



Monthly Conference Call Minutes
November 18, 2019
Phone: 1-877-820-7831 (Code: 824636#)

1. 2020 Conference-

a. Early registration/budget update from Karen-

35 early 2020 conference registrations were received at \$450.00 each, bringing our account balance back to around \$9,000.00; additional registrations in the spring should leave a small cushion again. New accounting forms from AAVMC are confusing and extra detail is unnecessary making it hard to decipher exact accounting, Karen will try to get AAVMC to fix that. A discussion came up about a couple of colleges that have not paid yet for the 2019 conference. We may need a plan to resolve these issues.

b. Hotel update from host schools-

Pam- Contract being updated for accurate contact info, 90 rooms tu-th and 60 fri @ 165.00 plus 2 suites @ 165.00 for Western and Davis. The hotel waived the service charge, 1 complimentary room per x rooms booked, individuals will register themselves online. We will have 4 salons and lobby registration all confirmed. Food and Bev at \$20,000+, we have wiggle room in registration numbers up to June 29th, AAVMC will negotiate details about deposits, except \$1000.00 good faith hold due Dec 6th. Hotel will provide signage. Their AV Company will do AV, but none for breakout rooms, no one used them this year, and they were expensive. Main room always has AV. Once contract is done it will be sent to Gretchen along with last 2 years of room pickups. We will send out new 2020 Conference registration announcements late spring. Need to get a plan for those who register without paying and then do not attend.

c. Program ideas and discussion (review sessions document)-

Cheryl is drafting a program based on last years and survey comments, adding time in some sessions. Recruiting speakers now, need suggestions for topics. Do we want overarching professional development or specific topic related speakers? Also working on sponsorships, various sponsors might come with good speakers too.

2. Task Force Update from Cheryl-

Still getting a few surveys back. Also reaching out to those who rarely if ever come to the conference for suggestions. Team will add all comments together before next month's meeting.

3. Other business-

VMX Breakfast- Julie wanted to see about organizing small group meeting of development people attending the conference. Danielle pointed out we typically try to do this at various conferences. It is always nice to connect when we can. Julie will reach out for this one.

Gary Sinise Foundation from Chastity-

A&M got a \$50K gift from the foundation for a program for Veteran support dogs. Gary Sinise's dream is to extend this to many other vet schools. His foundation is based in CA, president is an Aggie and based in Nashville. She will toss this out to everyone interested for a January conference call with them.

Joe wants to know what everyone is thankful for - one common answer was the Thanksgiving break.

Attending- Joe, Danielle, Chastity, Julie, Cheryl, Pam, Karen, Gretchen, Kay **Did I miss someone(s)?**