



January 8, 2024

MINUTES

ISOC-NY – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG- January 8, 2024– 6:30pm

Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm

Attending: Liwayway (Dawn) Arce-Rodriguez, Jennie Bourne, Dave Burstein, Phil Davis, Douglas Frazier, Andrea Romaoli Garcia, Danny Glix, Namra Naseer, Greg Shatan, Joseph Shraibman, Polly Spain and Stuart Reid

1. Welcome statement to 1st 2024 BOD Meeting by Greg to all Board Members.
2. Review of Meeting Agenda.
3. Approval of Minutes from December 18th Board Meeting
4. Discussion of Board Committees and request for volunteers for each, as follows:
 - a. Election & Nominations
 - i. Stu (Interim Chair)
 - ii. Polly
 - iii. Doug
 - b. Membership, Outreach & Engagement
 - i. Dave (Interim Chair)
 - ii. Dawn
 - iii. Phil
 - iv. Doug
 - v. Stu
 - c. Budget & Finance
 - i. Joseph (Interim Chair)
 - ii. Stu
 - iii. Doug
 - d. Events & Programming
 - i. Jennie (Interim Chair)
 - ii. Dave
 - iii. Stu
 - iv. Doug
 - v. Danny

- e. Policy
 - i. Dave (Interim Chair)
 - ii. Andrea
 - iii. Namra
 - iv. Greg
 - v. Doug
 - vi. Stu
 - f. By-Laws
 - i. Greg (Interim Chair)
 - ii. Namra
 - iii. Dawn
 - iv. Joseph
 - v. Andrea
 - Suggestion that Committees meet and elect a permanent chair prior to next BOD meeting.
 - Suggestion that we get Joly to create Committee Membership email lists.
5. Discussion of Accessibility Special Interest Group. Greg will submit update report at next meeting.
6. Discussion of schedule for regular Membership and BOD Meetings.
- a. Suggestion that BOD Meetings be monthly (see #13 below for next BOD meeting date)
 - b. Suggestion that regular Membership meetings be held every other month. Membership & Outreach Committee to determine Membership Mtg schedule following next Membership meeting to be held Feb 13th via zoom. Dave, Stu and Doug will flesh out agenda.
 - c. Suggestion that we hire a marketing person (independent contractor) to work on membership outreach and promotion and pay \$1,600 fee for approximately 2.5 months' work (10% of current bank balance). Person would report to Membership & Outreach Committee and also support other Committees.
 - d. Suggestion that we could supplement funding for membership outreach with small grant (\$5,000) from ISOC Foundation. Funding would be used to create mailing lists and other outreach and promotions expenses.
 - e. Such "Beyond the Net Small Grants" from ISOC Foundation typically take 6 weeks. Dave will do short written proposal. All spending of any monies needs to be approved by the Board.
7. Newsletter Proposal. Dave will put the 1st Newsletter together and will send out draft before distribution.

- a. Content to include Membership & BOD Meeting Schedule, Events Calendar for the future. Open to input from BOD re other content
 - b. Will put under Membership Committee for ongoing production, including determining frequency.
8. Events/Podcast procedures proposal
- a. Will be put under the Events & Programming Committee for determination & implementation.
 - b. Suggestion that proposed events, podcasts and activities be posted and Board Members be given 5 days to object. If no objections, done. Hold over to next Board Meeting if objections. If urgent, Secretary may poll the Board for decision.
 - c. To include podcasts of Joly, *Community & Technology* radio show (WHCR-90.3FM), and other ongoing programming
 - d. All activities to be posted on website Calendar.
9. Set priorities for & request to ISOC global.
- a. Request transparency on spending and policy
 - b. Zero-based budgeting review of ISOC spending
 - c. Give stronger role to the Global South
 - d. Dave proposed that ISOC global be requested to provide 3% of its annual funding, estimated \$40-50 million from .org registration fees, to individual Chapters. This same proposal has been previously rejected by the ISOC global Board, though according to Dave they have new Board Members
 - e. Doug objection to 3% request. Suggestion we propose strategy to ISOC global to grow the funding pie, tapping into NYC-located financial resources, and that the NY Chapter take the lead in this initiative. NY Chapter would then request a specific (big number) amount for the NY Chapter individually for specific targeted purposes, rather than seek to raise funds for all chapters.
10. Proposal to decide first priority for Policy Committee
- a. Chapter research and provide information for policymakers on ACP (Affordability Connectivity Program) funding by federal government. Current funding set to expire in April. Skepticism expressed that federal funding capability not there.
 - b. Alternatively, that Policy Committee provide information on Interoperability as a tool for improving competition. For example, recent newspaper reports point to problems between Apple and Android messengers.
 - c. Doug notes that non-profit resident group, The Smart Community Initiative, Inc., of which both he and Stu are a part, is certified as an ACP Internet Service Provider in NY, probably the only such resident community group so authorized.
 - d. Suggestion that Chapter support this specific, NYC-based initiative, rather than attempt to influence federal spending.

- e. Suggestion that we involve Andrew Sullivan (ISOC global president) to help raise awareness and funding.
 - f. Policy Committee to make recommendation.
11. Proposal to have Sherry Antoine rejoin the Board.
- a. Dave: we have “open” board seats.
 - b. Greg: all Board Members must be duly elected. Chapter cannot unilaterally add people to the Board without an election.
 - c. Suggestion that we invite Sherry to join Board Committee (open to all Members) and to attend Board Meetings (also open to all Members)
12. Proposal to add Administrative Vice President position to current officers.
- a. Moot because Position already exists in By-Laws
 - b. Election Committee needs to review By-Laws for relevancy of all assistant titles and make recommendations for inclusion in next election
13. Next Board Meeting to be held on Feb 5th or Feb 12th. Greg will distribute doodle poll to ascertain preferred date for all.
14. Discussion of proposal to support ISOC Palestine Chapter’s request for statement on Internet problem with Palestine.
- a. Dave statement that Israel has cut off Internet and phones in Gaza. Also power to charge devices interrupted
 - b. Questions regarding the current state of Internet, phone and power interruptions as result of ongoing warfare
 - c. Questions and discussion around appropriateness of taking position on an active war.
 - d. Some concern that not making a statement is a statement.
 - e. Other concerns that we cannot take a side, and that it is a waste of time to take a position.
 - f. Suggestion that if Chapter is to condemn Internet/communications disruption by Israeli government we must include condemnation of other governments with problem areas in Africa, South America and other locations around the world
 - g. Suggestion that the entire world should have access to the Internet.
 - h. With no clear consensus on any statement, suggestion that none could be made.
15. Meeting adjourned: 8:18 pm