

Southern Association of Forensic Scientists – Executive Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2024 - Teams

Present: President Allison Galassie; Treasurer Tanja Kopp; Secretary Karlie McManaman; President-Elect Amanda Venable; Past-President Kristen Fripp; Members-at-Large April Brown, Laura Lawrence, and Meredith Lanford

Next Meeting: April 22, 2024 (at Annual Meeting)

Meeting called to order at 12:30pm, meeting adjourned at 1:22pm

- 2024 Chattanooga Meeting Update
 - 59 current registrants, 13 are members (may not establish quorum)
 - 8 vendors registered – that number is down but this is a universal problem
 - 0 student poster submissions or registrants – will pull reception and student info panel off the agenda
 - Cups and stress balls being ordered for swag bags
 - AAFS RAC money still pending, will likely not be received until after the meeting
 - Will order 3 projectors for use at future meetings to save on AV costs
 - Not organizing a group event on Tuesday evening but will provide lists of nearby things to do at check-in
 - Hotel room block is full – Allison is still waiting for a room list to compare to our registrant list
 - Overflow hotel is set (Moxy) and listed on our website
- Sign up for registration table
 - File in Teams channel – all Board members should sign up for one shift
- Scholarship/Awards Selections
 - No submissions
- Nominations Update
 - Nominations received so far:
 - Tanja Kopp – Treasurer
 - Erin Tracy – Member-at-Large
 - Board members will start nudging peers to apply
- Membership Update
 - Applications through website have not been coming into president-elect email since November. Some people have paid application fees or notified Board members that they have applied, so Amanda is piecing together a list as completely as possible.
 - 37 current applicants – Board will review to see if we notice any missing
 - Lawyer who assists in NC labs applied but doesn't meet membership criteria – will refund her application fee
 - Three VCU students have applied – all will be approved
 - Christopher Twene
 - Iona Whitaker

- Kimberly Lettner
- 2027 contract signed at The Beach House on Hilton Head
 - Smaller meeting spaces, federal per diem dates, reasonable F&B minimum, tiki bar
 - Can host events on their beach