**Minutes of American Taxation Association Trustee and Officer Meeting**

**New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Saturday, February 17, 2018**

**Officers and Trustees Present:**

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| **President** | Ben Ayers |
| **President Elect** | Kim Key |
| **Vice President** | Lynn Jones |
| **Vice President Finance** | John Barrick |
| **Treasurer** | Tracy Noga |
| **Secretary** | Blaise Sonnier |
| **Trustee-2018** | Michael Donohoe |
|  | Sean McGuire |
|  | David Weber |
| **Trustee-2019** | James Chyz |
|  | Katharine Drake |
|  | Michaele Morrow  Casey Schwab |
| **JATA Editor** | Connie Weaver |
| **JLTR Editor** | Roby Sawyers |
| **Webmaster** | Sonja Pippin |
| **Past President** | LeAnn Luna |

**Guests Present:**

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| John Robinson |  |

President Ben Ayers called the meeting to order at 7:45 AM on February 17, 2018. After a brief welcome and a review of the announcements in the agenda, he asked if there were any revisions or modifications to the minutes of the August 6, 2017 Trustees and Officers meeting. After a motion and a second, the minutes were approved as submitted by unanimous vote.

ATA Midyear Meeting Update

Lynn Jones presented a report on the midyear meeting. Attendance at the 2018 Midyear Meeting was up compared to prior years and the sessions so far have been well attended. One issue Lynn mentioned was the loss of one of the firm sponsors this year that will be discussed later during the meeting.

The group congratulated Lynn on a well-run and organized meeting.

JATA – Mid Year Update

Connie Weaver, Senior Editor of JATA, presented the Annual Editor Report for the Journal of the American Taxation Association for the year ended December 31, 2017. The report was made available to all in attendance at the meeting. A discussion followed regarding (i) the procedure for the submission of papers for the journal and the JATA conference and (ii) possibly revising the deadlines for next year’s conference to give more time between the receipt of reviews for conference submissions and the decision on papers accepted for the conference.

JLTR – Mid Year Update

Roby Sawyers, Senior Editor of JLTR, presented the 2017 Editor’s Report for the ATA Journal of Legal Tax Research. The report was made available to all in attendance at the meeting. As Roby noted in his written report, submissions were up to 13 in 2017 compared to 5 in 2016. He also observed that the quality of papers has increased.

ATA Doctoral Consortium

James Chyz, Chair of the Doctoral Consortium Committee, and Sean McGuire, Vice-Chair, were present to report on the ATA Doctoral Consortium. The written report was presented to those in attendance at the meeting. They were congratulated on a very successful event.

ATA Teaching and Curriculum Conference

Tracy Noga, Chair of the Tax Educators’ Conference, reported on the ATA Teaching and Curriculum Conference held the day before the beginning of the ATA Conference. The conference was well attended reaching near maximum capacity. The conference was a mix of speakers combined with hands on participatory events to keep those in attendance engaged. Comments on the structure and content of the meeting were positive by those in attendance.

Publications Committee

The Chair of the Publications Committee was unable to attend the meeting. On behalf of the Publications Committee, Ben brought up the issue of making JATA an open access journal available to all members of AAA as other journals have done. It was discussed that JLTR should also be made open access. After a motion and a second, it was approved by a unanimous vote that JATA and JLTR both be made open access to all AAA members.

Treasurer’s Report

Tracy Noga presented the 2018 Mid-Year Meeting Report, Statement of Operations, to those in attendance. As of November 30, 2017, ATA had unrestricted net assets of $239,489 and restricted assets of $48,165. The number of members for 2017-2018 is 708 compared to 700 and 711 for 2016-2017 and 2015-2016, respectively.

Nominations Committee

John Robinson reported that the Nominations Committee is continuing to put together a slate of officers / trustees for the annual meeting. He encouraged current officers and trustees to submit suggestions to the Nominations Committee.

Sponsorship Challenges & Opportunities

John Barrick led a discussion regarding the loss of a sponsor for this year’s ATA midyear meeting. After discussion, a strategy was developed to approach the firm through other avenues to regain its sponsorship in the future. A discussion was also held regarding increasing the sponsorship fee for future meetings.

Best Paper Awards for Regional Meetings

Ben mentioned that the organization was approached about sponsoring a best paper award for one of the regional meetings. After discussion, consensus was reached not to move the matter forward as no best papers awards are presented for any other region meeting or the ATA midyear meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 AM.

Blaise M. Sonnier, Secretary

American Taxation Association

March 27, 2018