
MEMBER-OWNED AND MEMBER-OPERATED SINCE 1965

The Albuquerque Press Club

201 HIGHLAND PARK CIRCLE SE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

505-243-8476
ABQPRESSCLUB.COM

November 9, 2020 7:00pm

Regular meeting- Called to order 7:03pm

Board Members in Attendance: Laura Dunagan President, Justin Cumley Vice President, Maynard Cowan Treasurer, Lynn Embick Secretary, David Hayden, Adam Gates, Sarah Blanton, Ken Hargis, Will Fitzpatrick.

Absent Board Members:

Also in Attendance:

Reading and Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve April 2020 regular meeting minutes by Maynard. Seconded by Sarah. All approve. Motion passed. Lynn will update formatting.
- Motion to approve October 2020 regular meeting minutes by Ken. Seconded by Justin. All approve. Motion passed.

Officers' Reports

- President—Laura Dunagan
 - Liquor Licence renewal has been submitted. Maynard suggests asking about prorating, but Laura confirms that is not something the state is offering, but she will double check.
- Vice President—Justin Cumley: No report
- Treasurer—Maynard Cowan
 - PandL distributed. Income listed is from rental properties only. Expenses are down to the minimum. Liability insurance has been reduced, but due in November. Property tax (at least ½) is due in December. Apx \$43K in bank.
- Secretary—Lynn Embick: No report

Manager's Report

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Committee Reports

- Art -
- Buildings and Grounds - David
 - David to re-send info for motion sensor lights to Maynard. Laura to purchase touch up paint for David.
 - Boiler update: solenoid failed, water built up in pipes. We have not been invoiced by the new service provider yet. There are still issues with the water level that require drainage, and the boiler is still shutting off randomly.

- The assumed leak turned out to be water being pushed up through the system. No permanent damage to interior walls. Replaced the sump pump to avoid repeat flooding of the basement.
- David would like to organize a committee to do clean up of the property. Maynard requests leaves left on the grass.
- David will move forward with the Building and Grounds description update (Committee consists of David-head of, Lynn, Justin, Sarah).
- David made a motion to buy two battery operated motion sensor lights from Home Depot for installation on porch. Maynard Seconded. Motion passed.
- Web & Media - Ken: Ken has posted some of the meeting minutes. The rest will be posted ASAP. Some maintenance has been performed on the website. Ken will look into updating/modifying our calendar so that it is not still showing gatherings that are not happening.
- Membership - Laura
 - Abt. 8 people renewed memberships in October. Member Planet has not been transferring renewal fees into our account since Feb. MP now owes us apx. \$2,300 in renewals.
- Newsletter - Laura
 - Asked Will for previously discussed article.
 - Laura wants to focus on the things the Board has tried to facilitate re-opening. David suggested re-iterating that we are all volunteers. Laura considering touching on our financial situation to lead in to membership changes.
 - Laura is looking into a campaign that compares the Press Club to places that are open. Justin to look into photographers. All agree that we should not publish comparisons of our institution with other ABQ allies. Maynard suggests stock photos.
 - Laura will promote the previously discussed letter writing campaign.

Unfinished Business

- AGM: re-reading of our constitution and NM statutes.
 - All agree to poll membership through Member Planet. Final ruling falls on Board whether or not to have virtual meeting or put off the AGM until we are allowed by the state to meet. Need to research platform for 300+ virtual meeting.
 - David made a motion to poll the membership regarding AGM. If the majority responds positively to the virtual option, we will move forward with the AGM. Adam seconded.
 - Maynard posed an amendment to add two questions: virtual option and postponement of AGM. David seconded.
 - Discussion ensued about the historically low percentage of engagement, and how to promote it going out. Decided on an email poll. Laura suggests that the next steps are: poll membership, check in with Sec of State, and then find a platform if virtual is decided.
 - Vote to amend original motion passes. Vote to enact original motion passes unanimously.
- Researched options for re-opening club
 - Laura has concerns with the legalities of a coffee shop or restaurant. We could lose our non-profit status.
 - Maynard thinks the licence for a food truck may be too expensive and the food storage and staffing would be issues. Previous food trucks that have parked in front have not broken even, according to Laura.

- Maynard believes that if we were to partner with a distillery or brewery, we would be required to use their employees. Would that put us in a position to open to the public, jeopardizing our current status?
- Adam voiced concern that any investment would be at the mercy of another shut down by the state government. David believes an investment could be beneficial long term.
- David suggested some clubs offer day memberships. Maynard stated those are illegal in NM.
- Justin is still looking into a fundraiser. Speaking with the NM Council of Clubs regarding timing, venue, liability.

New Business

- Laura initiated discussion about keeping members engaged. Could we have: once a week chats, virtual cocktail parties featuring guest bartenders? Participants provide their own ingredients. Venmo or a similar service could be utilized for a small fee and tips for bartenders. Webcast vs Facebook messenger? Maynard and David agree to talk to bartenders.

Motion to adjourn at 9:09pm by David. Justin seconded. Motion passed.