



Monthly Conference Call Minutes
September 21, 2020
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://ksu.zoom.us/j/730424314>

1. September Executive Monthly Call- Most are still working from home, but LSU, Gretchen is back in office and back to driving to visits. Attending- Joe, Bill, Kay, Danielle, Gretchen, Julie, and L. Kay.
2. AVAP 2020 Conference- post AVAP Cancelled in person Conference and 2020 Expo business-
 - a. We will ask Karen if we received a refund on our deposit from Town & Country yet, she did not attend so we could not ask.
3. AVAP 2021 Conference Planning- Thinking about a new timeline for planning 2021.
 - a. Kris Hayden, University of Minnesota's Events & Alumni Relations Associate, will be joining us moving forward, but could not attend today. Bill reported that Kris has started to reach out to hotels and conference centers. They let us know that if we reserve during covid, we cannot cancel because of things related to covid. She has started to reserve meeting rooms at U of Minnesota because they can cancel without a charge. Should we look for hotel rooms? Danielle says wait. We need to see if AVMA will reserve spaces, if we can add pandemic language, or natural disaster language. Most conferences are moving to later in the year, will AVMA do that? A lot of unknown. Ordering food might create another challenge. Bill says their campus is in St. Paul, on the farm campus. It is a few miles from Roseville where there are chain hotels. It is only a 20-minute drive to Minneapolis where receptions are likely to be. Gretchen said since we did it even farther away in Colorado the first year, she likes the idea, even with the need for a car rental. We can reach out to hotels and ask for courtesy blocks. There is one hotel in Roseville with a campus shuttle bus. This can keep costs down and make it a cheaper conference.
 - b. We will probably need to have an on-line component too, but charge for it. Possibly we could have a 3-tiered approach, in person, remote, both. Julie said offering an online version will keep the interest and involvement up. The college might send one person and keep all other costs down and let others attend online. All see big budget cuts so many will not have the money to go in person. L. Kay added she does not know if the university will even allow them to travel then, but the content is valuable, so we should be able to have a reasonable charge for it. Saving money for colleges will be important. 2021 probably will be another one-off, then we will look at what conferences will be moving forward. What happens with the money we held from registrations this year towards next year? Danielle said with 2 paid from this year, they could send 2 and the others could be virtual, or the 2 registrations could cover 4 or more online.
 - c. Bill suggested maybe we consider a college membership fee for AVAP, like AAVMC does. Gretchen pointed out they belong to a group, NAADA, they charge dues and an online webinar fee and their webinar was equivalent to our roundtables in her opinion. Joe asked if the University pays the dues, like CASE, or does it come from college budgets? Gretchen like the idea of institutional dues with value of monthly webinars, and discount to conferences. Like for CASE, one payment of dues gives all cheaper access to webinars. L. Kay asked about holding the now ongoing webinars with a fee? She says there are some others that she has attended, and they charge fees. We could establish a platform to do it at a

nominal cost. Joe likes the idea, but wonders if out members would pay dues, for webinars, and or for virtual conferences.

4. On-Going Webinar Topics- Bill mentioned the ones so far, good attendance.
 - a. Diversity topic- Joe asked how many colleges have diversity councils or coordinators. We have no real direction of what to look for on the topic. Surveys and comments were all over the place. We could have a Nov. or Dec. panel on diversity. L. Kay says they don't have a diversity person, but the Dean is on a number of panels on diversity, she has been doing a lot of talking about it. Joe pointed out it does not need to be a diversity person per se, but a person like L. Kay's dean who speaks well to the topic. L. Kay suggested maybe we should ask our deans to be on a panel. Maybe Dr. Greenhill would moderate. We will have to look for the Deans that would be on board and are good with development. Identifying the right people will take a little time to do, so maybe a webinar will be a few months from now. What does our audience want to hear about and take away from a talk? Danielle points out one won't be enough, so maybe start with how to talk to a Major Donor about it. Julie agrees, we need to line out a few topics we want help within this area. She looked up Purdue, they have an Assistant Dean of Inclusive Excellence. We need sustainable realistic idea to move forward with. Bill will talk to his dean and Lisa at AAVMC and report back. We need to bridge diversity with development in whatever the discussion is. What if we tell the leaders that we need help in how to promote and frame this. L. Kay says we could have a series and then add a session at the next conference. Joe pointed out we need to advise people we are not going to resolve the issue and we all need to be respectful and listen to others.

5. Joe mentioned other survey answers. Do we need more surveys? Do we know if other groups are meeting as spin offs from the Expo? No one knows of any thus far. Danielle thinks we can start laying out a few things and decide what should be webinars and what should be 2021 conference, Joe asked about sponsors. Do we want to look for webinar sponsors as well as conference sponsors?

Next steps: L.Kay, who will ask Dean Perry about possibly talking to the group. She will see what she thinks and what works. Bill will organize a meeting with Danielle, Purdue, L. Kay and Joe to talk about how and when to start the diversity talk rolling. Kris will investigate hotels. Gretchen will reach out to Leslie and Kris, Bill and Joe to start topic of 2021 conference accommodations.

Next meeting, October 19th. Purdue Presentation October 7th