

Friends of Volunteer TN Ad Hoc Committee

10:57 am - 11:56 am Monday, November 10, 2025 | (UTC-06:00) Central Time
(US & Canada)

Terry Silver Eileen Wollam Jim Snell Nathan Farnor Candace Taylor

WEBVTT

1

Jim Snell 00:07:41.540 --> 00:07:41.620
Yeah.

2

Jim Snell 00:07:46.020 --> 00:07:48.860
Okay, so the the recording should be started.

3

Nathan Farnor 00:07:51.220 --> 00:07:53.660
We'll see if it works. It says it is.

4

Nathan Farnor 00:07:55.780 --> 00:08:05.340
I love it. We'll start off I'll just say thank you for sending over the
bylaws. I'd actually never saying these so I was, I was doing some light
reading this morning, trying to catch up on.

5

Nathan Farnor 00:08:07.140 --> 00:08:09.380
I reading. I said that's arcastically if you did. So.

6

Nathan Farnor 00:08:13.620 --> 00:08:17.860
But yes, from what I gathered I think you're right, Jim. It it seems like
there's not really.

7

Nathan Farnor 00:08:19.540 --> 00:08:21.260
Much of a process at this point for.

8

Nathan Farnor 00:08:23.540 --> 00:08:24.660
What this might look like. So.

9

Nathan Farnor 00:08:27.420 --> 00:08:36.780
So just to clarify while we're in again hopefully James or Ilene will be
able to join, so I know I think what prompted this and just correct me if
i'm wrong so we're all on the same page. What prompted this was.

10

Nathan Farnor 00:08:38.820 --> 00:08:42.740
Terry, you had stated that you had identified potentially some funds.

11

Nathan Farnor 00:08:45.060 --> 00:08:59.500

That could go into quote unquote errrainy day account of some kinds, whatever that account looks like to ideally be used for, as a backup for like the conference or for something similar, is that accurate? Yeah.

12

Terry Silver 00:08:59.660 --> 00:09:00.260

That's accurate.

13

Nathan Farnor 00:09:00.980 --> 00:09:07.300

Anything else to share on that or any other context in terms of, is this, is this a donor? Is this a grant?

14

Terry Silver 00:09:07.940 --> 00:09:11.900

This is a, this is an anonymous donor that I've had contact with that.

15

Terry Silver 00:09:13.140 --> 00:09:19.500

Is very much, a fan of what volunteer Tennessee is doing. And on occasion has.

16

Terry Silver 00:09:21.060 --> 00:09:23.260

Asked if, if they could donate money.

17

Nathan Farnor 00:09:23.940 --> 00:09:24.220

In time.

18

Nathan Farnor 00:09:25.260 --> 00:09:25.700

Yeah, so.

19

Terry Silver 00:09:25.860 --> 00:09:28.780

I think we have about ten thousand at this point. Okay.

20

Nathan Farnor 00:09:29.060 --> 00:09:29.540

Yeah, ok.

21

Nathan Farnor 00:09:31.100 --> 00:09:31.380

And then.

22

Nathan Farnor 00:09:33.300 --> 00:09:41.220

For that ten thousand I know we said rainy day fund. Is it rainy day funds specifically for conference or rainy day fund more broad?

23

Terry Silver 00:09:41.900 --> 00:09:44.740

More broad for volunteer Tennessee to use as needed. Yeah.

24

Nathan Farnor 00:09:45.700 --> 00:09:50.620

And then part of what we need to figure out is what is a process for as needed, right? Yeah. How do we make that determination.

25

Terry Silver 00:09:50.940 --> 00:09:51.220

Yes.

26

Nathan Farnor 00:09:52.460 --> 00:09:59.700

Have we gotten any gym? Jim you may or may not know this. Have we gotten any other large donations through friends at this point like that? Like a multi thousand.

27

Jim Snell 00:10:01.700 --> 00:10:02.860

Yeah so we we've gotten.

28

Jim Snell 00:10:04.700 --> 00:10:07.700

Several donations through friends over the years.

29

Jim Snell 00:10:10.700 --> 00:10:24.580

Kind of the largest we typically get is through advanced financial to support the the business category and and the governor's volunteer stars awards in general, and they I think.

30

Jim Snell 00:10:27.380 --> 00:10:34.980

I think they gave us five thousand for this for this past year I think yeah, but around five thousand dollars or so.

31

Nathan Farnor 00:10:35.620 --> 00:10:44.780

But when we do those sponsorships for the conference or for GBSA where we put like up their logo and stuff, that those dollars physically have gone through friends. Is that what I'm is that or.

32

Jim Snell 00:10:45.900 --> 00:10:56.780

But sometimes sometimes they write a check directly to volunteer Tennessee, sometimes they write a check to friends. It just depends on who it is and.

33

Jim Snell 00:10:58.140 --> 00:11:06.700

Their, their process. So mostly though those larger donations do go through friends of.

34

Nathan Farnor 00:11:07.940 --> 00:11:14.020

Are there any limitations on what we as the commission can accept directly or what does that look like?

35

Jim Snell 00:11:17.540 --> 00:11:36.380

My understanding of the tax law and I am not a tax attorney and not an accountant, but so take that for take this for what it's worth, but my understanding of the way the tax code is written is that in order for a donation to a government.

36

Jim Snell 00:11:36.540 --> 00:11:41.580

Entity to be taxed deductible, it has to be for a specific program.

37

Jim Snell 00:11:43.540 --> 00:12:00.660

So, we couldn't have someone donate money just to the general operating funds for volunteer Tennessee and have that be tax deductible. I don't think, but if someone gave money to volunteer Tennessee and said this is for the governor's volunteer stars awards.

