

AS1 Governing Council Meeting, On-Island Meeting July 5, 2026

Minutes submitted by Peter Winarsky

Attendees Present

Andy Bristol, Peter Winarsky, David Yermack, Holly Hunnicut, Beth Corsa, Dennis O'Keefe, Janice Prochaska, Jodi Prochaska, Jane Trudeau, Louise Williams, Matthew Cohen, Steve Skrovan, Shelley Powsner, Laurie Powsner, Betsy Berg, Elissa Best, Paula Phillips, Tom Griffiths, Marlene Smurzynski, Cheryl Doty, Chelsea Easter, Gabrielle Prochaska, Ali Walton, Phil Quatrochi, Annie Lennox, Jim Sersich, Cyndy Sims, Michele Cohen, Deb Walton, Jen Easter Nelson, Bill Tibbs, Hanne Winarsky, Susan O'Laughlin, Joy Close, Paul Jennings, Kathy Tillman, David Epstein, Hal Basdekis, Val Basdekis, Scotia Miller, Dug Miller, Ann Etter, S. Jane Lentz, Scott Stewart, Anna LeDuc, Annie Stewart, Keith Knox, Steve Parr, Kemp Harris, Wanda Wood, Larry Yermack.

Welcome from 2026 Chairs: Steve Skrovan, Shelley Powsner

- Gratitude for all the volunteers.
- Honoring the 47+ years of service of Deb Walton and Tom Walton.

Registrar's Report: Beth Corsa

- 318 total conference attendees.
 - 278 full week conferees..
 - 38 COGS.
 - 19 new shoalers.
 - 68 children (has been as high as 100 in some years).
 - Some waitlist who didn't get in.
 - 5-6 people who were full-week applicants. One main factor was because their room requests couldn't be accommodated. A lot of people request singles but there are limited singles on the island.
- Total registrations used to be constrained by dining room space, but now that dining was expanded outdoors, the new constraint is based on rooms.
- Given the increasing number of applicants, it was recommended that the website be updated to clearly reflect "applying" to avoid the perception that timely registrations guarantee a spot.
- There have been some questions related to the role of incentives in the registration volume. While certain discounts are still available, they are not considered a very big factor driving the recent large attendance.

Treasurer's Report: David Yermack

- Financially in a strong position due to large attendance numbers.
 - One area of interest this year had been declining revenue from the auction.
 - According to a pre-2026 analysis:
 - Typically about \$20-25k, but recently around \$13k.
 - A contributing factor was fewer big ticket items.
 - Social hour food was moved indoors this year to help increase traffic to the silent auction.
 - *Post AS1 GC meeting note (based on 9/2/26 follow up analysis).*
 - *2026 auction revenue was the highest auction fundraiser ever at about \$28k.*
 - Two additional items:
 - Financial aid was \$13k this year.
 - For discussion in the Fall meeting - increasing registration fees to cover the cost of Chairs.

Annual Fund Report: Louise Williams

- Hit \$121,018 (goal of \$100k) from 69 households.
- Recurring donations from 9 people.
- Unrestricted donations this year were \$21k from 19 people.
- Other learnings regarding Annual Fund.
 - It is extremely helpful when people mention if their employer has a matching program.
 - QR is an extremely helpful tool to facilitate gifts.
 - Recommend putting one in a snack bar and in envelopes put into rooms.
- Restricted donations this year.
 - Flash fundraiser for audio equipment for Brookfield and Newton raised \$4500 in a week from 19 people. Some instruments were also gifted from ISAUU.
- The new proposed goal for the annual fund for this coming year is \$125k.
- It's often helpful to let people know that if you're 70.5+ you can move money/securities from an IRA directly to Star.

New Business

- Introducing items that will be discussed in the Fall Governing Council meeting.
 - Housing Coordinator and Children's Program Coordinator position nominations will be presented ahead of the Fall meeting.
 - Discounts for certain positions.
 - Current committee members voted to extend a discount for Chairs, effective next year (not retroactive).
 - Housing Coordinator - 50% reduction in room and board.
 - Chairs (up to 2) - 100% of registration fee and room and board fee

- 5 of 6 other served conferences do this (and the remaining one does 50% in perpetuity).
 - Prior to 1980 Chairs room and board were fully compensated.
- Review bylaws of the conference.
 - Redlines and updated copy to be sent ahead of the Fall meeting.
- Fall meeting.
 - Sunday, October 4th, 2026.

Selection of 2028 Chairs

- Nominated and passed: Scotia Miller and Bernie Baltaxe