

NANOG Board of Directors

September 17, 2021/Board Conference Call

1:00 p.m. EDT

Tina Morris, Chair	Edward McNair, Executive Director
David Siegel, Vice Chair	Darrieux Harvey, NANOG Staff
Benson Schliesser, Secretary	Claudia Bristol, NANOG Staff
Vincent Celindro, PC Liaison	
Catherine Gurinsky, PC Chair	

Start time: 1:05 p.m. EDT

Roll Call / Call to order:

Roll call was taken with all present except Susan Forney, and Patrick Gilmore expressing regrets. The meeting was called to order.

Agenda Review & Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest:

The agenda was reviewed with no requested changes, or conflicts of interest to report.

Information Item:

Our Board Member Susan Forney has passed away, therefore leaving her Board seat and the role of Treasurer vacant. Susan also served as the chair of the Mentorship Committee and served on the Compensation Committee. All seats are currently vacant.

Motion to honor Susan's Commitment to NANOG:

The Board unanimously and unreservedly agreed that:

The NANOG Board of Directors would like to honor the contributions made by the late Susan Forney to our NANOG Community and our industry as a whole. Susan's contributions include speaking globally on issues related to network engineering, mentoring and encouraging both women and men, and serving as a NANOG Board Member.

In an effort to honor Susan's contribution, and according to her family's wishes, NANOG will be making a contribution to the John Muir Trust charity in her name.

Vacant Seat Options Review:

The by-laws are clear that if a Board seat becomes vacant with less than two month remaining before elections, the seat will remain open until the election. Susan Forney passed away September 8, 2021 and the election will be held November 2, 2021, so her seat will remain open until the election. The newly elected Board member will fill the seat immediately but will not have voting privileges until January.

Treasurer Appointment:

Vincent Celindro was unanimously appointed as Treasurer through 2021.

Compensation Committee member appointment:

Cat Gurinsky was unanimously appointed to serve on the compensation committee through 2021.

Mentorship Committee Chair appointment:

Vincent Celindro was unanimously appointed to serve as Chair of the Mentorship Committee through 2021.

Staff Report:

NANOG 83 - The Executive Director, Edward McNair, reported that NANOG 83 had 150 total attendee registrations, 111 in person and 39 virtual as of that morning. Staff negotiations with the hotel venue resulted in the removal of food and beverage minimums, as well as room penalties. The marketing team will be executing a new strategy to increase attendee registrations starting next week.

Program - Talk solicitation continues for NANOG 83; currently there are 5 accepted talks, and 16 talks pending.

Outreach - The ISOC MoU has been signed. A planned outreach event with the City of Montgomery has been postponed due to high COVID-19 infections in that area.

Marketing - The Vint Cerf video is getting a lot of traction. The Geoff Huston video will be released next, followed by Scott Bradner. Leonard Kleinrock has also agreed to be interviewed. We are highlighting the more historical contributors because many of the newer engineers don't know them. We are working on a piece to recognize the achievements of Jon Postel. If you know anyone that personally knew him, we would like to get in touch with them.

Sponsorship – The Board reviewed the current NANOG 83 sponsorship sales and pipeline.

Elections – The Elections Committee has received three nominations from the community and are waiting to hear back from those potential candidates if they accept the nomination. No individual nomination forms have been completed as of the writing of this report. The election page will be updated with information regarding the vacancy left by the loss of Susan Forney.

Financials – The Board reviewed the year-to-date net losses and discussed cash balances. The Board unanimously agreed to empower the Executive Director to withdraw funds from NANOG’s investment accounts, and to instruct our financial manager to rebalance the investment portfolio accordingly.

Program Committee Update:

The Program Committee Chair, Cat Gurinsky, reported that there have been 5 talks accepted, 6 submitted, and 12 are pending. Cat provided details regarding keynote speakers and other potential speakers.

Education Committee Update:

David Siegel reported that the committees previous two meetings were focused on how to deal with those wanting to take classes but not in person. It was decided that virtual training would have to be developed separate from in-person training. RFPs are close to going out, for determining development costs. Dave feels the committee is making good progress each week.

Mentorship Committee Update:

Edward McNair reported that the committee had decided not to have their last meeting. Susan had previously made a presentation of a mentor training document, and the committee is continuing to work on this. Edward stated this document is something Susan developed for NANOG and did not contain material from an employer or any third party.

Elections Discussion:

Edward McNair reported on progress by the Elections Committee. Michael Starr was selected as the moderator for the nominee panel grilling. Kendra Pignotti was selected to announce the results. A change to the Candidate Page was decided to be “Open Seat (previously held by Susan Forney)”. Request for Community questions to be emailed out on October 5th with a follow-up email on the 15th to have available for selection by the 22nd. This provides for the interim week to review and edit the questions for in-person delivery.

Other Business:

The Board retreat was planned for New Orleans, but with the hurricane damage, the hotel is low on staff. Discussion and consideration of other options was deferred until the next meeting.

Adjournment:

End time: 2:05 p.m. EDT