38

Jim Snell 00:12:01.420 --> 00:12:14.860

In that case, volunteered Tennessee could send that donor a tax letter directly saying, you know, thank you for your donation, this is the value and you received X amount in return.

39

Jim Snell 00:12:17.380 --> 00:12:23.220

So and we have done that in the past when we have gotten donations directly to volunteer Tennessee.

40

Nathan Farnor 00:12:23.780 --> 00:12:29.260

But then any donation to friends in theory should be tax deductible, even if it's ok.

41

Jim Snell 00:12:30.180 --> 00:12:34.740

Yes, as far as I understand, the way that the tax deductible.

42

Jim Snell 00:12:36.660 --> 00:12:42.340

Laws are written, but you know, again, I'm not an expert on that, but that's my understanding.

43

Nathan Farnor 00:12:42.980 --> 00:12:48.940

That make that's helpful for this, I know what's the name of the platform we use for friends? The.

44

Jim Snell 00:12:49.460 --> 00:12:49.940
Work for good.

45

Nathan Farnor 00:12:50.100 --> 00:12:51.180
Yeah, so is.

46

Nathan Farnor 00:12:55.220 --> 00:13:04.100
I know if people are doing reoccurring donations or small online donations, that's where they're going through. I'm assuming they probably take some money off the top is my assumption.

47

Jim Snell 00:13:05.260 --> 00:13:09.180
Do I think it's somewhere in the like maybe.

48

Jim Snell 00:13:11.900 --> 00:13:30.180
Somewhere between one and three percent, I think and that's I I wish Stephanie were on here because she could probably answer that question right off, right offhand. Yeah. There is some percentage that network for good takes takes off the the donation. The the when people are making a donation, they also have the option.

49

Jim Snell 00:13:31.100 --> 00:13:37.860
When they're making the donation to check a box that will include as part of their donation.

50

Jim Snell 00:13:39.380 --> 00:13:59.740
Additional money to offset that fees so that friends gets the entire amount. So if if they wanna donate fifty, they could check that box and the amount that they pay the network for good would be like fifty one dollars and twenty five cents or something, and then friends would get the, the, the entire.

51

Jim Snell 00:13:59.900 --> 00:14:11.300
Fifty. Okay. That's an optional thing. I mean, it's, you know, actually I haven't gone through the donation process for, network for goods, but that's my understanding of how it works.

52

Nathan Farnor 00:14:13.380 --> 00:14:17.420
So I'm looking at I'm I'm on the page as if I was donating.

53

Nathan Farnor 00:14:18.340 --> 00:14:24.140
And I see, obviously, which we've always had where you can do a dedication or a de or a designation when you make a donation.

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Nathan Farnor 00:14:25.540 --> 00:14:25.620
If.

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Nathan Farnor 00:14:27.660 --> 00:14:37.460
Right now, and again if Stephanie was here, she probably answers, so right now if I was to make, let's say a fifty dollar donation and in the optional designation box, I was to say.

56

Nathan Farnor 00:14:38.860 --> 00:14:46.260
This is for the conference. Let's just for the conference. On the back end for Stephanie and for friends.

57

Nathan Farnor 00:14:47.860 --> 00:14:56.740
I'm assuming that it's only really one bank account and they're just keeping track of, is that accurate? There's not like multiple account lines or anything.

58

Jim Snell 00:14:57.420 --> 00:15:01.860
CF, correct. That's my understanding. There is a single checking account.

59

Jim Snell 00:15:04.580 --> 00:15:08.060
And Stephanie has some sort of ledger that she uses to track.

60

Jim Snell 00:15:11.300 --> 00:15:22.380
What's been donated to specific things because in addition to the conference and the GBSA, you know, we've had we've got this partnership for the certified volunteer administrator.

61

Jim Snell 00:15:26.300 --> 00:15:27.500
And folks are donating to that.

62

Jim Snell 00:15:30.020 --> 00:15:38.340
Yeah that that's my understanding is she tracks and and I, I don't know if it's a spreadsheet or QuickBooks or something, but she's got some way that she tracks it.

63

Nathan Farnor 00:15:42.260 --> 00:15:48.460
And this o and so that I think the question for this conversation then is I think when we spoke last time, what prompted this was.

64

Nathan Farnor 00:15:49.940 --> 00:16:05.100
Ideally for a larger donation that's not meant to be used immediately, like what Terry's talking about, it would be nice for it to be in some,

some sort of a higher revenue generating account. I think it's what the conversation was, right? And then there's questions around.

65

Nathan Farnor 00:16:09.300 --> 00:16:17.380

On the back end I guess more for like Stephanie Eileen and James is the navigation of that, right? Because right now.

66

Nathan Farnor 00:16:19.940 --> 00:16:39.100

Let's say I wanted to go on and donate to whatever this pot of money is. Let's, we'll call it the rainy day fund through network for good, donate, even if I designated for the Rainy Day fund, it's still gonna go into a generic pot for Stephanie or somebody to then either have to manually move unless network for good gives us the ability.

67

Nathan Farnor 00:16:41.060 --> 00:16:43.820

Pre allocate money differently, which I don't know how that works, but.

68

Jim Snell 00:16:44.980 --> 00:16:47.660

So, so you.

69

Jim Snell 00:16:50.180 --> 00:16:50.420

I think.

70

Jim Snell 00:16:52.140 --> 00:16:54.700

And I'm also not an expert on network for good, but.

71

Jim Snell 00:16:56.540 --> 00:17:16.699

I I think part part of the problem with network for good is that one, it, because we're using essentially like the free version I mean it's not free because they, they take a cut of the money, but we're not like paying them a monthly fee to use the network for good service.

72

Jim Snell 00:17:18.180 --> 00:17:19.459

And because.

