

Regina Public Interest Research Group
Board Agenda – August 18, 2020 at 6 pm – Online

1. OPENING ROUND

- 1.1. Check-ins and announcements:
- 1.2. In attendance: **Krystal, Nicole, Noora, Prince, Parvin, Chiara, Ben**
- 1.3. Regrets: **Veera** Absent: n/a

2. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 2.1. Meeting length – approx. 2 hours
- 2.2. Approve minutes of June meeting, changes to agenda, agenda, choice of chair (**Prince**) and minute taker (**Parvin**)

3. Motions

- 3.1. Update our finance policy - approve having our auditor accounting firm take over our basic bookkeeping needs.
 - **Approved**

- 3.2. Extending contracts for summer staff (Annie and Tayef)
 - **The board approves to extend Annie’s contract for up to 30 hours and Tayef’s up to 50 hours as they are familiar with the work. The hours will be reassessed later if there is more deferred maintenance work and based on their schedules.**

- 3.3. Human Resources - flexible workplan policy changes (3 part proposal)
 - 3.3.1. Temporary changes to be reassessed at end of 2020 (re: COVID) - paid time off for staff or their dependents who need to get COVID testing and wait for results, or keep dependents home due to school closure (up to 5 days) - **approved**
 - 3.3.2. Permanent changes - increase starting level of personal/sick days for permanent staff from 12-20; introduce minimum paid personal/sick day table for contract staff - **approved**
 - 3.3.3. Research hiring of HR consultant to advise on other changes for 2021 - **approved**

- 3.4. Veera resignation from board - accept resignation and authorize ED to contact recent election runners-up in order to appoint a replacement - **accepted and approved**

4. Discussion items

- 4.1. Anti-racism response/accountability
 - **Krystal has summarized the points of the board in the document and reviewed some of the resources she had provided for the board to think about this organizational change.**

- **Board members are encouraged to comment on the document shared in Google Drive or email Krystal to provide feedback and direction or introduce resources.**
- **The board will set aside time from the board meetings each month to continue discussions/planning for this**

4.2. RaiseHerCo event info - Chiara to introduce and lead discussion.

4.3. Municipal election report card plan

- **Krystal explained past RPIRG engagement related to municipal elections. In the last election RPIRG did a review of only mayoral candidates, there were 5 questions and answers were graded. We haven't endorsed parties before but there is room to do that**
- **For this election, RPIRG will include all councillor candidates, and sharing verbatim answers to questions**
- **There was also discussion about how to approach grading. While there were some concerns regarding partisanship on developing the scorecard, some believed it would be constructive and in line with our social justice mandate and organizational direction. A final decision on grading will be made at the September board meeting**
- **Ben showed interest to help in the project and interviewing candidates.**

4.4. AGM and other programming updates

- **Julian is reaching out to professors to participate in our AGM.**
- **The AGM posting will be on the website by the end of this week or next week and emails will be sent to students closer to the AGM when everyone's registered.**
- **Green Patch:**
 - **Board members are encouraged to follow the Green Patch page on Instagram and Facebook**
 - **Now that Friday vegetable pickup has started, for the next 6 weeks Tayef could use some help with harvesting and cleaning if board members were available.**
 - **About 400 pounds of produce was provided just in last week.**
- **Generating Momentum was held in August 6 & 7th, with very active morning sessions and engaging generally.**
- **Julian will be leaving us and we have to start a hiring process. In our next meeting we will discuss the hiring time and training budget. The new person will get started late November to early December. Board members will need to help in distributing the job notice.**

4.5. Decide on fall board meeting dates, meeting chairs, and who will do fall newsletters.

- **Meeting chairs Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec (Nicole-Nicole/Noora-Ben- Chiara)**
- **Newsletter role Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec (Ben-Nicole/Noora-Chiara-Prince)**
- **September board dates (September 15, October 13, November 17, December 8)**
- **communications meeting dates (September 23, October 21, November 25, December 16)**
- **September dates are confirmed but proposed dates for the other months will be confirmed in the future meetings.**