

Meeting Minutes

*Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Thursday, February 22, 2024*



Attendees

Board – in-person: Linda Amador, Evelyn Angelle, Hami Arrington, Sidney Barrau, Tracy Beam, Juliet Breeze, Ryan Bucholtz, Sue Burnett, Adam Drutz, Todd Gregory, Jarin Hansen, Bruce Macklin, Jeff Miers, Bruce Miller, Niloufar Molavi, Brett Mossman, Praveen Naik, Kathy Pritchard, Roland Sauermann, Sandeep Singhal, Laura Tibodeau, Marc Vandermeer, Greg Vesey, Alan Vu, Carol Warley

Board – via Zoom: Camilo Amezcuita, Pierre Aristide, Kimberly Barta, Nick Buckner, Bob Franklin, Richard Heo, Ronald Holloway, Preeti Jain, Janette Marx, Mark Odom, Sandra Oliver, Jamie Pierce, Gregg Piontek, Lees Rodionov, David Skinner, Ryan Spangler, Larry Stephens, Dave Stover, Bret Vandervoort, Melinda Yee

Staff – in-person: Camila Aguiar, Echo Blevins, Joe Burke, Ne’Cole Caldwell, Becky Coulter, Christina Craft, Carla Crowe, De Jones, Patty Lalonde, Jim McCaskill, Marlene Meyers, Ryan Purser, Andra Richardson, Tiffany Spates, Karen St. Fort

Staff – via Zoom: Tania Daniel, Monica Espinosa, Cecily Messer, Becky Neeley, Jordan Parker, Liisa Williams, Kay Wright

Chairwoman Niloufar Molavi called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. She opened the floor for questions or comments on the Minutes from the September 7, 2023 meeting that were sent in the pre-read email. The January financials were also sent in the pre-read. There being no questions, Niloufar asked for a motion to approve the minutes and the financials; motion carried.

Niloufar introduced Juliet Breeze to give the Nominations Report. Juliet reported three resignations and five nominations. The three resignations are: Helen Conte, Comerica Bank - Helen served three years which was her plan and wants to provide an opportunity for another senior leader to serve; Ian Ord, Fifth Ring. Because Ian is based in Aberdeen, he wants to step down to enable their market leader in Houston to serve; Matt Sasso, CNA Insurance, is no longer with the company and relocated to Fort Worth.

The five nominations are: Ryan Bucholtz, Vice President, Elastomers & Resins – ExxonMobil Product Solutions Company; Todd Gregory, Regional Director, Americas – Fifth Ring; Dan Kimmel, Vice President, Supply & Trading – Marathon Petroleum Corporation; Brett Mossman, Managing Director – Accenture and Roland Sauermann, President – SGV International, LLC. Juliet called for a motion to approve the nominations; motion carried.

Niloufar announced that Jack Kosakowski (President & CEO of JA USA) is retiring after 50 years with JA on June 30th and that Jack Harris, the current CEO of 3DE National has been named as successor.



Niloufar introduced Camila Aguiar to speak about 3DE. She recorded an interview with several class of 2024 students at Austin High School last week. The students introduced themselves and answered four questions: What have you learned? What about the coaches? What are your plans? Would you recommend 3DE? They all had very positive things to say about 3DE. Echo Blevins with 3DE thanked the board for being involved in the program.

Niloufar introduced Andrea Richardson, Sr. Special Events Manager, to give an update on Special Events. Andrea introduced this year's JA Trivia Bowl theme, *Under the Sea*, led a round of trivia, and encouraged their companies to participate in the JA Trivia Bowl.

The JA Hall of Achievement will be at the Post Oak Hotel again this year on October 23rd. Andrea shared the nominee bios and nomination forms for laureate selection and asked members to nominate other candidates for the committee to consider. She also reviewed the Special Events calendar with everyone and asked for their participation.

Board Member Marc Vandermeer came forward to speak about his tournament and encourage participation. The Marc Vandermeer Golf Classic presented by Apache Industrial and S&H Manufacturing will be held on April 22nd at South Shore Harbour Country Club.

Tiffany Spates, Sr. Program Manager at Capstone was introduced to give an overview of the JA BizTown vision and upgrades. JA BizTown is changing focus and removing the burden of some of the pre-visit activities that teachers have been expected to complete. The team is also making changes to the simulation that will offer students more teamwork and collaboration opportunities and incorporate group activities. Students will be encouraged to fulfill a new Citizen Mission focused on personal prosperity, planet, and people. Students will receive an award based on the number of badges they receive throughout the day.

Niloufar introduced Evelyn Angelle to provide an update on the Phillips 66 | JA Discovery Center project. Evelyn shared that we have \$20M in pledges and assets for the *Building Tomorrows* campaign and have spent less than \$500K. Evelyn asked the members, if possible, to consider paying their pledges in the next 6-9 months since we anticipate construction starting in the fall of this year. The goal is to complete the project by October 1, 2025, but we know the permitting process can push that date so December 2025 is a more likely move in date.

The site we are trying to acquire is the old Wells Fargo building at 290 and 43rd Street. We haven't closed yet, but we've done the environmental study. The only potential snag is there is a tenant on the fifth floor that Wells Fargo is trying to secure an early lease termination agreement. We can't close the deal until they agree to vacate by the closing date.

Evelyn showed the site map of the property as well as some exterior designs.

Niloufar introduced Joe Burke and asked him to provide a recap of the fall strategy sessions and discuss the implications. Joe shared that there was broad consensus that the four critical enablers identified in the sessions were key to the organization's ability to expand 3DE implementation. Regarding sustainable funding streams, Joe reported that he has met with several key legislators and the commissioners of the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and everyone has expressed interest in helping districts with funding to be able to adopt the 3DE model.

Joe shared the work the team has done related to bolstering the case for a district to adopt 3DE which now includes delineating the economic incentives to doing so.

Joe also shared the work that the Marketing Committee is doing to address the future needs for volunteers and case partners, and the work the Talent & Compensation Committee is doing to address creating the talent and organizational capacity needed to scale 3DE

Niloufar reminded everyone that the annual meeting will be June 20th. She adjourned the meeting at 12:44 p.m.

Recorded by: Joe Burke

Respectfully submitted: William Swanstrom Secretary