73

Jim Snell 00:17:24.060 --> 00:17:43.060

We're not paying that, there are some limitations on the functionality of network for good for, for friends and one of those is you can't, there's not not like a dropdown box where you can select GBSA or conference or whatever. You have to, the donor has to manually type that in into.

74

Jim Snell 00:17:45.220 --> 00:17:49.820

As they're making the donation in the designation box, you.

75

Nathan Farnor 00:17:50.820 --> 00:17:53.540

And then the works on the staff on the back end or the.

76

Jim Snell 00:17:54.860 --> 00:18:06.220

The on Stephanie. Yeah. Yeah it's on Stephanie on the back end to to then code that or and how again however she's tracking it. I think the other.

77

Jim Snell 00:18:08.940 --> 00:18:15.780

The other thing that using the free version is as far as I understand it, there's, there's only one.

78

Jim Snell 00:18:17.300 --> 00:18:37.220

Option for direct deposit through network for good, and so right now it's set up to direct deposit into the checking account. If if friends were to set up some sort of savings account or money market account or whatever, I I don't know what they would do. Yeah. I don't know that they would then be able to have the option.

79

Jim Snell 00:18:37.540 --> 00:18:49.700

With network for good to say, these donations go into this pot and these donations go into that pot because right now, now there's no way to make a distinction between donations there. Yeah. It's just through that designation.

80

Jim Snell 00:18:52.940 --> 00:18:55.740

Narrative box that's part of the, the donation itself.

81

Nathan Farnor 00:18:56.820 --> 00:19:01.060

Who do we, who do we make, who who does friends bank west? Like who is the actual bank, do you know?

82

Jim Snell 00:19:02.500 --> 00:19:05.460

That is really good question. I did know at one point, but.

83

Jim Snell 00:19:07.020 --> 00:19:14.580

I was actually a a signatory at one point, but I think that that it's now a different bank.

84

Jim Snell 00:19:16.300 --> 00:19:26.100

It's one that has a statewide scope. Let me let me pull up the treasurer's report and see if it mentions the, the bank.

85

Nathan Farnor 00:19:26.820 --> 00:19:28.740

Are the million questions I'm just trying to wrap my head.

86

Jim Snell 00:19:28.780 --> 00:19:29.780

Yes yes, it's.

87

Jim Snell 00:19:30.860 --> 00:19:37.220

By this group is, this is why this group is forming to to ask these questions and try and figure out a.

88

Jim Snell 00:19:39.340 --> 00:19:40.300

An actual consistent process.

89

Jim Snell 00:19:43.460 --> 00:19:44.060

Here's Eileen.

90

Nathan Farnor 00:19:44.780 --> 00:19:49.220

Are you saying something? Oh, I think you're muted or I'm not hearing you.

91

Jim Snell 00:19:54.980 --> 00:19:57.540

And, I Eileen, welcome.

92

Jim Snell 00:19:59.500 --> 00:20:04.820

We were just chatting about kind of general stuff, and one question that.

93

Jim Snell 00:20:07.140 --> 00:20:14.180

Nathan just asked that I don't know and maybe you do is, what bank friends uses? Do you know the bank.

94

Jim Snell 00:20:16.740 --> 00:20:17.380

Oh, we can't hear you.

95

Candace Taylor 00:20:18.660 --> 00:20:20.180

I think it's can't you guys hear me now?

96

Nathan Farnor 00:20:20.580 --> 00:20:21.700

Yes we need this.

97

Candace Taylor 00:20:21.860 --> 00:20:24.300

Okay, I'm sorry. I think it's Pinnacle, that's what I was trying.

98

Eileen Wollam 00:20:24.460 --> 00:20:25.340
Yeah, it is.

99
Jim Snell 00:20:25.700 --> 00:20:27.220
Yeah, yeah. Okay yes yes.

100
Jim Snell 00:20:29.220 --> 00:20:31.940
Pick an old as the little girl says in the commercial.

101
Nathan Farnor 00:20:34.020 --> 00:20:34.660
I love it.

102
Eileen Wollam 00:20:35.300 --> 00:20:36.060
Can you hear me now?

103
Nathan Farnor 00:20:36.580 --> 00:20:36.900
We do.

104
Jim Snell 00:20:37.220 --> 00:20:38.180
Yeah, yeah, we did. Yeah.

105
Eileen Wollam 00:20:38.580 --> 00:20:43.420
I apologize. I wasn't able to get in. It wasn't accepting the password for the longest time.

106
Jim Snell 00:20:45.100 --> 00:20:45.540
Sorry about that.

107
Nathan Farnor 00:20:46.940 --> 00:20:51.060
It's a learning curve for all of us Eileen. Yeah, we're all in the same button, so.

108
Nathan Farnor 00:20:53.260 --> 00:20:59.420
This to it so I'm still on the web version. I didn't download the actual app. Maybe I may need to do that. Maybe I.

109
Eileen Wollam 00:20:59.700 --> 00:21:01.020
Terms a web version too.

110
Nathan Farnor 00:21:01.580 --> 00:21:01.620
So.

111

Jim Snell 00:21:02.180 --> 00:21:10.580

Yeah, and and so Eileen, just to catch you up real quick, Nathan had asked a couple of different questions about donations and how the donations are processed and.

112

Jim Snell 00:21:12.820 --> 00:21:18.620

The ability of network for good. And, you know, you know this, but.

113

Jim Snell 00:21:20.100 --> 00:21:40.180

My general explanation was that network for good, there's no option to, to be able to do a dropdown box for how they want to, so they have to put it in that text box. Right. The designation text box when they donate, if they don't put anything at all in there, unless we know specifically that a person has.

114

Jim Snell 00:21:40.580 --> 00:22:00.940

Said I am going to put X amount, I'm going to donate X an amount for friends, and I want it to go to, to governor's onto your Stars awards. If there's nothing in that designation box, it then goes into the general fund for friends. Yes. And, and.

