

DC/MD AER BOARD MEETING

March 10, 2023

4:30 - 5:00 pm

Welcome and roll call (5 minutes)

Attendance: Karen Frank, Al Kaufman, Sharon Payne, Matt Spencer, Diane Ducharme, Jackie Otwell, Kinyatti Gakuhi, Taylor Lahey, Josh Iryzk, Jamie Austin, Amy Morrell, Others who attended AER Conference

Welcome to the 2023 - 2024 DC/MD AER Board!

President	Karen Frank	Spring 2024
Past President	Al Kaufman	Spring 2024
President Elect	Sharon Payne	Spring 2024
Secretary	Abby Gifford	Spring 2024
Treasurer	Matt Spencer	Spring 2024
Board member	Ericka Tinsley	Spring 2024
Board member	Sarah Wilkins	Spring 2024
Board member	Diane Ducharme	Spring 2024
Board member	Jackie Otwell	Spring 2025
Board member	Kinyatti Gakuhi	Spring 2025
Student Rep	vacant	

1. Treasurer Report (3 minutes) - Matt

- Account balance: 17, 328
- Expenses to be paid?

2. Conference - Quick Debrief

- What worked well?
 - Presenters
 - 2 presentation rooms with registration close
 - QRI Codes
 - Good lunch

What didn't work?

- Toilet in the ladies room
- People didn't know which building to go to and where to go once they entered. Need more signage next time
- Some individuals did know how to use QR codes
- Making sure accommodations are met. A person requested Braille and it was not provided, however, it was shared that electronic versions of the powerpoints would be available instead but they did not respond to that email

3. Board

- Need photos of new board members for the website: Jackie, Kinyatti, Sharon
- The treasurer and the secretary terms should not expire at the same time.
 - i. Solutions: Change the dates of when it should expire (opposite years) - does this change bylaws?

4. Sub-committees - Each board member is expected to be on a sub-committee. Select committees

- I. Awards Committee - The awards committee shall establish awards and criteria, is charged with the responsibility of polling the membership at least 90 days prior to the annual meeting for the purpose of soliciting nominations for all awards and citations to be presented at the chapter meeting
 - A. Chair: Dena Zorbach
 - B. Members: Kinyatti, Becky Hommer, Krista H-H.
- II. Media Committee - Shall maintain an online presence for the chapter through our website and other social media platforms, including promoting chapter activities.
 - A. Chair: Erika Tinsley
 - B. Members: Maria Mora, Krista Herman-Harris
- III. Membership and Nominations Committee: Shall develop and implement a membership recruitment and retention program for the chapter in conjunction with the AER International office and recruit candidates to fill any vacant positions on the board.
 - A. Chair: Karen Frank
 - B. Members: Josh Iryzk, Jim Deremick, Al Kaufman
- IV. Mentor Committee - Shall develop and maintain a program in which veterans in the field are teamed up with newer professionals who seek guidance from someone with more experience in the field.
 - A. Chair: Jamie Austin and Taylor Lahey
 - B. Members: Amy Morrell, Al Kaufman
- V. Program Committee - the principal task of the committee is to plan and prepare, with the full assistance of the Board of Directors, for the next annual meeting of the chapter
 - A. Chair: Al kaufman
 - B. Members: Jackie Otwell, Karen Frank, Diane Ducharme, Sharon Payne

5. Upcoming Events

- Apple Accessibility workshop in April
 - i. Updates: Not sure of date or location yet; Annapolis or Towson location, Likely a date will be picked and shared

- BlindShell/All-Terrain cane demo
 - i. At MSB, Early Learning Outreach building
 - ii. Confirm? Tuesday April 18 at 4 at MSB

- Perhaps a picnic when the weather is warmer.
 - i. Central location in May or April

- Ophthalmological Update
 - i. Possibly in September or October
 - ii. Jim Deremick looking into

6. Future Meetings

- Preferred time of day? 7 pm
- Preferred day of the week? Tuesdays
- Topics for next meeting: Reviewing conference in greater detail
- Select date: 2nd Tuesdays of the month, next meeting April 11th

Adjourn