

PMJA Board Meeting 4/8/2021

Members present: Johnathan, Brent, Ariel, Reginald, Gabrielle, LaToya

Search steps and timeline for a permanent ED

Johnathan reported on his conversation with Joy Lin from CPB. Discussion about a timeline. Is it unreasonable to aim for naming a new ED by Sept. 1. If we open up the search before the conference, Terry could be available to answer questions. Possibly having a search committee named earlier than that. We could include board members and non-board members on the committee. Gabrielle suggests we hire someone to help with the search in addition to having a search committee. Terry reported that John Barth, Margurite Nutter and Flo Rogers are all doing some of that work (through Livingston & Associates and on their own). Gabrielle – it sends a message to outsiders that we're taking this seriously. LaToya – also looking at this from a DEI aspect, it's better to have someone recruiting. Terry suggests that Livingston is a good place to start. Brent – I think it's a good idea, but I haven't seen them manage the administration part of a search. Someone outside of Livingston might be more likely to handle those admin pieces.

Step 1 – get some price quotes from recruitment/administration companies

What is the timeframe people think we could aim for having a new ED named? Gabrielle – I'm cautious about a final timeline, but would be comfortable with an opening date and a closing date for taking applications.

Suggestion: Gabrielle suggests we should be able to have a June/July/August opening. She suggests 60 day opening. LaToya – I'd like to see us open the search before the conference. Johnathan: Would we be comfortable with June 1 or June 15? Preference is for June 1.

Gabrielle has offered to interview Terry to record and play at the conference.

Brent: Question about who gets quotes. Christine can do that and then pass it off to a board member.

Brent moves that Terry & Christine get quotes from some search firms with the intention of opening the search in early June. Seconded by LaToya. Motion carries.

Quote from Suzanne Meyer

- Conference (recommend approving this piece) – Gabrielle moves that we engage Suzanne for the conference at the rate quoted. Seconded by Reggie. Motion carries.
- Communications (recommendation that we look for an intern to take on our social media and communications on a temporary basis). Gabrielle suggested she is willing to do the communications piece in the interim. We also could maybe look into an internship.

Holes in the conference agenda

- Main session on Wednesday (need ideas and suggestions for a main session here) Ideas: The role of freelancers in public media (including the editor corps), Editor Corps lessons learned, A mentorship session. Christine and Brent will put together a session around freelance and editor corps.
- Speaker registrations (Christine will provide an updated list of all speakers who have registered so everyone can nudge those who have not yet registered)
- We also have a number of sessions without panelists...as you add those, please notify Christine so she can get them put into Socio.

Bylaws Voting (April 14 for 24 hours) – All set to have the voting happen next week.

Editor of the Year Nominations - deadline is Friday night. The board will need to review the nominations and make a decision. Can we do this via Slack, or does the board want to hold a special meeting?

Brent suggested that we set another meeting to review proposals for a search firm and EOY nominations. April 22 at 1:15 Eastern time.

Other business: Christine suggested to the board that in the search process if they are considering hiring someone else as ED that she be included in the process in some way.

Brent pointed out that this is the final board meeting for Terry and thanked him for his service.

Brent moved adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. ET