115

Jim Snell 00:22:01.060 --> 00:22:21.340

And Nathan was also asking if it was possible to have network for good, put different donations into different bank accounts and my understanding is that that's probably not possible because there's no way, again, there's no way to to designate the donations outside of that, that text box, which.

116

Jim Snell 00:22:22.300 --> 00:22:23.420

I I don't think would allow.

117

Jim Snell 00:22:25.140 --> 00:22:31.140

Network for good to then say, ok, well, we're gonna put this donation in this account and these other donations in the other account.

118

Eileen Wollam 00:22:32.420 --> 00:22:40.020

That's, that is correct. I think my understanding was that we have a, that we have a free account with network for.

119

Eileen Wollam 00:22:40.740 --> 00:22:49.500

And that you could get those additional features where the paid account. Right. Although I I haven't investigated that.

120

Jim Snell 00:22:50.340 --> 00:22:55.940

Yeah, well, well, and it maybe I mean, and this is obviously this is a question for friends and.

121

Jim Snell 00:22:58.140 --> 00:23:00.100
James I think was gonna try and join us, but.

122

Jim Snell 00:23:03.580 --> 00:23:04.540
I haven't heard back from him.

123

Jim Snell 00:23:06.500 --> 00:23:15.140
I mean it maybe time for friends to think about, you know, whether it's network for good or some other service, you know, to.

124

Jim Snell 00:23:16.780 --> 00:23:29.500
Start paying some sort of annual fee especially if it's gonna be getting in larger amounts of money to be able to have some additional functionality, but I mean that that's really is a conversation for the friends board to, to have.

125

Eileen Wollam 00:23:30.180 --> 00:23:32.860
Right. Yeah, and so.

126

Eileen Wollam 00:23:35.860 --> 00:23:36.980
Stephanie tracks.

127

Eileen Wollam 00:23:39.020 --> 00:23:52.460
The money when it comes in and what its designated for. And, you know, we can see in her, oh, those of you who aren't on the friends board, you haven't seen it, but she does a.

128

Eileen Wollam 00:23:54.340 --> 00:23:59.380
A financial report every month and then she outlines what's in the various.

129

Eileen Wollam 00:24:00.900 --> 00:24:01.300
Buckets.

130

Eileen Wollam 00:24:04.740 --> 00:24:10.340
I imagine that she tracks it on, on her own spreadsheet I think.

131

Nathan Farnor 00:24:16.100 --> 00:24:19.820
I've i've written down lots of little notes here. Yours. Here's what comes.

132

Nathan Farnor 00:24:24.780 --> 00:24:43.780

Comes to mind. And these are all questions I have no solutions, so let me prep it then. So or these are bigger questions based off of what I've now heard. So I think the first question I think to Jim's point is if we're gonna get into the boat of thinking through multiple accounts, larger level donations.

133

Nathan Farnor 00:24:44.980 --> 00:25:03.980

A higher level of tracking, ideally, we don't want all of that to have to fall on Stephanie or whoever a treasurer might be, right? Because it's already, it's burdensome as it is, right? So trying to, trying to minimize that portion, so I do think there's probably a question around, is it time to.

134

Nathan Farnor 00:25:05.660 --> 00:25:24.460

Elevate either elevate your account that you already have if it's the right platform or to Jim's point, are, are there even, are there other platforms that better align? I don't know. So I think there's probably a platform question. I feel like at this point it sounds like that almost needs to happen. Of course that's ultimately our friend's decision, but.

135

Nathan Farnor 00:25:25.340 --> 00:25:36.100

I I feel like if we're talking about, you know, lots lot big pots of money that are sitting for a long period of time that are growing money and collecting money, things you're gonna get more complicated. Right. Right.

136

Eileen Wollam 00:25:36.140 --> 00:25:38.420

Yeah, and one one concern that I've had.

137

Eileen Wollam 00:25:40.300 --> 00:25:54.580

Is that I believe this is a checking account, and so it's not earning any interest. And so if we're gonna have money sitting there for a while, it seems like we should be, you know, collecting some interest. So.

138

Jim Snell 00:25:56.180 --> 00:26:09.420

It was sorry I I just I I I put up a donation report and did the math and it's actually the fee is a little bit more than I thought. It's five percent of the donation is, is the fee that network for good.

139

Jim Snell 00:26:11.580 --> 00:26:12.580

Charges.

140

Nathan Farnor 00:26:13.220 --> 00:26:17.540

That's if somebody, now if somebody was to write a physical check and we were to deposit it.

141

Nathan Farnor 00:26:19.100 --> 00:26:22.140

The the network that fee's only through things that go through network forget as well.

142

Jim Snell 00:26:22.180 --> 00:26:31.740

Yeah yes yeah that's right. Yes. And we do occasionally get physical chats, particularly at the retreat, sometimes people will write at the retreat, they'll write a check for friends of volunteer tensee.

143

Jim Snell 00:26:33.060 --> 00:26:35.660

But yes, that's right. That doesn't encour any kind of.

144

Jim Snell 00:26:36.980 --> 00:26:37.860

Assessing for you or anything.

145

Nathan Farnor 00:26:38.180 --> 00:26:45.580

Because ideally for a donation like what Terry's talking about, you really wouldn't want it to go through the platform because you're gonna lose five hundred dollars.

146

Jim Snell 00:26:46.500 --> 00:26:47.860

Like that, that's right. Yeah.

147

Nathan Farnor 00:26:48.420 --> 00:27:08.580

That's list ideal, yeah. Yeah, so I think there's a platform question and that's something that probably needs to be talked about. The follow up question of that, which is why Eileen just stated is if you're gonna have a rainy day fund with multiple thousands of dollars and ideally you want that fund, the longer it sits there untouched to create more money, which means there's probably another.

