

COMARA Board Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2020

Attendees:

Maury Mechanick	Richard Rankin
Ron Garlow	Geza Serenyi
Fred Kelly	
Ron Johnson	
David Lee	

Adoption of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

Following adoption of the agenda, the Board approved the Minutes for the November 12, 2019, meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report covered the time period from November 12, 2019 through March 3, 2020, and consisted of two reports, one for year-end 2019 and the other for year 2020 through March 3.

For year-end 2019, the final results were as follows: Total expense came to \$3,430 (which was \$370 below budget) and total income was \$3,665, with 123 paying members. The Fidelity Account at year-end 2019 was \$47,023 and total assets were \$53,021. As of March 3, 2020, Fidelity Brokerage account balance was \$43,427, plus a PayPal balance of \$453, and a Checking Account balance of \$4,839, for a total of \$48,719.

Expenses through March 3, 2020, for calendar year 2020 came to \$893, consisting of Webmaster Honorarium (1 quarter - \$625) and PO Box Rental of \$268. Consistent with the pattern over the past several years, paying members at this time is relatively low (6 members/\$175).

LMCO Benefits

No new developments to report.

Newsletter, Web Hosting, etc.

The recent difficulties with the web site, occasioned at least in part due to the lapse of payment for the domain name, were the focus of extension discussion and concern. The fact that the web site could be accessed using certain browsers but not others, including considerable difficulty with accessing the website using the basic Google search engine was identified as a major priority to remedy. The need to more seriously look at shifting to another web hosting company, to transition to a https-based website (for greater security and compatibility with various search engines) and the incorporation of editing features via Word Press were stressed. *(Secretary's note: Following the meeting the situation deteriorated further, with complete loss of access to the website, and urgent efforts are now underway to move to a different web hosting company and to make the necessary changes to the website design as noted above.)*

Membership Report

As noted above, membership renewals remain fairly low year-to-date, but this is standard for this time of year. Concern was expressed that difficulty in accessing the website would make it difficult for those members that desired to pay their dues would be able to do, particularly via PayPal.

2020 Social Events

At this point the primary social event for the year will be the Fall Social/Annual Meeting, likely to occur in late September. (*Secretary's note: Given the situation with Covid-19, the annual IRAA/COMARA picnic, normally held at Seneca Lake State Park, has been cancelled.*) The current plans are to return to That's Amore, the venue for the past two years, with more specific details to be addressed at the next meeting.

National Electronic Museum

No further developments to report.

Legacy Project Update

No further developments to report

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The next regular Board meeting will take on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 11:30 am at the home of Maury Mechanick (8905 Montgomery Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD) (or, alternatively, if necessary, as a telephonic conference call).

The meeting adjourned about 12:30 pm.

Submitted by:

Maury Mechanick