

Executive Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 4, 2016 @ 9:30am ET via Conference Call

The meeting was called to order by Director Aronson at 9:43am.

Members Present:

Dr. Patricia Aronson, District Director
Dr. Jim Berry, District Secretary
Mr. Ray Davis, District Treasurer
Mr. Martin Baker, Past District Director

The following agenda items were discussed/acted upon during the meeting:

1. Honors and Awards announcements

Director Aronson reviewed the MAATA award winners for 2016. All will be announced and recognized in the MAATA 60 Second News in mid-January and also in the Spring Newsletter. District Secretary Berry will also thank those who nominated individuals for awards.

Director Aronson suggested we consider looking at Executive Council approval of Award Winners similar to how the NATA BOD does approval for NATA Award winners. This will be discussed in further detail during the District Council meeting on January 17, 2016.

2. Elections Committee Update(s)

Director Aronson has updated the District Directors' Consent of Obligation Letter and noted the application dates in the MAATA Constitution and By-Laws.

For the upcoming District Director Election, the call for nominations will begin in February. The Elections Committee will put this call out to the membership via email and other communication methods including 60 Second News, the spring newsletter, MAATA Website, and social media outlets.

The following timeline was tentatively established by Election Committee Chair and past District Director Martin Baker:

All application letters/resume's must be submitted to election committee by July 1, 2016

The Election Committee will then review applications and determine eligibility.

On or about July 11, 2016 a candidate list will be submitted to Director Aronson and candidates will be sent letter of application to completed and returned to the Elections Committee by July 18, 2016.

The Elections Committee will set the schedule for the actual election period. It was noted that the election must be completed by November 1, 2016.

Tentatively, Monday, October 3, 2016-Wednesday, October 12, 2016 will be the first ballot. If a second, runoff vote is necessary, that voting will begin on October 19th.

Director Aronson noted that we need to update our MAATA By-Laws to reflect the new District Director term limits of 3 years, with an option for a second term of 2 years. (Total of 5 years service)

We will plan on making this change during the May 2016 business meeting in Virginia Beach after input from Dave Sadler. Director Aronson will update the information and forward this information to Secretary Berry for dissemination to District members once the Executive Committee and District Council have discussed the changes needed.

Past District Director Baker reported briefly on the work of the Election Campaign Task Force and will present the final task force findings and recommendations during the next District Council meeting for discussion.

3. Purchases for Symposium

The Executive Council discussed the pros/cons of purchasing a digital camera. The consensus was that it wasn't necessary at this time. The District Secretary will coordinate insuring that someone is available and equipped to take pictures at District meetings and other events related to the District meeting. The District Secretary will also insure that all photos are properly identified and archived.

The Council discussed the purchase of a stage backdrop with the MAATA logo for use during the MAATA symposium and other MAATA events. The Council agreed that this would be a good investment for the District and we should proceed with obtaining the backdrop in time for the 2016 symposium.

***ACTION ITEM:** District Secretary Berry will investigate prices for a D3 Backdrop and report back with prices by the District Council conference call.*

Director Aronson noted that we have approved a computer system for use for the District meeting and other activities as necessary and this equipment will be cared for by Jason Mitchell until his term as Chair of the program committee is completed.

Director Aronson clarified that we will only allocate finances for space for State meetings at District meetings, not refreshments, etc. If a district committee wants to have a meeting, then the District will allocate funding for light refreshments, etc.

4. NATA Information/Update

District Treasurer Ray Davis asked that we get an update from Greg Penczek on how things are progressing with the NATA Symposium in Baltimore.

***ACTION ITEM:** Director Aronson will contact Greg Penczek and ask him to provide the District Council with an update of how things are progressing with the Baltimore symposium and what assistance he may need from District 3 officers and members.*

Director Aronson reported that she will place copies of the BOD minutes in the Dropbox when they are available so that district leadership can review them.

Director Aronson noted that all 17 of the D3 reps to NATA Committees will be in attendance for the Joint Committee Meeting. We will plan on doing a group picture on Friday evening in Dallas.

Director Aronson reported on the new AT Aides statement from the NATA regarding College/University students which was developed by the CUATC; this was approved by the BOD during their December meeting.

District Secretary Berry provided a breakdown of membership numbers for District 3 as of 12/15/2015. He noted that the national renewal average was around 90%, while the District 3 average was around 84%. He has sent personal emails to those members who have not renewed yet, encouraging them to renew their membership.

5. Constitution and By-Laws Update

Director Aronson reported that all approved changes to the District Constitution and By-Laws have been made and that the updated document is available on the district website.

Director Aronson noted that she will ask the District Council if they have any changes they find necessary now. Any new changes to the constitution need to be submitted by February 1, 2016 so that the membership can be informed in preparation for the member business meeting in May.

6. District Council Meeting Jim, do we have a date?

The District Council will meet via conference call on Sunday, January 17, 2016 beginning at 7pm eastern time.

7. Student Leadership Committee

Director Aronson reported that Destiny Grove will join the Student Leadership Council beginning in June 2016 to replace Sarah Buckley; Sarah's term ends in June. She asked that this information be included in the next issue of the 60 Second News.

The meeting was adjourned by Director Aronson at 10:43am.