148

Nathan Farnor 00:27:09.620 --> 00:27:16.900

Now, whether that's a high interest savings, whether that's something else in entirely I don't know, but some sort of a higher revenue generating account.

149

Nathan Farnor 00:27:17.860 --> 00:27:38.300

So really you need a platform that would allow you to make donations and to multiple different accounts, right? I'm donating just for whatever friends needs or I'm donating explicitly because I want it to go into the rainy day fund, and I whether or not network for good paid version can do

that, I don't know, but that would be a question. My other question then is, I recognize that.

150

Nathan Farnor 00:27:38.420 --> 00:27:58.460

Right now if you're gonna start talking about a higher paid, whether it be friends for good, not friends for good, whether it's gonna be I just combined all of it. Whether it's gonna be network for good or another platform, there's gonna be some fees. There's the potential on the back end. If you're talking about a lot of money at some point down the road that you may want an outside person to be able to do.

151

Nathan Farnor 00:27:59.740 --> 00:28:05.220

An audit or to be able to do a, a whatever. So there's gonna be some costs affiliated.

152

Nathan Farnor 00:28:06.780 --> 00:28:10.180

With friends itself, right? Like in order to do all of the things.

153

Eileen Wollam 00:28:10.980 --> 00:28:11.020

So.

154

Nathan Farnor 00:28:11.660 --> 00:28:15.540

Other question then is Eileen, do you all currently.

155

Nathan Farnor 00:28:18.180 --> 00:28:24.780

Any of the funds that come into friends, are you all keeping any percentage of that for overhead or is that something that we also need to talk about?

156

Nathan Farnor 00:28:27.060 --> 00:28:28.020

Like what does it look like?

157

Eileen Wollam 00:28:28.900 --> 00:28:31.420

We don't, we don't, as far as I know, we don't.

158

Nathan Farnor 00:28:31.460 --> 00:28:37.060

So right now you don't really have a a little small bucket of money that's for forense itself, that doesn't really.

159

Eileen Wollam 00:28:37.260 --> 00:28:40.460

Well, I mean that that that would be the general fund.

160

Eileen Wollam 00:28:42.380 --> 00:28:50.100

I'm. And, that, that generally doesn't have a whole lot of money in it.

161

Nathan Farnor 00:28:50.740 --> 00:28:51.020
Time.

162

Eileen Wollam 00:28:52.140 --> 00:29:02.100
Because a lot of the, a lot of the donations that come in are, you know, specifically for GVSA or or the conference.

163

Nathan Farnor 00:29:02.820 --> 00:29:14.820
Yeah, because what I'm where my head goes and I know what a lot of other organizations will do, and it could be an option is when we think through a process, right? Like a standard operating procedures or some sort of financial processes.

164

Nathan Farnor 00:29:16.380 --> 00:29:36.420
Let's say we get a new platform, let's say we create some sort of revenue generating account. Is there a need to go ahead and say somewhere on the back end that a very small percentage of the interest? Not all the interests cause we want it to be making money, right? But a portion of the interest is taken off the top similar to what network for good is doing.

165

Nathan Farnor 00:29:37.020 --> 00:29:39.980
Except you get to keep the money, right? It would be for you.

166

Nathan Farnor 00:29:41.460 --> 00:30:01.340
To offset your costs, right? If you needed to hire an account at some point, if you needed to pay for the, for the premium version of some of these systems, if there's any other fees associated, right? Like we talk about raising more money also costs more money, right? So just trying to be conscientious about you all probably need some resources and I don't think that is uncommon to say.

167

Nathan Farnor 00:30:01.900 --> 00:30:22.060
Oh friends is gonna take a small percentage off of the interest each year for its own purposes, right? Offset. I think that could be a question. I don't know what the amount is. I don't know billing people's thoughts on that, but that in my mind would make sense. Cause I just don't know how you pay for all the things otherwise, and you don't want to dip into the money itself that.

168

Nathan Farnor 00:30:22.220 --> 00:30:37.140
For the programming, right? Ideally, you wanna, you wanna save that money for the programming itself. So, I think that's a question. And then I

think the final question for me is assuming all of that's happening in working, however we land, what is the process.

169

Nathan Farnor 00:30:38.860 --> 00:30:59.060

By which we determine when and how to tap into that rainy day fund? Right Cause we don't want to give ourselves so much freedom and flexibility that it becomes an easy out to just grab a hundred dollars here and there whenever, you know, that's like having a credit card and going on a little shop and spree, right? We don't want to have that happen. But at the same time, we want it to be.

170

Nathan Farnor 00:30:59.300 --> 00:31:19.460

Accessible. So right, what is the process in place? Is it a formal, right? It's a formal request have to come from volunteer Tennessee to friends and say, hey, we are putting in a request to tap into the rainy day fund for this amount of money. Here's our justification. Maybe that's it. And then it's approved by the friendsport. I don't know or is it, are there some pre written rules in place.

171

Nathan Farnor 00:31:19.940 --> 00:31:40.060

About how, but, but what is that actual process? That way we're not just writing checks willy nilly, right? Like this really is supposed to be for emergency, like when there's nothing else left, otherwise, we'll blow through ten thousand dollars for next year, right? That's not a lot of money. It is a lot of money but it's not a lot of money. So those are my big four questions really is I think there.

172

Nathan Farnor 00:31:40.500 --> 00:32:00.700

Conversation about the platform. I think there's a conversation about some, some way to have this money, make money. I think there's a question about you all getting some overhead. I think that that seems reasonable in my mind, at least for my perspective, and then a question on what is the process for tapping into it. Those are my four big questions that I think I have. What.

