



Monthly Conference Call Minutes
May 4, 2020
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://ksu.zoom.us/j/730424314>

1. AVAP ZOOM and online ideas- COVID 19 concerns

- a. All participants are working from home due to the COVID closures. First all AVAP webinar went well, lots of new ideas for future zoom meetings. Because of distancing, AVAP is still finding new tools for the group. Many computer connections issues today.
- b. AVMA has cancelled, Pamela reached out to CA governor's office to see about the status on conferences, waiting to make sure we have documentation on our end, then give it to Leslie at AAVMC to reach out to cancel our conference. The goal is to do this well without burning bridges. Their team talked about options in their team meeting this morning. We need to see how many colleges will want their money back for pre-registrations, how many can let it sit for next year, and if they can apply to an on-line conference fee. Will the AAVMC service charge be refunded too? Many colleges budgets will be cut, so 2021 budget may dictate next years travel and conference. Kansas is talking about furloughs, but Joe says Minnesota is an easier, cheaper travel location too for them.
- c. The survey results show what the member interest is, the results just came this morning. Now we can look at how to proceed based on the results. We also need to look at whether we have a one-day, or many sessions on many different days online conference. Everyone can look at survey and see that there are some topics that come to the fore. There is clear need and interest to adapt and create a zoom conference. Joe asked how Cheryl's team feels given all of the work they put into the conference, now to have it cancelled. It won't be fancy, but her team will still feel good about what they did. It is not personal. The big thing is that we don't want AVAP to take a big financial hit. These things are totally unforeseen, it is a good time to be nimble and come together and learn from each other in a new way. This reinvents our way of doing a conference. Drucker-Duff may still do something for us, she has done several free sessions online.

Joe thinks since the AVMA has already cancelled, we need to put something out soon. Do we want to solidify a plan today? wait for T&C? or move forward? Karen says don't wait. Announce cancellation, let members know we are working on the alternatives based on reactions from the survey. Danielle suggested we send email cancelling conference, ask them to still hold the dates and let them know we are working on a web-based program for the group. We are concerned still that we lose leverage with T&C if we cancel and they have not released us from financial impact. We need to check with sponsors too. Are they ok with virtual, will they still support us? Purina may want to sponsor the virtual event and conference.

- d. We are still talking about a business meeting at the time we were to hold the conference. Maybe add a half day on Thursday to have a couple of sessions. Maybe a keynote, a business meeting and a session, then the next day add a couple of sessions. No travel involved, so just have folks hold time for sessions. We need to look at survey and then make a plan. Cheryl's group asked for help from board or group

from board to develop a plan. Pamela has still been looking at different platforms to deal with this. Then, how do we communicate, what is the financial piece, make the transition easy for the members at large.

- e. Chastity said Texas and A&M is restructuring, they will know by May who is moving positions, she may move. She may not be able to commit to another year on the AVAP Board. She will know by May 18th. Do we want to open it up to others, she is supposed to finish in July anyway. Joe thinks it is ok if we recruit for the position. We also had a member step off early last year, maybe she will want to come back.
- f. The new question is do we want to use what we have scheduled for next year?
The board needs to know what the Davis Team needs from us- perhaps a smaller working group to sketch something out, then reach out to speakers and see what they might do. We need topics and ideas to go forward to draft that schedule to present to board. Simpler is better is the new model. Do not incur any new costs, plus look at the easiest way to do this. Then when do we want a new board call? Joe thinks we meet again next week instead of the regular meeting in two weeks. We could talk privately to sponsors and speaker, aside from T&C cancelation. Having a couple sponsorships helps with Money, Danielle, Julie volunteered to help.
- g. Action items- Cheryl's team will talk to speakers, Tim will reach sponsors, Karen will talk to AAVMC, Pam will talk to T&C, someone should talk to Jeff Douglas about awards, Joe will do that. Joe will see if they want to present awards anyway on their own. Joe is going to suggest they change how the communications award application is done. Should we do a reminder to fill out surveys in light of AVMA cancellation? yes, with a Thursday deadline.
- h. We will meet again next week. Pam may have word on cancelling then. May 11th, next zoom call.

Attending- Joe, Karen, Bill, Kay, Cheryl, Gretchen, Chastity, Julie, Danielle, Pamela, Tim, Hnouzong