CALL TO ORDER, 11:04
Roll Call
Present: Jimmy Noriega (President), Laura MacDonald (VP for Conferences), Amy Cook (Treasurer), Noe Montez (VP for Publications), Katie Zien (VP Awards), Shamell Bell, Michelle Liu Carriger, Sukanya Chakrabarti, Laura Edmonson, Eric Glover, Paola Hernandez, Lilian Mengesha, Jonah Winn-Lenetsky, Mysia Anderson (GSC Rep).

Administrators Present: Aimee Zygmomski (Executive Director)

Not present: Angela Marino, Cláudia Tatinge Nascimento (Secretary), Nicole Hodges Persley

Adoption of February 2023 EC Meeting Minutes
Approved unanimously.

Opening Remarks (Jimmy Noriega, President)
Reminder of board protocol and expectations at a board meeting. Re-introductions of board members.

President discussed labor demands of volunteer board members and other ASTR membership. How can we find ways to lessen the demand on volunteers and lessen burnout? How might we enhance the committees that are still a part of ASTR? One suggestion might be to have an EC be on each standing committee. Reminder that ASTR staff labor is less than one full-time person.

Update on Conference (Laura MacDonald, VP for Conferences)
Plans for Providence are ongoing, and everything is going well. Plenary and Working sessions were blind-reviewed and program committee chose final participants. Working session participant applications open May 1. Encourage peers and students to apply to working sessions. Program chair Harvey Young will be working on sponsorships/fundraising of targeted institutions to sponsor receptions. We have selected Seattle as a 2024 location, and we'll need to release a call for program chairs, so please encourage colleagues to apply.

Conference Resource and Labor Task Force (Katie Zien for the committee)
Task force was interested in doing more research on alternative models for running a conference. How do we propose these changes and keep ASTR’s unique model? Brainstorming and research will follow. Importance of sharing information with larger membership to help with transparency on why choices are made. There are a lot of membership expectations, and committee wants to make sure that we explain why things happen. Conversations will continue over the next board cycle.

Action item: Awards qualifications (Katie Zien, VP for Awards)
Background of motion: it was suggested to Katie that those who submit to awards should be members of ASTR. Katie proposed that at least the publication awards should be members at the time of submission. Discussion was held around how having a submitter be a member shows commitment to our field and frustration from members that some previous award winners are
not/have never been members and do not even attend ceremony. Alternative viewpoints were about signals the organization is sending about inclusivity.

**MOTION:** To require that people who submit to the publication awards be members of ASTR at the time of submission.
Yes 11
Abstain 2
Motion passes.

Motion will take effect next awards cycle starting in February 2024.

**Action item: FY2024 budget (Amy Cook, Treasurer)**

Treasurer provided a general range of numbers in relation to conference and administration/membership costs, including that it costs $329 per person to make the conference happen. Just to feed everyone, it costs $157 per person. Even with the increase in registration rates, only 50% of attendees pay more than the cost of the food served over the course of the conference. It costs about $123,000 to run the organization each year without conference costs and our dues have averaged about $89,000. Tough balance between cutting costs and needs of members.

**MOTION:** To approve the FY2024 Budget (June 2023-May 2024) as well as the conference rates and membership rates for the 2023 Conference in Providence, RI.
Yes 13
Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion: State of the Profession Plenary (Jimmy Noriega, President)**
State of the profession plenary was just confirmed as a standing curation by the EC – as moved by the board meeting in November 2022. (There was a pilot for 2022’s conference). President would like to suggest that an outgoing EC member should chair this committee so that their term’s experience and participation on the EC would guide choices and curation of the committee. Nicole Hodges Persley has been tasked with chairing the 2023 conference plenary.

EC brainstormed suggestions to send to Nicole and committee.

Shamell Bell and Mysia Anderson offered to work with Nicole on the committee.

**Action item: Board size (President/Treasurer)**
In addition to discussion of board size – President would like to have at least one EC member on every committee. Helps with committees having to write a lot of reports and also having an EC member at the board meeting so that they can answer questions without having to go back to the committee.

**MOTION:** To decrease the number of general Executive Committee Board Members from eleven to six (reduction does not include the six Officer positions).
*If passed, the Executive Committee would consist of: President, VP for Conferences, VP for Publications, VP for Awards, Treasurer, Secretary, five EC members elected for three-year terms, and one Graduate Student elected for a one-year term. Please refer the November 2022 and February 2023 meeting minutes for previous discussions.*
Yes 12
Abstain 1

Motion passes.

**Discussion: Other proposed bylaw changes (Jimmy Noriega, President)**
President went through bylaws suggestions. Executive Director reminded board that bylaw changes are part of the normal process of a nonprofit and that nonprofits should review and update bylaws as organization grows and changes. Discussion around each proposed bylaw change. President asked for committee members to join Executive Director in final crafting of bylaws. Jonah Winn-Lenetsky and Katie Zien volunteered.

Next Steps: committee will review and craft final proposed by-law language. Executive Director will submit to non-profit lawyer for review. Final draft of proposed by-laws language will be sent to EC for electronic vote, and then presented to General Membership at business meeting in Providence for electronic vote following the conference.

**Discussion: Fundraising and lifetime membership drive (President/Treasurer)**
Discussion around lifetime membership to suggest either EC members to join and ask others to join. Some EC members noted that their public institution will not pay for membership dues. Laura MacDonald brought up that another smaller membership organization asked scholars to donate their honoraria that they might receive for outside speeches, etc directly to ASTR instead of keeping it. President encouraged everyone to solicit lifetime member prospects.

2:00pm  ADJOURN