173

Nathan Farnor 00:32:00.740 --> 00:32:04.580

What are other people's thoughts? What have we not talked about? What's on, what's not on the list?

174

Terry Silver 00:32:05.420 --> 00:32:09.460

I think the big ask, you know, what's gonna be our process to go out.

175

Terry Silver 00:32:11.060 --> 00:32:26.820

Maybe state farm, maybe go back to advance, whatever, you know, what's our process for that. And the other question I had, the grant that James has referred to, I believe it's James or somebody else on friends talked about that grant. Can that maybe used for.

176

Terry Silver 00:32:28.420 --> 00:32:30.700

In a high yield savings bond or account or whatever.

177

Nathan Farnor 00:32:31.500 --> 00:32:31.820

And yeah.

178

Terry Silver 00:32:32.780 --> 00:32:33.140

For from.

179

Nathan Farnor 00:32:33.620 --> 00:32:38.340

Can you make money off of a grant I know a lot of grants you can't, but that would be a question, right? Can you make.

180

Terry Silver 00:32:38.500 --> 00:32:39.140

I don't ag.

181

Nathan Farnor 00:32:39.140 --> 00:32:41.180

Yeah, I know I feel like normally it's probably a no.

182

Terry Silver 00:32:43.620 --> 00:32:59.620

That grant sounded to me it sounded rather flexible and in terms of other grants that I've, you know, dealt with, that one seemed quite flexible, so I was hoping maybe there would be an opportunity for us to use them. That is.

183

Jim Snell 00:33:02.180 --> 00:33:05.940

Yeah, that, that was my understanding from Jay is that it is pretty flexible.

184

Jim Snell 00:33:08.060 --> 00:33:20.780

That, you know, that donation can be used, you know, however friends wants to use it. I mean it probably would be worthwhile to clarify that it can go into an inter interest bearing account.

185

Jim Snell 00:33:22.020 --> 00:33:28.340

Just to make sure that that wouldn't be a problem, a problem, but based on what he said so far, I don't think it would be.

186

Jim Snell 00:33:30.340 --> 00:33:37.340

And in terms of, you know, assuming that large amounts can go into some sort of interest bearing account.

187

Jim Snell 00:33:40.580 --> 00:33:44.380

My opinion is it would be fine for friends to then take.

188

Jim Snell 00:33:46.460 --> 00:33:58.660

Portion of the interest and put it in and like have it available for the it's general fund cause I don't think that would be contrary to donor intent because usually when folks give.

189

Jim Snell 00:34:00.500 --> 00:34:20.620

Whatever amount it is, whether it's ten dollars or ten thousand, I I don't think they usually expect that that the part of the requirement of the donation is that the agency then use interest from that donation to do the same thing as what they gave the original money for as long as the original money is used for what they.

190

Jim Snell 00:34:20.899 --> 00:34:21.139

Intend.

191

Nathan Farnor 00:34:22.179 --> 00:34:33.220

Yeah cause at the end of the day, I mean, if we're not able to do that, then it would hindrances on our ability to spend that money effectively, right? Like you've got to have yeah it's.

192

Jim Snell 00:34:34.340 --> 00:34:54.740

Yeah, and you and and I mean it would, it would become an accounting challenge because it, you know, if, if you had to keep track of that, you know, someone gives you ten thousand, some got somebody gives you three thousand, somebody gives you five hundred and you have to say, well, we earned this amount of interest in this quarter and here's how we're gonna.

193

Jim Snell 00:34:55.100 --> 00:35:02.540

Up that interest and and you have to keep track of that. Yeah cause then that interest then goes back into the principle and then you.

194

Jim Snell 00:35:03.900 --> 00:35:17.260

So I I think that would be a pretty big challenge to keep track of that over, you know, any length of time. Yeah. And would very quickly become account compound interest challenge that would.

195

Jim Snell 00:35:18.780 --> 00:35:19.820

Require events mathematics.

196

Nathan Farnor 00:35:23.180 --> 00:35:32.860

The other question is, the, I know we talked a few minutes ago, we talked a little bit about like sponsorships, like some of this stuff for, and it just depends on the situation. Some of it goes through friends, some of it goes directly through.

197

Nathan Farnor 00:35:34.780 --> 00:35:36.620
The commission. Does.

198

Nathan Farnor 00:35:39.060 --> 00:35:49.220
I'm gonna ok I'll use I'll use GBSA or core conference as an example. So advanced financial gives five thousand dollars, right? So I don't know if that's the amount, but they'll get five thousand dollars.

199

Nathan Farnor 00:35:51.260 --> 00:35:56.780
It is a sponsorship which means they're getting something out of it. Do they Who's managing.

200

Nathan Farnor 00:35:58.580 --> 00:36:07.020
Is it us? Is it friends or is it not happening at all interns of the actual tax claim they get to make versus what they've actually donated? Like the actual value, who's doing that.

201

Jim Snell 00:36:07.220 --> 00:36:14.820
Yeah, so and so if it goes to friends, then friends friends handles that. If it comes directly to us, then we handle it.

202

Nathan Farnor 00:36:15.460 --> 00:36:22.020
Okay, ok. And then you're doing doing the letters and the the cost breakdown and all the the value breakdown and all the things, ok.

203

Jim Snell 00:36:23.140 --> 00:36:31.460
They give it directly to us wh, which again it has happened in the past, but it's been a little while since that since anybody's given money directly to us.

204

Eileen Wollam 00:36:35.460 --> 00:36:37.540
And Stephanie issues the letters.

205

Eileen Wollam 00:36:40.020 --> 00:36:40.060
And.

206

Nathan Farnor 00:36:40.620 --> 00:36:48.740

Letters when they when it's a sponsorship, not a one off donation Eileen, but an actual sponsorship. Yeah. Are those usually coming in like a live check I'm assuming?

