

# Langley Research Center Alumni Association

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

### Tuesday, April 12, 2022

**Call to Order and Meeting Overview:** The President, Dan Palumbo, called the April 12, 2022, Zoom Board of Directors meeting of the Langley Research Center (LaRC) Alumni Association, Inc. (LAA) to order at 1:18 PM.

**Attendance:** A quorum (15) of voting members was present: Dan Palumbo, Vicki Crisp, Dick Hueschen, Rick Ross, Mike Marcolini, Olaf Storaasli, Ed Prior, Damodar Ambur, Dave Hinton, Domenic Maglieri, Doug Morris, Duncan McIver, Charles Laney, Manjula Ambur, and Wes Goodman. The following non-voting member was also in attendance: Melanie Robinson.

**President's Report:** The President, Dan Palumbo, reviewed old business. He reported that we completed a successful test of the hybrid meeting capability from the NACA room. Dan proposed that the Board hold a hybrid meeting for the May 10<sup>th</sup> meetings, with around 10 Board members participating from the NACA room and the other participants joining via Zoom as usual. There were no objections. Melanie Robinson said she will arrange for the 10 one-day visitor badges. Dan said he would provide a list of those who will need the one-day visitor badge. For those participating from the NACA room, please allow enough time for Badge and Pass to process the badges.

Melanie said she is checking with Michelle Sowden, head of the NASA Badge and Pass Office, to see when we can resume the six-month badges. Melanie is also checking with Center management to find out when the limit of 50 meeting attendees will be lifted. That limit won't be a problem for the May meeting but would be a concern for any future meetings that have more than 50 participants. Until that cap is lifted, Melanie suggested limiting the number of six-month badges to the first 20 people and allowing at least one week prior to the meeting for the badge requests to be processed.

**Secretary's Report:** The Secretary, Rick Ross, reported that the minutes of the April meetings have been circulated and updated. Olaf made a motion to accept the minutes, Wes seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed. The minutes will be posted on the LAA website.

Rick reported that the correct number for a quorum is ten, not nine as previously reported. Article IV of the LAA By-Laws states that the Board consists of the Executive Committee plus the Members-at-Large, while Article VII, which was updated in January 2022, states that the chairs of standing committees are Board members. It appears that the intent was to identify standing committee chairs as Board members, but that Article IV had not been updated to reflect that change. If that interpretation is correct, we would have 19 distinct Board members, so at least 10 members would be needed for a quorum. Dan will maintain a list of suggested changes to the By-Laws and an ad hoc committee will be established at the end of the year, if needed, to consider and implement these changes.

Rick added that the hybrid meeting test went well and that feedback from the participants was positive. Two suggestions for further improvement would be to use the projector instead of the 65" TV and to use an external microphone with the Poly Studio smart webcam. However, the audio quality would still be acceptable if we are unable to use an external microphone.

**Vice President and Programs Chair's Report:** The Programs Chair, Vicki Crisp, announced that Ricky Butler will be presenting in May, but we have not yet received his biography. Melanie Robinson said she would contact him about the bio. The current schedule for the remainder of the year is:

- June – Joel Levine will be presenting, hopefully from the NACA room.
- July – LAA picnic.
- August – Bobby Braun will be presenting.
- September – Vicki is trying to get Rich Antcliff and his son, Kevin, to present on the transition from the public to the private sector and what they brought from NASA into their next careers. Right after retirement, Rich accepted a position as the Interim Director for the REaKTOR Technology Innovation Center. Kevin left NASA to become the Product Director for Xwing, a startup company focusing on fully autonomous aerial vehicles.
- October – Geoff Tennille will be presenting on IT security in the home. Mike Marcolini suggested including a discussion on how to stay ahead of the hackers as part of the presentation.
- November – Shane Dover and Jill Marlowe will be discussing how they created changes at Langley and how NASA tapped them to apply these approaches to the Agency for new aircraft capability and partnering (Shane) and enterprise digital solutions (Jill).
- December – LAA winter luncheon.
- Next year – Vicki is trying to get Mark Lewis to present on the future of hypersonics. Kathy Ferrare suggested a presentation on the Center's revitalization effort (ViTAL).

**Treasurer's Report:** On behalf of the Treasurer, Geoff Tennille, Dan Palumbo stated that Kathy Ferrare will be doing the audit for LAA and she will be making suggestions for improvements. All funds are accounted for, but it is difficult to follow the paperwork.

Dan stated that LAA has now received its 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, which required that LAA establish new accounts with Langley Federal Credit Union (LFCU). As a result, members will need to establish new direct transfer capabilities using the new account, if desired.

After a lengthy discussion on sending emails to delinquent members, Mike Marcolini and Dick Hueschen agreed to meet with Geoff Tennille to develop a plan to send emails to the membership before June. Dick will forward Geoff's draft email regarding delinquent members to Mike for his review.

**Communications Officer's Report:** The Communications Officer, Dick Hueschen, reported that the obituaries will be sent to Olaf for the website. Wes Goodman asked if we read obituaries for spouses of retirees. Dick said we have not done so to date. Wes said Tony Pototzky's wife recently passed. Dick will ask, during the communications reports, if anyone knows of a spouse or child of alumni that has passed.

**Membership Committee Report:** The Membership Chair, Mike Marcolini, had nothing else to report.

**Hall of Honor Committee Report:** The Hall of Honor (HoH) Chair, Duncan McIver, reported that the selection process, led by Julie Williams-Byrd, is nearly complete. The number of selectees has been narrowed from the original set of candidates. Results are scheduled to be reported to the HoH Operations Committee by April 22 and by May to the Center Director; Julie is working to establish the date. Melanie Robinson is leading the effort to plan for another HoH

event, currently scheduled for July, working with Kathy Ferrare to develop the preliminary schedule.

**LAA Website Committee Report:** The Website Chair, Olaf Storaasli, reported that website is working well. This is our 1<sup>st</sup> year anniversary with the new website. There are no known security issues.

Doug Morris asked about how to submit the form for applying for LAA membership. Olaf explained that the form can either be submitted electronically or mailed in.

**New Business:** None.

**Adjournment of the Board Meeting:** Dan Palumbo adjourned the meeting at 2:20 PM.

**Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is planned to be a hybrid meeting, with a limited number of Board members participating from the NACA room and everyone else participating via Zoom. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 1:00 PM. Call-in information will be sent to members in advance of the meeting, and all Board members are encouraged to participate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Ross, LAA Secretary