

## Minutes of the Jan. 10, 2017, TAFM Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Directors Frank Trew, Barbara Garrow, Steve Guttery, Tasha Kennard, and ex-officio members Hal Pepper and Greer Gill.

President Trew called the meeting at 1:15 CST.

**Membership** - Steve Guttery made note that he had received a membership that was in his office. Due to his illness, he is not allowed to return to work until February. At that time, he will send to Frank.

**Financials** - Frank asked everyone if they were ok with the Financial Statement he had sent out for meeting review. Everyone acknowledged that it was fine. No further action was taken. It will be filed for audit.

**Scholarship** – The TAFM Scholarship to the Pick TN Conference is a paid registration. Greer had had an inquiry from Richard with the Martin Farmers Market. We ask that applicants send an email with their name, email, phone and position at the market with which they are affiliated. We would also like a statement of what they expected to get out of the conference by their attendance.

**2016 Annual Meeting Minutes** – we will need them for approval at the 2017 Annual Meeting on Thursday at the Pick TN Conference. Barbara will try to find the file.

**Future meetings** – Frank had sent to the current board members a formal Google Calendar reminder for upcoming Zoom Board Meetings. The next Board Meeting is 1pm CST on February 14, 2017. The connection information is included in that calendar.

**New York Farmers Market Conference Update** – Hal Pepper attended this meeting and highly recommends that we consider investing in their program for our membership. The cost of a license for the first year is \$1000 and our members would have to pay a reduced fee of \$150 to take the course modules (the normal fee is \$250 for the course). The license fee is annual but drops significantly after year 1. The 2017 Conference will be in Binghamton, NY from 11/14-16. The New York Association has had one graduate and currently have 40 farmers market managers taking the certification curriculum. He was asked if there were more rural than urban market managers taking the course and he was not sure except that both types of markets had representation. The modules were developed by SUNY Cobleskill with input from Cornell University. Hal does not think that Tennessee will develop such a curriculum for TN farmers and that would be “reinventing the wheel.”

**By-Law Revision** – Based on prior conversations and a review of the by-laws, Barbara drafted a revision for Board discussion. The revision would alter Paragraph 1 pertaining to the TAFM office. It would read as follows with the new wording underlined: *The principle office of the Corporation shall be located at P. O. Box 148604, Nashville, TN 37214 and the Corporation shall have such other places as the Board of Directors may from time to time specify or as the business of the Corporation may require.*

The second change would enable the Board to replace Board Members who could no longer serve until they could be confirmed at the following annual meeting. This change would be an addition to Paragraph 16. The new wording is underlined. *Directors who miss more than two (2) meetings per year without contacting the President will be replaced. The Board of Directors may replace vacant Board Member positions occurring for any reason by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the Board of*

Directors. This appointment will require confirmation by the membership at the following Annual Meeting. This wording reflects the discussion that took place at the meeting.

**Officers and Board of Directors** – We have been operating short-handed since our Secretary has often not been able to be in attendance and Frank has had to also serve as Treasurer. Steve Guttery volunteered that he would be glad to serve as Secretary.

A motion was made by Barbara and seconded by Tasha that Lori Carter be removed from the Board in accordance with paragraph 16 of the bylaws. The motion carried.

It was discussed that Lauren was accepting a new position with the City of Covington and she was “unsure” if she would be able to continue to serve as a Board Member (refer to her December email to the Board).

Frank will be drafting prior to our Feb. 14 meeting, a letter of Board responsibility for review. It would spell out what is expect of persons who serve as Board Members and would be signed annually to by each Board Member.

**Conference Updates** – Frank noted that he could arrange for bus transportation for the Saturday TAFM Tour. He was waiting on a count of how many are taking the tour. Tasha suggested that he go ahead and as the bus company (\$300 cost) to have a bus available There must be a minimum of 15 persons signed up for the tours or they will be cancelled.

Tasha asked that we send out to each registrant an updated conference schedule reminding them of the Annual Meeting time and date as well as that of the banquet. The original schedule was for the dinner to be on Thursday evening with our Annual Meeting Friday That has now been changed with our Annual Meeting on Thursday from 3:30-4:30pm and the banquet dinner on Friday evening. There is no planned group transportation to the dinner, so directions will be included in that communique. There is no alcohol included in the dinner price. The dinner is at the Homestead Manor in Thompson Station, TN, and the band is Jeremy Holt and the Bluegrass Friends. Commissioners Triplett and Templeton have been invited to attend. Tasha will prepare this message and Barbara will email it to all TAFM Members.

Tasha is also sending to the speakers a confirmation of the time of their talk and other information to enable their presentations.

**Adjournment** – Barbara made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:38pm CST.