Biron, Keith Know, Shelley Powsner, Scott Stewart, Gabrielle Prochaska, Janice Prochaska, David Yermaci, Andrew Bristol, David Epstein, Susan O'Loughlin, Cathy Becker

Not present: Jeff Loewer, Stan Corfman

Short meeting since Governing Council meeting just happened.

Choosing Convenor: Keith is willing to continue.

Keith nominated, motion seconded

Next year's fall meeting: try to hold it on Star Island? Response at annual meeting seemed like it may be worth pursuing. Will eventually need folks to help make arrangements. Keith suggests that he, Deb Weiner & David Yermack will continue to assist with this. Scott offered to help. Brief discussion of having back up plans and confirmed that meeting should be a hybrid meeting using Zoom.

Council of Conferences meeting coming up on 10/16. Katy Biron and Beth Corsa are delegates. Katy will give a status report at next meeting. Question came up about what decisions are island decisions versus conference decisions, such as how many conferees should attend each year. Should the executive committee make a recommendation? What role do the chairs have? Letter goes to chairs for ratification; didn't happen last year, but will be sent this year, and executive committee can review/negotiate. Also need to think about allowing overnight guests/short stays.

Update from Jill Loewer: Working on the Blue Book description. How early to identify volunteers? "As soon as possible"

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

All Star I Executive Committee Minutes

Date: 11/2/21, 7:30 pm EST (via Zoom)

Present: Katy Biron, Keith Knox, Stan Corfman, David Yermack, Jeff Loewer, Jill Loewer, David Epstein, Scott Stewart, Janice Prochaska, Shelley Powsner, Cathy Becker, Susan O'Loughlin

Not present: Andy Bristol, Gabrielle Prochaska

September & October minutes were approved.

Registrar's Report--Susan O'Loughlin: next meeting is the 9th of November, nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report--David Yermack: he will soon send the annual 990 tax filing so that we can approve it at the next meeting.

Chairs Report--Jill & Jeff Loewer: Plans w/ speaker Dan Senning are coming along well. Jill emailed the draft of the Blue Book write-up. Have connected with the Waltons and with Susan O'Loughlin. Starting to call folks re: the bigger volunteer jobs. Exact dates are not set (Saturday to Saturday? Or Sunday to Sunday?) but we will be there over July 4th.

Council of Conferences Report--Katy Biron: Katy attended the virtual meeting as a conference delegate (the other delegate, Beth Corsa, was unable to attend). Other AS1 folks were there in various capacities as well. Overall, other conferences reported similar likes (outdoor dining, smaller numbers) and concerns (luggage issues, housekeeping in rooms). Folks from the Building Bridges conference did a brief presentation on ways of welcoming people and making conferences more open to diverse audiences.

A survey was just sent out to folks who attended conferences in 2021, to get more feedback on various issues as decisions for next year need to be made shortly; a separate survey will be sent to those who did not attend this year

Healing & Reconciliation Committee--a meeting was held yesterday and was attended by Keith & Shelley, to talk about a complaint following the 2019 conference. Original topic was about how accessible rooms in Cottage A are assigned, but the primary issue that keeps coming up is how rooms are assigned (especially founders & Cottage A). Is it based on disability/accessibility? Are there documented approaches to assigning rooms? How does SIC and Mike Bray fit into this, as they provide some guidance to conferences on housing and accessibility? The following issues were raised:

- there is some concern about 'opening this box up again' because it is a small number of folks who have made complaints and/or behaved badly when they had issues with housing assignments;
- most people who have complained are actually folks who did not request any accommodations;
- recognition that assigning rooms, particularly when the conference is packed full, is a very difficult (and thankless) job;
- people should not feel entitled to 'better' housing when they have given significant money/time, but we should recognize that we may need to find better ways of showing appreciation to those who contribute in those ways;
- there is an expectation that we are all in a shared community and should share concerns appropriately and trust that housing decisions are made with everyone's interests in mind

- AS1 has tried to educate people about accessibility issues and has asked folks to request accommodations when needed, but we also need for conferees to understand that we can't always tell them if someone received accommodations (disabilities may not be visible)

Decision was made for Susan, Jill & Jeff to bring up the more general issues of housing assignments at the upcoming registrars/chairs meetings. Goal is to provide enough information to conferees to try to pre-empt future complaints, and to explore the possibility of documenting general guidelines around housing assignments that will help us now and in the future.

Next meeting: Tuesday 12/7/21 at 7:30 pm EST

Minutes submitted by Katy Biron

AS1 Executive Committee--December 7, 2021

Present: Katy Biron, Keith Knox, David Yermack, Jeff Loewer, Jill Loewer, David Epstein, Scott Stewart, Janice Prochaska, Gabrielle Prochaska, Shelley Powsner, Cathy Becker, Susan O'Loughlin, Stan Corfman, Andy Bristol

Not present: Cathy Bertasi

November minutes: motion to approve, accepted

Registrar's Report--Susan O'Loughlin:

Registration will open Jan 15th, with one more registrar meeting before then. Looking at a 250-260 conferee limit.

Final conference dates are still not confirmed--but looks like it will be Sunday to Sunday.

Treasurer's Report--David Yermack

David filed the annual 990-EZ tax form.

Question asked--why there were two donations specifically listed but others were not; it was because we have to report donations more than 2% of the revenue (large gifts) or over 5K, whichever is larger. Neither of these reached the 5K limit so David can drop them off of the schedule.

Chairs Report--Jill & Jeff Loewer

Blue book description was submitted. Surveys of past conferees show about 28% saying that they plan to attend with 38% undecided. Of folks who attended in 2020, most liked the new dining format. More sinks will be installed in the dining room. Have been calling some folks to try to fill the larger volunteer jobs. Speaker is creating a video message that we can send out with registration info. Working on a special music event that would involve community-building & a possible concert. Concerns: will we even have 260 people who want to come? Not sure what our attendance will be like. It's likely that vaccines will be required (this was supported by survey results). All employees will need to be vaccinated. We hope to have the summer governing council meeting on island during the conference.

Other Business:

Follow up discussion on the housing concerns/complaints issue that we discussed at last meeting. Healing & Rec has reached out to person who sent letter with complaints, with the plan to just hear the concerns. Jeff sent the the Star Island housing guidelines to Susan and Keith, indicated that they are 'concise and clear', including the following paragraph:

"While Star Island does not guarantee availability of any specific rooms or room types, priority is given to those with self-identified accessibility or medical needs. The assignment of accessibility rooms, first-floor rooms and motel units will be prioritized based on a variety of factors including but not limited to, communication of need, availability of accommodations, and registration date."

Jeff will add this paragraph to the AS1 website on the page with registration information, and Susan will include it in the notice of registration opening.