



February Board Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2025
2:00 PM/Zoom

Present: Kristi Farver Oaks, Allison Strekal, Tagen Vine, Sara Hofer, Sarah Eckman, Lauren Rennaker

Absent: Traci Weller

- I. **Call to Order** – The Board meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.
- II. **Review of December Meeting Minutes** – No changes were made to the December minutes. Tagen moved to approve, Sara H. seconded, approved.
- III. **Financial Report** – Tagen gave an update on the 2025 budget, which is similar to prior years. He combined scholarships into one line item, they were scattered across a few. The sponsorship goal this year is \$12k, and we are optimistic about receiving a grant, which is budgeted for \$10k. Also added in some cushion around Summit costs. Tagen also gave an update on the 2024 year-end financials, we ended the year with \$24k in the bank.
- IV. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Summit Committee** – Allison gave an update on Summit planning. The venue for the Summit will be the Heritage Inn; Allison signed the contract for the space. This year's event will have a broad fundraising theme and the committee is currently brainstorming potential keynote speakers. We are thinking of going for a more inspirational speaker, rather than a development-focused speaker. Also reworking the format of the Summit, mainly to revamp the dinner on Thursday (and potentially do something offsite) and then end the programming by noon on Friday so people can get out of town.
 - b. **Sponsorship Committee** – Tagen is building a new Google Sheet for 2025, he will clean it up and then invite everyone to it. Will look at Great Falls-specific businesses for sponsorship.
 - c. **Awards & Recognition** – Allison is working on revamping the awards process, but is leaning toward not doing the full slate of awards with open nominations, since that has not been as successful in the past few years.
 - d. **Communications Committee** – Sarah E. has taken this over; she worked with Laura to get the January e-newsletter out. Allison added her to the AFP Montana social accounts. Sarah E. will get a Lunch and Learn specific email out next week ahead of the event on the 20th.
 - e. **Membership Committee** – Sara H. gave an update – we had 4 new members in January, Traci's membership report has more detail. AFP Global is giving us 5 memberships that we can award how we see fit. The board agreed to offer one as an incentive for

attending the March Lunch and Learn, and then use the rest as an incentive to attend the April Mix and Mingles across the state.

f. Professional Development Committee –Kristi gave an update – as of Tuesday, the February Lunch and Learn has 31 people registered. We will be doing the Mix and Mingles in April instead of March, in Billings, Bozeman, Missoula and Great Falls.

i. Upcoming Pro. Dev. Events:

1. February 20 – Lunch and Learn
2. March 20 – Lunch and Learn – major gift focus
3. April – Mix and Mingles
4. May 15 – Lunch and Learn – planned giving
5. June 12 – Lunch and Learn – working with boards focus

V. **Policy & Procedures Review & Discussion** –Kristi provided the list of policies and procedures from AFP Global as an FYI. We will look at the list at the March board retreat, as well as review the officer term limit policy.

VI. **Ongoing Board/Committee Recruitment** –Allison to follow up with Danielle and Lexie from the Billings Clinic Foundation, Shan Rao and Sarah Fritz.

VII. **AFP ICON** – will try to organize a meet-up for Montana folks going; Sarah E. will put in the next few newsletters – if you’re attending, email Allison so we can organize something. Traci, Allison and Sarah E. are attending.

VIII. **AFP MT Growth Opportunities**

- a. Will review Traci’s grant proposal at the March 7 board retreat. Will be applying to the Montana Healthcare Foundation.
- b. MSU Business Integrated Marketing & Communications Class – Dr. Eric assigned group of students for us to work with. Allison had a call with them on February 6 where she gave an overview of AFP Montana and talked about our goals. Will be in touch with them throughout the semester.
- c. AFP MT Coaching at MNA Conference – Kevin Sylvester asked Traci if AFP MT members would be willing to provide mentoring sessions at the MNA conference in September. She is going to get more info from him before we commit.

IX. **2025 Board Retreat**

- a. The rescheduled retreat date is March 7 at the MSU Alumni office. Sarah E. will attend via Zoom.

X. **Adjourn**

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.

Next Board Meeting

No March meeting since we will be having the retreat on March 7.