

## NAR Board of Trustees conference call, May 6, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 PM Eastern Time.

Present: John Hochheimer, President; Carol Marple, Vice President; Mark Wise, Secretary; Kevin Johnson, Treasurer; Randy Boadway; Becky Green; Ed LaCroix; Lynn Thomas, Jim Wilkerson.

Absent: None.

### **National Sport Launch**

Ed talked to Matt Abbey, the event director, earlier today. Matt said that towns close to the event location just announced lockdowns today.

**Ed moved to postpone the National Sport Launch to 2021, to be held in Alamosa, CO and hosted by the San Luis Valley Rocketeers. Lynn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Ed recommended refunding registration fees. The Board agreed that would be appropriate.

### **Small Business Administration Grant**

John said that we received a \$1000 grant through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program. Loans may also be available, but the rules keep changing. The current interest rate is around 2.7% if we need some funds to maintain our cash flow.

### **Financial Report**

Kevin said that our current balance is about \$187,000. About \$92,000 of that is in certificates of deposit, which he has been transferring out of Americhoice Federal Credit Union as they mature. We have about \$23,500 in the general fund in USBank, and Kevin transferred some money in order to fund Section grants. Our balances are coming back up after paying our insurance premiums.

We may need to send some money to the Museum of Flight in the next month or so.

All refunds for NARAM registration have been processed. The total came to just under \$2900.

John will check on NASA funds tomorrow. The purchase order was not in the system the last time he checked. We will invoice them for approximately \$45,000 for SLP-related expenses.

Kevin paid two invoices this month: One to Anne Heacock, our accountant, and one to Todd Schweim for *Sport Rocketry* and webmaster services.

### **Highpowerrockets.com**

NAR was offered the highpowerrockets.com domain for \$200. We bought it, and we are setting it up so that it will redirect to nar.org's high power page.

### **Kit Stuffers**

John talked to Todd Schweim about kit stuffers. Todd said that the kit stuffers in Estes kits have resulted in 1965 webpage “hits” to nar.org/estes. John will share this information with Bill Stine (Estes Vice President and General Manager) and discuss continuing the program.

In the same conversation, Todd told John that NAR used to have kit stuffers with other manufacturers, and that he has had requests to restart the program with Apogee and Aerotech. Todd will figure out the costs of such a program and get back to John with the information.

John asked the Board for their thoughts. Randy said that it was a good idea, and that it needs to be a budget item so that it can be a continuing program. Ed volunteered to work with Todd, with whom he’s already had some discussion. Kit stuffers will be unique to each manufacturer so that we can track them. John added that Todd will look into having the documents e-mailed to a printer (such as Staples) that’s local to the manufacturer to see if that would be more economical than mailing kit stuffers to manufacturers. He will also look into buying another URL specific to kit-stuffer responses, in order to improve tracking.

The Board may discuss a budget for this program during the June conference call.

The Board went into executive session at 9:37 to discuss some questions regarding regulatory requirements for shipping high-power motors.

The Board came out of executive session at 10:03.

### **Board Meeting/Association Meeting**

John asked whether the Board members were comfortable with holding the annual Association meeting/Town Hall virtually. Kevin said that we would need to set it up as a webinar rather than a conference call, so that member questions and comments could be handled effectively. (A conference call with 100+ participants would be impossible to manage.)

John is thinking of a five- or six-hour board meeting in roughly the same time frame that the NARAM meeting was originally scheduled. Becky said that we could break it up across a couple of days. Mark pointed out that election results can’t be announced before voting ends on July 28, which may have a bearing on the date of the Town Hall.

### **Other**

Members have asked whether the NAR would extend membership expiration dates, because many launches have been cancelled due to the COVID crisis. The Board has decided not to do that, because most of NAR’s services (*Sport Rocketry*, insurance) are fixed costs that continue regardless of whether launches are being held or not.

Jim drafted an announcement to post on the NAR Facebook page. Carol said that we needed to put out a message of some sort because we’re getting questions on the Facebook page and TRF. She liked the idea of a short, sweet message.

The Board collaborated on the final wording of the statement, which will be posted to Facebook and TRF in the next few days.

**Lynn moved to approve the minutes from the March board meeting. Kevin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

The next scheduled conference call will be on June 3 at 9:00 PM Eastern Time.

Call adjourned at 10:40 PM.