

General Membership Meeting Agenda

January 29, 2017

Meeting called to order by Eli at 12:26pm

- Introduction of Board Members Present
 - Eli Olind-President Elect
 - Marcia Cantrell-Certification Coordinator
 - Billie Manning-Treasurer
 - Leah Anderson-Secretary
 - Crystal Sharp-Website/Facebook Chair
 - Anni O'Hara-Continuing Education Committee
 - Serena McElroy-Membership Committee

- Budget Report
 - Checking account: \$30,593.74

- Legislative Update:
 - Legislation has been tabled until 2019
 - Plan is to continue working on the task list with the veterinarians
 - Using Washington and Texas's current legislation to help draft ours
 - Goal is to have everything set by 2018 and then spend the year educating
 - Regional meetings to begin again in April or May with sponsorship by MWI and Elanco
 - MVMA is willing to help keep the dates up on their website so veterinarians know about them as well
 - Member question: What will be the regulation on hospitals listing people as technicians on their website when they are not certified?
 - Response: The MT veterinary board will be the regulating body once the bill passes, until then there is no regulation.
 - Member question: What is the current standing on the grandfather clause?
 - Response: Currently the AAVSB says MT is a non regulated state and they will not open the grandfather clause for us until we become regulated. If the bill passes in 2019 the plan is we will become regulated and will be able to reopen the grandfather clause stating that a person must work for 5 consecutive years in Montana as a technician and then they will have 3 years from the passing of the bill to sit for the VTNE and then if they pass it they can then become certified.
 - Member question: Is there a limit to number of times test can be taken?
 - Response: Not currently, but it is expensive to take.
 - Public Education Committee
 - Getting together packets for members to attend various fairs, career days, etc to hand out to educate the public on what a vet tech is and what we do and what the legislation is

- Handing out brochures to regional vet tech schools to let them know we have job opportunities available in the state
 - Capital tours will be available again with Stuart Doggett in March to have people learn more about the process of how a bill gets passed-please reach out if you would like to attend this.
- Newsletter update
 - The next newsletter will be coming out by the end of February in both digital and hard copy for the last time to everyone, soon it will become a member only benefit.
 - Hopefully a survey of people's preference of digital vs. print will be in the works soon
 - If you have any ideas for content, digital vs. print ideas please let Leah know
- Election of Director 2 Position
 - Members voted;Eli Olind, Marcia Cantrell, and Leah Anderson counted votes
 - Kristen Bailey 13 votes, Christina Platt 7 votes
 - Kristen was notified of her position by Eli once votes were read
- Committees
 - Legislation
 - See above for the latest happenings
 - CE
 - Anni gave update to members that to put on a CE event it costs \$4000-5000 with the costs of the speaker, travel expenses for them, room for the event, printing costs. She gave this update because there have been questions regarding why the cost of registration has gone up.
 - The board is working on continuing to get sponsorships for the events as well
 - Newsletter
 - See above for information
 - Website/Facebook
 - Budget
 - Public Education
 - Membership Committee
- Surveys were handed out to all in attendance and everyone replied
 - The surveys will also go out to all BSVTA members via an email
 - The board will compile results and it will be taken into account for our next CE events
- Upcoming Board Positions Up for Election
 - Be on the lookout on the website, newsletter, mailings for upcoming positions

Meeting adjourned at 1:02pm