

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 1/19/2019

The regular meeting of the Tech Valley Game Space Board of Directors was held on Sunday 1/19/2019 at 1:15 pm

The following members of the board were in attendance via Teleconference or in person:

Taro Omiya (Executive Director)

Jason Harlow (Chair)

Frederika Edgington-Giordano (Secretary)

Stephanie Jennings

One guest attended via Discord, Jamey Stevenson.

Abigail had messaged that she was going to be late.

The members in attendance looked over the changes to the by-laws.

The volunteer coordinator vetting policy was discussed briefly.

Abigail Mathews joined the meeting.

The meeting notes from 11/25/2018 were reviewed and approved.

The meeting notes from 12/23/2018 were reviewed.

Laquana Cooke joined the meeting.

The meeting notes from 12/23/2018 were approved.

The action items were reviewed.

The first action item, documenting the Fundraising Coordinator roles not completed. Frederika and Taro have until the end of the month to complete this action item.

The action items on the promotional materials is in progress. Jason and Jamey will continue to work on them.

The status of the Department of Labor request action item on Sarah Lauser is unknown.

Taro has created a vetting policy for volunteer coordinators. He posted the link in the chat.

The free membership search action item is ongoing. Board members should contact Jamey. The preference would be to give memberships to individuals who will want to stay on after the free membership has expired. Jamey would like to talk to anyone who has any good ideas on how to accomplish this. This action item will be ongoing for the next 3-6 months. Either refer potential candidates to Jamey or send them the link to apply, <http://techvalleygamespace.com/free/>.

The internet went down, cutting off the call. Taro went to speak to TVCOG IT staff.

The internet came back.

Taro returned.

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 1/19/2019

The next item, using the 501 (c)(3) status is ongoing. Some options were discussed, and progress was reported on.

The volunteer coordinator feedback action item has not been completed yet.

The next action item, sending out the board meeting agenda to the volunteer coordinators, was not completed. Frederika and Taro have an action item to post the information to the volunteer coordinators.

Taro reported that the state sales tax action item is in progress but has not been completed yet.

The action items related to updating the bylaws have been completed. The document with the proposed changes was reviewed by the board, changes were discussed and proposed for clarity, and the final changes were approved.

Frederika has an action item to update the bylaws with the approved changes.

The action item to identify new potential board members has not been completed. The next board election is in April. Some possible candidates were discussed, including active volunteers such as Neil and Chris. Jamey suggested approaching people that have knowledge that we are lacking among our community. The board has an action item to identify knowledge gaps and find potential new board members to cover those gaps. The board has an action item identify who is term is up this April and if anyone is planning on leaving.

The action item to identify potential board members from local game development companies has not been completed. Jamey has an action item to curate a list of potential board members.

The action item for the board to review the changes to the bylaws was completed during the meeting.

The volunteer coordinator recruiting action item will be an ongoing task.

The TVGS/TVCOG equipment sharing MOU action item was completed. The MOU has been signed by Taro and the director of TVCOG.

The agenda items were reviewed next.

The Events Coordinator position is still open. The Media Coordinator position also needs to be filled. Jamey and Taro have an action item to reach out to potential volunteer coordinators. Jamey to reach out to individuals with media editing experience.

Action item for Taro and Jamey to report on the new equipment and the grant usage.

Taro reported on the status of the Gaming Hub grant. No update on the status of the no-cost extension. Taro expects it to take until April or May. Planning for events will start as though we have the funding lined up.

Jamey reported on his meeting with the Center for Economic Growth. This organization was also provided funds from the Gaming Hub grant. Originally, they were focused on attracting a major game studio to the region but have now shifted focus to supporting local indie game developers.

Tech Valley Game Space Meeting Notes for 1/19/2019

The Center for Economic Growth view us as an important partner for this initiative. They are interested in helping us get funding, including getting our own space. Jamey shared his notes from this meeting and some action items including cost estimates, estimating the required earnings to make it viable, deciding on the designs/features of an improved TVGS, and gathering questions for indie game developers. Jamey to take on these action items and finding people to help with each of them. Jamey would like people to reach out to him to get involved. Taro suggested expanding the space to include other artistic media, such as film. Deadline for action items are not clear, but it seems sooner would be better. Jamey would like to get this started in a week, two at the most.

Jamey reported on the Start Up Tech Valley event which he has been involved in planning. TVGS will be presenting, along with some local game studios.

Jason stepped out of the room.

TVGS community members will be presenting at the Start Up Tech Valley event, including Taro and possibly Jason.

Jason returned.

Jamey also sees this as an opportunity to reach out to potential board members and to ask the community for assistance. Jamey will be collecting things to ask. Action item for the board members to propose questions for the presentation. He will be posting a copy of the presentation to be reviewed and to collect questions.

Taro reported on the TVGS membership. There are 16 paying members. There is one additional member who is free, who will not be continuing. There is one new paying member who is not able to join due to technical issues with TVCOG. There are also ten new free members, who are also not able to join due to technical issues.

The next item was the email to Holly regarding the agreement with TVCOG and the new membership system. Jamey has written an email up and will send it out. Taro reported that there have been two discrepancies found in the new system. He also stated that an update email should be sent out. Jamey and Taro have an action item get a MOU for the storage of TVGS memberships in the TVCOG system.

There was a discussion of whether free members should be counted for membership voting. Free members are not counted for voting purposes, as the TVGS by-laws state that only paying members should be counted for voting.

The next meeting was discussed and will likely be held on 2/10/2019.

Jamey requested photos from the board members for the Start-Up Tech Valley presentation, Abby would like to use the photos for the website. The board members have an action item to provide a photo.

The meeting was adjourned.

Frederika Edgington - Giordano

Frederika Edgington-Giordano

Secretary of the Board