Wild Animal Initiative Board Meeting

07/08/20

In attendance:
Emily Hatch (President)
Flor Serna (Treasurer)
Josh You (Secretary)
Michelle Graham (Executive Director)

Agenda:
I. Organizational updates
   A. Wild Animal Initiative (WAI) has hired a new operations coordinator, Tanaiia Hall.
   B. WAI is working on implementing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion resources from Encompass. This involves assessing Global Diversity & Inclusion Benchmark (GDIB) metrics for WAI and prioritizing the metrics on which WAI scores the lowest.
      1. WAI will review the language of the equity statement on the website to ensure that it reflects and codifies WAI’s commitment to anti-racism.
   C. WAI has raised $119,486.37 year-to-date. This compares to $94,566.11 at the same time last year.

II. Board expansion
   A. WAI has advertised an open position on the board as board president. However, since it is likely that a position for board president would attract fewer applicants than for a board seat generally, WAI will update the language of the job posting. The current president, Emily Hatch, wishes to step down due to time constraints, but as an alternative other board members could assume some administrative tasks that Emily currently handles while Emily stays on as president.
   B. Board reviewed a document detailing WAI’s plan for recruiting, evaluating, and onboarding new board candidates.

III. Board agreement
   A. Discussed a draft of a board member agreement detailing board members’ obligations. Board members will review the draft and leave any feedback over the coming week.

IV. Financial reporting/oversight
   A. Attendees discussed what financial information the Executive Director should prepare for board meetings. Future meetings will include statements describing cash flow and cash-on-hand.
B. WAI will establish a process for Flor Serna to review WAI’s financial records on a regular basis.

V. Effective altruism and anti-racism
   A. Attendees discussed how WAI can constructively engage with the effective altruism community on opposing racism within the community. This is a complex issue and the board and ED will continue this conversation at a later date.

VI. Voting items
   A. Approve board expansion process: Board unanimously approves.
   B. Adding Ignacio Moore to the Board of Wild Animal Initiative: Board unanimously approves.