TAPS Council meeting notes Q2 2025

Meeting preamble

Attendance

Council members

All council members:

- Susan P
- Rachel W
- Rana A
- Mark G
- Jaala H
- Jon H
- Rebecca N

Community members

- Anne

Happenings since last meeting

Rebecca was voted in as Secretary

- (Previous meeting notes have the rest of the votes from Rana, Mark, Michael, Jaala, Jon, and Susan, voting yes)
- Rachel (01/09/2025): yes
- This became unanimously yes when Arwen left the council and Rebecca became Secretary on 01/16/2025.

Vote to remove Arwen from the council (she asked to step down)

Arwen had contacted Susan in writing and asked to step down from the council, but the council bylaws require the entire council to be notified in writing (and we couldn't get ahold of her) when leaving the council. We voted via email to "accept in this case a FB message to the chair of the council as official notification of [Arwen's] resignation from the council" and officially remove Arwen from the council.

- Susan (01/16/2025): yes
- Jaala (01/16/2025): yes
- Rachel (01/16/2025): yes
- Rebecca (01/16/2025): yes
- Michael (01/16/2025): yes
- Rana (01/16/2025): yes
- Mark (01/16/2025): yes
  This vote passed on 01/16/2025

Michael stepped down from the council (and as Vice Chair)

Michael stepped down from the council and as Vice Chair on 01/29/2025.

Jaala was voted in as Vice Chair

Mark (03/04/2025): yes
Rana (03/04/2025): yes
Rachel (03/04/2025): yes
Rebecca (03/10/2025): yes
Susan (03/14/2025): yes
Jon (03/14/2025): yes
This vote passed on 3/14/2025 and Jaala became the Vice Chair.

Shout-outs

- Susan: thank you to governance team to get things ready for a vote
- Susan: thank you to everyone for keeping things going while she was taking her test
- Rebecca: tech team for keeping going while she has been sick

Approving the previous minutes

Things that need modifying

- Rachel that is listed as attending is the wrong Rachel
  - The Rachel listed needs to be changed to California Rachel (should just remove last name and change to 'community member')
- Remove Paul's inclusion from invocation
- People who need to step down that started in June 2020 is actually 2026

Vote to approve with these changes

- Unanimous yes from council members (Susan, Rachel, Rana, Mark, Jaala, Jon, Rebecca). The vote succeeded.

Meeting proceedings

Committee reports

Finance committee/financial report

- Rachel presented the report
  - Mail chimp's price increased - was increased for additional functionality. Increase was for something annual #action Tech team to discuss
  - We still have charges from 1 of the 2 Glide accounts #action Mark to contact customer service
  - Rachel - we have more larger donations - should we write thank yous?
- Mark read a letter from someone who donated
  - We would like to write back: #action Rebecca to organize a meeting to write back
- Send receipts at the end of year for tax deductible reasons #action For finance committee
- ### Event planning committee
- Have hit some stumbling blocks when Michael dropped out because everyone has a lot on their plates.
- Got invitations to present out
- Looking into key note speakers
- Considering making it into a one-day event if there is less energy to plan
- This event may be more about socializing, but there there will definitely be an event
- Non-committee-member comment: could have round tables, panels, or Q&A which take less planning effort.

DEIB committee

- Restarting sessions, possibly quarterly
- Should we wait until new folks have onboarded to the council?
  - Should we have a catch up session?
  - #action Susan to reach out to Jes for recommendations

Communications committee

- Plug to sign up to write the email letter.

Tech committee

- Created a shared google drive and getting it ready to share with the council.
- Looking into task management software
- Password hygiene: reminder to never send passwords without secure communication
    - A way to share passwords: One Time Secret

Community comments and questions

No community comments or questions were made.

Old business

- Committee goals and priorities for 2025 - do any committees need to discuss?
    - We will go over these again in the next working session and and the annual meeting

Governance committee suggested changes voting

We went over the proposed changes from the Governance Committee and talked about which changes could be approved without further discussion. Then we voted to approve the changes as described below. Change numbers refer to the accompanying document that listed out the changes.

Changes approved by everyone

A, B, C, E, H, I, J, M (removing approximately & adding calendar, but not the second half of the change), N, P (he/she -> they, but not the rest of the change), Q

Vote

- Susan: yes
- Rachel: yes
- Rana: yes
- Mark: yes
- Jaala: yes
- Jon: yes
- Rebecca: yes

Changes we decided we would like to discuss further

- D
- G
- K: We would like to be able to refer to a mission statement here instead but would like to hold off on making this change until we have the mission statement to refer to.

- L: Since the policy handbook less public, could this make us less officially clergy? We would like to consult legal
- M (the remainder of the change that wasn't approved): There are some concerns about meeting not being able to happen in this way and if that would be breaking the bylaws.
- O: We might want to reference a mission statement here (commitment to the TAPS mission)
- P (the remainder of the change that wasn't approved): similar reasons to K & O

Looking forward

Scheduling

- We would like to move council meetings to be regularly on weekends - Sundays at noon PST
- For financial reports we need the quarter to have ended
- Proposal that the Chair presents next 8 meetings at the annual meetings `#action` Susan make this list for the upcoming year (following the annual)
- Annual meeting this year 13th of July
- Next council working session May 18

Action Items

- Tech team: discuss Mail Chimp tier change
- Mark: Contact customer service about Glide accounts
- Rebecca: organize a meeting about responding to the letter and donation
- Finance committee: send receipts at the end of the year for donations for tax deductions
- Susan: Reach out to Jes for suggestions about DEIB workshops (keep going now or wait for for any new members that may join soon).
- Susan make this list for the upcoming year (following the annual)