December 7, 2015

Present: Jo Ellen Green Kaiser

Rory O’Connor

Lisa Rudman

Steve Katz

James Trimarco

Sharon Kyle

Antoinette June (joined late)

Absent:

Maureen Mitra (excused)

Maya Schenwar

Minutes:

1. Check-in:

2. **Discussion of Budget**

--grant discussion; good news is that we have the Wallace grant and looks like we will get Quixote money. All urged we continue to fundraise around race equity.

--race equity training—what are we getting for the money? Will the outcomes be delineated? What about post-conference work? How do we carry this work forward? Tie this to fundraising--resources we need to extend discussion past conference

Budget was approved by voice vote.

**2. AAN Update**

JGK: We are pursuing joint ventures with AAN like the Chartbeat deal. We stopped merger talks because AAN did not seem ready, able or willing to move in that direction. However, this effort is tabled, not completely dead. In the meanwhile, I am holding quarterly conversations with heads of other independent news orgs—maybe we can make something happen with them, esp if we grow;; the stronger we are, the better able we will be to work a deal.

James: Let’s take that opportunity to think about what we offer members and what we could offer members. Let’s also think meaningfully about who we might want to partner with.

**3. Nominating Committee**

JGK: Current CC members are overwhelmed with unusual personal/work responsibilities. Besides, it’s time for a refresh. We need to recruit new CC members, and for that we need nominating committee members.

No takers.

**4. Conference**

JGK describes current conference plan. People agree it sounds good; ask for marketing materials.

JGK asks what would excite members to stay on through Saturday lunch—for the TMC business meeting and to ensure they stay for Friday’s workshop?

Rory porposes organizing a collective statement vs fascism:

--10th anniversary: conditions that caused the TMC launch; similar today: put out a statement on the Saturday? Put out a call for all the media to call fascism what it is! Emergency situation! Requires a response if only one that sums up our ethics:

in this critical moment ask what we can do!

JGK agrees to follow up on this idea.

Meeting adjourns.