

NYSFAAA Region III Meeting
February 24, 2023
Venue: Le Moyne College

Meeting started at 12:41 PM.

Update from Peg Stearns, Executive Council Representative

- Exec Council met a few weeks ago
- NYSFAAA conference committee also scheduled to meet February 24th. Conference will be October 10-13th at the Albany Marriot, theme is “Keeping Things Moving.”
- TIC committee is looking for volunteers, please reach out to them if you’d like to help out
- Upcoming DEI training in March
- Novice Training to be held at Mercy College from June 5th-9th, cost \$550/person
- Upcoming SWT topic likely to be about FAFSA changes. 2425 FAFSA may not roll out on October 1st, more to come.
- HESC update: Everyone should send in college data surveys ASAP for 2324 even if official figures are not yet set—can be amended later.
- Next Exec Council meeting is in March

Treasurer’s Report from Cynthia Roach

- \$4869.76 available after bill from last meeting. Not including bill from today’s meeting.
- No revenue sharing as of yet.
- **MOTION** to approve Treasurer’s Report made by Kelly Kelly, seconded by Darrin Rooker. A vote was taken with all in favor, no oppositions and no abstentions

Approval of Minutes from December 2021 and December 2022 Region III meetings

- Proposal made by Darrin Rooker to add college goal/FAFSA completion amount spent to Dec 2022 minutes: \$1193.84, was not initially included.
- **MOTION** to approve both minutes as amended made by Darrin Rooker, seconded by Kelly Kelly. A vote was taken with all in favor, no oppositions and no abstentions.

Discussions during meeting

- Upcoming Region III Election Cycle info from Region Chair Janet Lafata: Nominations for Region III Exec Council Rep, Chair, Secretary, Treasurer roles with 2-year service beg. Summer 2023
- Positions that must be filled must be identified in March, at which point nominations are accepted. In April, obtain confirmation from nominees that they are willing to serve. In May, announcement of election results first to region and then to the rest of NYSFAAA
 - How to generate interest? Opened for discussion
 - Start with listserv announcement, then reach out to potential candidates if limited response.
 - Important to emphasize that candidates are not alone, people who have been in the roles before can and will help.
 - Outreach to new FA directors to get them involved in the region, community building/networking/happy hour

- Janet has physical manual from Max, goes back to 2004 as a physical binder. Peg proposes digitizing the materials, helpful in building the institutional memory. Can be updated on the regional website.
 - Region 2 has theirs published, can use as a template
 - Update in a more modern way
- Nominations for DEI Committee—not a regional office, it is a committee at the statewide level with representation from each region. Peg is currently serving in the role but needs to step back, hopes someone will step up to fill the position
 - Meets monthly or every two months. All remote.
 - Committee built a DEI statement to publish on the website, are now focusing on training to keep DEI front and center in people’s minds
 - No term to role, you would be on committee until you step back
 - Building expertise during involvement, don’t have to be an expert already
- Future Region III meetings to be held on Zoom/In person?
 - Winter months risk bad weather, Zoom may encourage increased attendance
 - There is value to meeting in-person at least sometimes, community-building
 - Perhaps no meeting July/Aug, 3 in person meetings (September, December, and April), the rest via ZOOM.
 - Maybe do it as a trial for a year, then check attendance numbers
 - What about meeting in-person with a Zoom option? Concerns about in-person attendance. Maybe not needed for only 3 in-person meetings per year.
 - Announce in person meeting dates as far ahead as possible
 - Will we have topics for every month’s meetings? We should schedule monthly, can be cancelled if no agenda topics are identified for that month
 - Every few meetings can have a training topic. Vendors may be willing to present. Provide training on hot topics as applicable. Solicit topics through regional listserv.
 - **MOTION** by Peg Stearns to schedule meetings monthly in Region III. 3 in person, rest Zoom, July/August off. Second by Kelly Kelly. A vote was taken, all in favor, no oppositions or abstentions.
- Updates from Regional Conference Committee by Kelly Kelly
 - Kelly and Sonya are in early stages with the program committee. Call for session proposals coming soon by email, will solicit topics of interest.
 - Working on booking Justin Draegar from NASFAA
 - Credential training and intro to leadership training sessions to be held day before conference
 - NYSFAAA has not purchased credentials this year. Possible changes to who can instruct credential sessions after loosened pandemic restrictions
 - Kelly will reach out if more help is needed from region
- FAFSA completion events- “FAFSA Queen” Sonya will not be available for Syracuse trainings in the future. Need to transition someone into the role, Sonya is very closely involved with the advisors in the school district.
 - The three largest Syracuse high schools have the newest counselors, need the most help

- Is there a need for a regional committee for FAFSA completion?
 - There are many different organizations involved beyond NYSFAAA
 - Jordan LeClair does a lot of work with county schools for FAFSA filing as part of Onondaga CC recruitment
 - Importance of working together without stepping on toes. A committee of all the different partners at the table could be helpful. Can bring in Region III support to existing efforts.
 - Concerns about NYSFAAA showing partiality to certain schools, perhaps a regional affiliation of schools working together on this effort.
- FAFSA simplification round table
 - Questions on need analysis change. Confirmation that even with negative SAI, awards cannot exceed COA. Negative SAI used to designate higher Pell eligibility.
 - Changes to FAFSA formulas coming, no more auto-zero and simplified needs
 - Questions on how SAI will show up on the SAR/ISIR, TBD
 - Change in FAFSA parent to parent providing higher support, not custodial. Unclear how Number in Household will be determined, waiting on clarification to be announced.
 - Reporting of FWS on fiscal/calendar year basis to COD, also more info to come

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 2:18 by Janet Lafata, seconded by Peg Stearns. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rocky Weintrob

Attendance:

Darrin Rooker	Northeast College of Health Sciences
Peg Stearns	Syracuse University (retired)
Patty Gogola	Hamilton College
Diane Barrett	Hamilton College
Janice Scheutzow	Hamilton College
Sonya Griggs	On Point for College
Robin Zinger	Le Moyne College
Donna Shapiro	Le Moyne College
Kelly Kelly	Le Moyne College
Janet Lafata	Syracuse University
Jordan LeClair	Onondaga Community College
Tanya Rodriquez	Onondaga Community College
Cynthia Roach	ProEd Services
Rocky Weintrob	Binghamton University