



Digital Commonwealth Board Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2020

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Present: Danielle Sangalang, Kate Boylan, Hans Bergmann, Tegan Kehoe, Eben English, Evan Knight, Jodi Goodman

Tegan: \$40-\$80 for Webinar license via Zoom. \$200 for Business license which includes transcriptions.

Jodi: concerned about having the conference.

Alan: people would be interested in conference, we just need a board vote right now.

Sonia: asking people to donate if we cancel isn't a good idea. Foolish to reschedule. Either proceed virtually on April 7th or cancel. Things are changing, no idea what Fall holds.

Eben: if we do it, it needs to be free. Would decrease stress for everyone involved and potential attendees.

Tegan: have routinely had surplus at end of year, always larger than we want, struggling to spend money. Financially, it would build good will. We have not just savings for a rainy day but a budget surplus for a rainy day. Despite the sticker shock, it would be appropriate. Having virtual conference and then keep it online is best of both worlds between having conference and not having it.

Danielle: concern about free conference. Make sure members are comfortable paying their fee.

Hans: if we do it, it should be free. Level of distraction is colossal. Hard to understand how anyone can pay attention to the conference at all.

Jodi: like the free idea and the idea of keeping it online after. Even if it's not 100% successful, the goodwill goes further.

Eben: Maybe offer these as individual webinars in the future. Even if we don't do the conference, there are still ways to get that content to people, maybe just not on April 7th.

Sonia: if people are uncomfortable about pulling this off, the CC can have another conversation about scaling it back considerably. We can provide 4 pre-recorded sessions, update on DC, president's report, keynote. Reach out to 3 presenters who could pre-record. Could maybe put together a 3 hour long pre-recorded thing if people get us the content soon enough.

Jodi: scaling back sounds like a good idea.

Tegan: like the idea of recording presentations ahead of time. Loses the communication/networking aspect of a live conference, even if it's virtual. We can't predict how many people would be there for the live interaction so we don't know how much we'd be losing that if we did recording only.

Glynda: it becomes too sterile if it's prerecorded. Enormously difficult for the three panels to record ahead of time. Hard to know what to cut out if you want to trim it down to a few hours.

I lost connection

Hans: what is Zoom's capacity?

Everyone: unsure

I lost connection again.

Sonia: we need to make a decision today and get back to speakers now.

Alan: does the board have a quorum?

Eben: are we doing it for free?

Evan: moved to vote

Tegan: we can still do both prerecorded and live at the same time, right?

Evan: we can provide help for people to prerecord and we can still do a Q&A after the session for live-ness. Motion to plan for virtual conference with full refund on April 7

Jodi: wants to know people's reasons for voting

Evan: libraries closing across the state with people working from home and nothing to do. If we're honest and transparent about it being new for us, people will cut us some slack. It's a great program that we can put on and accessible to people who want to stay involved.

Alan: having something rewarding and engaging for people will be really helpful.

Glynda: if it's free, people will be more accommodating

Hans: seconds movement. Was originally opposed to holding it, but holding it for free is great. Free is the way to go.

Glynda: would like to go through revised schedule. Danielle's address can be pre-recorded. Panels have to be live because there's a level of interaction in a real time event that can't be captured. Keynote can be pre-recorded but have her available afterward for questions. Heard back from Shanee at DPLA, they're still interested in participating. That's good for DC members and if we can get people from around the country to ask him questions. Live? *Everyone agreed* Eben, yours would be prerecorded? *Yes, or live for questions* Breakout sessions: what's the feeling about those?

Eben: leave it up to the presenters?

Agreement

Danielle: we should come to agreement first.

Alan: CC can iron out details

Danielle: say aye (lots of ayes)

Any opposed? None

Any abstained? none

Yay conference.

Danielle: conflict training?

We'll wait until after new board members

Glynda: any suggestions to reaching out beyond New England, please let us know asap

Alan: on ACRL director's list, will share with them. Maybe Lyrisis?

Tegan: will get webinar license for Zoom asap