

NAJC Membership Committee Meeting

Minutes September 26th, 2016

First membership committee meeting attendance: Eiko Eby, Tracey Suzuki, Vivian Rygnestad

Reviewed our responsibility as the membership committee to: recruit members, keeping the membership, ensuring that members are in good standing, and reviewing new applicants for suitability.

It was brought to our attention that the Nikkei National Museum has not fulfilled the requirements for full membership. In particular, they are required to pass a motion of support for the NAJC.

It was also noted that the Membership committee is supposed to have 5 members.

Action:

Eiko to email Ken regarding the Nikkei National Museum application for Full Member status.

Try to recruit an eastern member for the committee or someone who has a long history with the NAJC.

Discussion on the membership fees and the categories. It was discussed that we need to recruit more individual members but the main stumbling block is that there is little perceived value to the membership.

There was a lot of discussion around youth and enticing youth and young leaders. The fact that youth can get a subsidy to the AGM without being members was brought up. Plus the young leaders get a large amount of money for their conference with no perceived benefit to the NAJC and the JC communities.

To increase membership, there needs to be more perceived value to being a member of the NAJC. What can membership give you? Suggestion for a new fund for individual members. And we need to make it easier to register.

Action Items:

Definition of Young Leaders made clearer (under age 39)

Redefine Youth/Young Leaders category of membership to be \$25

Youth and Young Leaders must be members of the NAJC to apply for grants or subsidies for the AGM and Youth Leadership Conference. There is some expectation that if Young Leaders get a subsidy that they give back to the JC community.

Recommend that an Individual Members Fund be established like the Community Development Fund. This fund is accessible to Individual Members (Individual Development Fund) for purposes of advancing themselves, attending the AGM, or activities to further the JC community. To be established further with criteria. Maximum \$500 per individual.

Recommend that individuals must be members of the NAJC to apply for the SEAD Grant. Would this require a change to the bylaws?

To make a membership brochure with benefits and membership form at the back.

Vivian to ask Sherri about fans and Lorene about pens.

Revise membership form.

Website membership form should have fillable fields. Signature not required. Payment easy. Make it easy. Payment is your declaration or agreement.

Have NAJC booth at Powell Street Festival (August 5-6, 2017) in conjunction with Arts Committee. Membership brochures and swag given out.

Below is the proposed budget for the Membership Committee for 2016-17. In the Strategic Plan under 'To Strengthen the JC Identity', the creation of a grant for Individual Members of the NAJC will help foster this. Along these lines, it was felt that only members should be allowed to access the SEAD which would increase membership. It is a focus of the strategy 'To Strengthen Member Organizations and Communities' by reviewing and expanding individual memberships. We believe efforts at the Powell Street Festival and in an Individual Grant will accomplish this. 'To Strengthen Communication', we want to have a Membership Brochure that will advertise the benefits of membership with the application form right on it. We also want to make the application process easier. 'To Establish Effective Fundraising and Operations', it was felt that a NAJC table at the Power Street Festival in conjunction with the Arts Committee would enhance the presence. It was suggested that distributing NAJC swag would be appropriate.

Budget:

Powell Street Festival (3 membership Committee members travel to man booth)	\$3000
Brochure	\$1000
Swag through 4Imprint (pens, eco bags, fans)	\$2000
Individual Development Fund 10 x \$500	\$5000
TOTAL FOR 2016-17	\$11,000

Next meeting in late November (tentative agenda)

1. Update from NEB meeting
2. Review Registration Form
3. Brochure – discuss benefits and how this might look
 - a. Getting brochures out to local organizations with announcement of the new fund
4. Video?
5. Survey – to find out what people might like to see to join the NAJC (Non-members and organizations surveyed)
6. Swag – look at prices and ideas