207

Eileen Wollam 00:36:51.700 --> 00:37:00.260

Or they I believe so. A lot of times those come from Candace, right? Candace, you send them over. Sponsorships.

208

Candace Taylor 00:37:01.540 --> 00:37:21.940

So once they come directly from the vendor, it just varies. It depends on how the actual, the person who's given us the donation. It just depends on how their system is set up. Some people send, yeah, some people send over live checks, but some people require that we all that we give them our like for ACH trans transfer.

209

Nathan Farnor 00:37:22.060 --> 00:37:25.420

Right. Okay, but nobody's using the platform for a sponsorship.

210

Candace Taylor 00:37:25.860 --> 00:37:26.900

There's no network for good.

211

Nathan Farnor 00:37:27.140 --> 00:37:28.220

No network forget. Okay.

212

Jim Snell 00:37:29.140 --> 00:37:41.580

Do not not for not for the conference in GBSA, but there are people individuals who make donations through network for good that are specified for either the conference or GVSA.

213

Nathan Farnor 00:37:42.500 --> 00:37:42.580

Okay.

214

Candace Taylor 00:37:44.420 --> 00:37:52.140

Yeah, but as far as sponsorships, which I, as far as sponsorships, the, the larger donations, they typically come in a larger check.

215

Nathan Farnor 00:37:53.580 --> 00:38:05.860

The reason I was asking is on the network for good thing, of course it talks about the, the very bottom of like a donation page it talks about a hundred percent of your contribution is taxed deductible, yada yada yada, which for a sponsorship wouldn't always be.

216

Nathan Farnor 00:38:07.540 --> 00:38:08.300

Accurate, right?

217

Jim Snell 00:38:11.300 --> 00:38:21.660

Correct if they if they get something of value in return, then that part of the tax letter, then has to, has to say what they got in returned.

218

Eileen Wollam 00:38:26.180 --> 00:38:30.900

Nathan, I have a question, so there's, there's money.

219

Eileen Wollam 00:38:33.220 --> 00:38:47.140

The money that comes in from network for good, if, if, if the donor has not designated, something specifically, it goes into a general fund and so friends has typically.

220

Eileen Wollam 00:38:48.460 --> 00:38:48.780

Used that.

221

Eileen Wollam 00:38:50.340 --> 00:38:53.380

And two, for example, we used it to.

222

Eileen Wollam 00:38:55.060 --> 00:38:59.420

Pay for an honorarium for the artist to design the license plate and.

223

Eileen Wollam 00:39:01.340 --> 00:39:19.180

When we switched over to novelty license plate, we use money from that fund to pay. Yeah. The printing company. Now, are you, you seeing the, the rainy day fund as somethings different and separate from the general fund.

224

Nathan Farnor 00:39:19.940 --> 00:39:40.260

I think so, and Terry correct me if I'm wrong. I think the goal of the rainy day fund is this really is an emergency fund, right? A general fund is is a pot that you have to tap into really whenever you want to, to, to, for, for whatever the situation might be. I think the intent of the, this donation that ter.

225

Nathan Farnor 00:39:40.260 --> 00:39:57.700

Terry is referencing is, should we end up in a situation, for example, like we were in about six months ago, right? Where there's a lot of question marks around funding, programs maybe at risk, right? Like there were questions around like are we, what happens if, if, you know, the grant that's predominantly paying for.

226

Nathan Farnor 00:39:59.900 --> 00:40:12.060

The conference or for GVSA was to go away or disappear or get paused or whatever, do we have a pot that when in a true emergency, we could say, we've got this pot of money that we can tap into to pay for programming.

227

Nathan Farnor 00:40:14.380 --> 00:40:26.340

In an emergency capacity, right? It's not outside of emergencies, ideally, we shouldn't be touching it, right? It should just be setting their collecting. So I do think it is different. Is that Terry, is that accurate?

228

Terry Silver 00:40:26.980 --> 00:40:41.900

That's right. And, and I also see it, if, if I know some of the grant money that comes in goes towards staff positions and it could also be used to rep, you know, to help fund staff positions if there's a true emergency.

229

Nathan Farnor 00:40:46.180 --> 00:40:51.900

So, so different fund. I think we're we're talking about a different physical account. Ideally one that is also producing money.

230

Eileen Wollam 00:40:52.660 --> 00:40:52.700

Okay.

231

Eileen Wollam 00:40:54.500 --> 00:40:54.580

Okay.

232

Nathan Farnor 00:40:55.140 --> 00:41:15.620

Then again on top of that, because we know there's added work on that, I think what we were discussing is, is there a, is there a special line in there for a, for a percentage of the interest to go back to your general fund? Because we recognize that there's gonna be more work and more costs affiliated with the fact that we're having to do this, right? So you would be mak.

233

Nathan Farnor 00:41:15.700 --> 00:41:24.540

You being friends would be making a little bit of money off of it to offset those costs ideally, and to offset the work because we know it's more work I mean that's just the nature of the beast. So.

234

Nathan Farnor 00:41:27.780 --> 00:41:32.580

So I guess my question, and this is a big broad question, so that's a lot of things for us to think through and work through.

235

Nathan Farnor 00:41:37.380 --> 00:41:49.420

A lot of these are really on the friend side of the house and I recognize that, right? Like, right, like we don't, we're not out I mean I'm I'm not on the friends board. Obviously Eileen, you are Terry, you're not, right? Or are.

236

Eileen Wollam 00:41:50.180 --> 00:41:51.380
Is an ad hoc. Okay.

237

Nathan Farnor 00:41:52.740 --> 00:42:11.220
So I guess my question is, and Jim Terry Eileen, Candice you all may have thoughts on this. I, I would love if this was something that we made or some of this work was done in conjunction with friends, that way it doesn't necessarily it's not us as the, as VT.

