

## NAR Board of Trustees conference call, July 1, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 PM Eastern Time.

Present: John Hochheimer, President; Mark Wise, Secretary; Kevin Johnson, Treasurer; Becky Green; Ed LaCroix; Jim Wilkerson (arrived 9:28)

Absent: Carol Marple, Vice President; Randy Boadway; Lynn Thomas.

### **Treasury Update**

We have decided to close out all of the NAR certificates of deposit at Americhoice Federal Credit Union. They were not earning much interest, and we needed the liquidity. Kevin moved the funds from Americhoice into the NAR's US Bank accounts in separate transactions on June 15 and 26. Apart from the NARTS accounts, we are now divested from Americhoice.

Kevin and John met with Anne Heacock, our accountant, to discuss reorganizing our accounts. Too many people have access to committee accounts, which makes them difficult to track.

Kevin reported that all the refunds for National Sport Launch registration have been processed.

Our total balance as of tonight is \$102,286. This does not reflect approximately \$40,000 that needs to be processed in QuickBooks Online.

We still have not received payment from NASA for the Student Launch Program. John is continuing to work with NASA on the issue.

Kevin summarized by saying that we are in good shape financially, with more liquidity than last month, but that a few items remain on the to-do list for policy creation. He expects that this will take time to set up, but that it will make it easier for NAR to pass an audit.

John mentioned that our membership is up about 100 over this time last year. The numbers held steady in May and June, and we are not seeing significant impacts due to COVID-19 or the economy.

### **NAR Website**

The NAR website was down for about four hours last Saturday, June 28, while Greg Deputy and Jon Bolden, two of our IT contractors, implemented security updates. NAR e-mail was down for several days but is now operating normally.

### **Motor Lists**

There has been some chatter on social media (NAR Facebook page, The Rocketry Forum, etc.) regarding publishing a consolidated motor list for TRA/NAR certified motors. Tripoli sends their certification information to thrustcurve.org, and they suggest we do the same. John has no problem with that but will run it by NAR Standards and Testing for their input.

### **Virtual NARAM**

John said that Chris Flanigan and Don Carson are doing an awesome job of organizing an informal virtual NARAM. The Manufacturers Forum and Town Hall will take place via Zoom webinars. We may run the board meeting that way, as well. We would need someone to manage the webinars so that the participants do not have to divide their attention between the discussion and the technology. Ed said that Todd Schweim is looking into it. John will reach out to Todd, but we should probably have at least one more moderator.

These webinars will cost us some money in Zoom licensing fees, but this will be a much smaller amount than the board travel costs for a traditional NARAM or NARCON board meeting. John suggests establishing pre-registration for these webinars to get an idea of how many participants to pay for.

The virtual Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for July 25 at 10:00 AM Eastern Time. The Manufacturers Forum is scheduled for July 27 at 8:00 PM Eastern Time. The virtual Town Hall is scheduled for July 29 at 8:00 PM Eastern Time.

### **National Events**

NARCON – Ed spoke to Vince Huegele regarding the possibility of HARA hosting NARCON 2021 in Huntsville. HARA is willing to host the next in-person NARCON but is not comfortable with committing to 2021 due to the COVID-19 situation. The board discussed the possibility of holding NARCON 2022 in Huntsville and running a virtual NARCON in 2021. Ed has asked Todd Schweim to investigate the technical aspects of a virtual NARCON.

Ed asked the board whether we should make an early commitment to a virtual NARCON. John said that several people have already suggested it to him, and he added that he was in favor of the idea. Technology has finally reached the point where this is practical – we can have a broader group of speakers and make presentations available to our members who cannot travel to NARCON. The ultimate goal would be to have an onsite NARCON with all sessions available virtually.

Mark suggested identifying a tech team early and suggested a team of three. One person cannot do it all. How could we identify/recruit the team? John and Kevin have both been hearing from vendors who provide these services. Ed will talk to Jane Eisele at Experient, our hotel contractor for national events. Jim suggested talking to Greg Deputy, as well.

John said that we can make this discussion an agenda item for the meeting on July 25.

### **Miscellaneous**

Becky and Jim both attended launches recently. They reported that everyone followed appropriate COVID-19 protocols, and that there were no reports of problems.

Jim and Mark reported that there has been a recent increase in inappropriate posts to the NAR Facebook page. Jim usually calls the offender's attention to the "About" section of the page to review the rules, but some violations have been so egregious that the offenders have been removed from the group and blocked without a second chance.

The next scheduled conference call will be on August 5 at 9:00 PM Eastern Time.

Call adjourned at 10:10 PM.