238

Nathan Farnor 00:42:12.700 --> 00:42:22.820
Saying, here's what we need now make it happen friends hand it over, right? Like that's that I don't feel like that's a good partnership and I would discourage that. So I guess my question is in terms of next steps.

239

Nathan Farnor 00:42:24.540 --> 00:42:44.580
Is it worth us running some of these questions I feel like we've got ideas. We we think there needs to be a platform change or at least an upgrade. We think that we're looking at a new pot, a new account again that friends of control. We're talking about friends making a little bit of money, and then a process, are those high concepts something that we want to float by the friends.

240

Nathan Farnor 00:42:45.220 --> 00:42:59.300
At large before we really get in the weeds? I would hate for this group to draft something that's really detailed and outlined and then the friends team not be on board from the beginning. That that's my concern cause I've been in that boat before.

241

Nathan Farnor 00:43:01.220 --> 00:43:04.100
It so Eileen, do you feel as though there's value in one of us.

242

Nathan Farnor 00:43:06.020 --> 00:43:08.140
Sharing some of these thoughts with the friends board or.

243

Nathan Farnor 00:43:09.620 --> 00:43:22.140
And it getting a little bit of a soft blessing from them and then we can draft something? I don't want us to get in the weeds of drafting and they go, we don't even want to do this because then we've just wasted a whole bunch of people's time. Right. Thoughts on that Eileen?

244

Eileen Wollam 00:43:23.620 --> 00:43:24.300
I think definitely.

245
Nathan Farnor 00:43:24.900 --> 00:43:24.940
Yeah.

246
Eileen Wollam 00:43:25.660 --> 00:43:26.620
Should bring it to the first.

247
Nathan Farnor 00:43:26.820 --> 00:43:28.100
How often do you all meet?

248
Nathan Farnor 00:43:29.380 --> 00:43:30.540
Once a month, went's the next one.

249
Eileen Wollam 00:43:30.660 --> 00:43:34.380
But it's the it's the fourth Monday of the month.

250
Jim Snell 00:43:35.820 --> 00:43:40.900
The next one is scheduled for the twenty fourth, but that's the week I
Thanksgiving. So I don't know.

251
Jim Snell 00:43:43.060 --> 00:44:01.380
I mean I'm gonna be out of town that that doesn't mean that that meeting
can't happen, but I I just don't know how many people are gonna be
attending that meeting cause it's a holiday week but that is the next
meeting on November twenty fourth at two o'clock from two to three thirty
is the scheduled time.

252
Eileen Wollam 00:44:02.740 --> 00:44:03.940
It's two central.

253
Jim Snell 00:44:04.580 --> 00:44:05.980
That's right. Yes. Thank you Eileen.

254
Nathan Farnor 00:44:06.500 --> 00:44:22.780
If it's helpful Eileen and i'm happy to do this. I've never been to a
friend's meetings it would be nice to see one as well. I mean, would it
make sense for me to come to your next friends meeting and let them know
what we've chatted about, where we're thinking it would make sense to go.

255
Nathan Farnor 00:44:24.420 --> 00:44:44.820

Get some feedback from them because they may have ideas we haven't shared cause I at the end of the day, most of these things are really friends. Again I don't want us tell you what to do I just want to hear thoughts that we've had, what are your thoughts? I'm happy to maybe if we took a few minutes to present some of these things elicit some of their feedback, ideally get a little bit of a, a blessing from, from the friends.

256

Nathan Farnor 00:44:45.220 --> 00:44:46.460
To say, yes, please work on this.

257

Nathan Farnor 00:44:48.460 --> 00:44:51.060
That way it's not you and James having to speak on behalf of.

258

Nathan Farnor 00:44:52.860 --> 00:44:53.380
The whole group.

259

Nathan Farnor 00:44:54.500 --> 00:44:59.780
Which I know is is can be a a tricky predicament. I'm happy to do that if that makes sense and then.

260

Nathan Farnor 00:45:01.580 --> 00:45:09.220
If, if they're good with all these things, then we can try to get really into the weeds of what are the costs, what are the percentages, what is a process.

261

Nathan Farnor 00:45:11.460 --> 00:45:12.140
Does that work for you?

262

Eileen Wollam 00:45:13.700 --> 00:45:16.260
Yeah, it definitely does work for me.

263

Eileen Wollam 00:45:18.420 --> 00:45:25.580
And you know since since Stephanie is, is the treasurer and she has pretty much handled.

264

Eileen Wollam 00:45:27.180 --> 00:45:27.820
This stuff.

265

Eileen Wollam 00:45:30.380 --> 00:45:40.420
And she she she takes a lot of ownership. I mean, she's, you know, feels like, you know, like I'm I'm the treasurer. So, you know, we always need to.

266

Eileen Wollam 00:45:43.060 --> 00:45:44.420
Tread a little bit carefully.

267

Eileen Wollam 00:45:46.180 --> 00:45:49.060
You know, like so that she doesn't think that we're.

268

Eileen Wollam 00:45:50.860 --> 00:45:52.580
Invading her territory. So.

269

Nathan Farnor 00:45:56.580 --> 00:46:00.020
Wouldn't be helpful for s would it be helpful for us to chat with
Stephanie before that meeting.

270

Nathan Farnor 00:46:01.700 --> 00:46:01.780
Okay.

271

Eileen Wollam 00:46:02.340 --> 00:46:03.060
I think it would be.

272

Nathan Farnor 00:46:03.620 --> 00:46:09.620
To just make sure we're all on the same page and there's no, nobody's
caught off guard to your point, right? Right.

273

Eileen Wollam 00:46:10.020 --> 00:46:22.060
All right. And they actually she was supposed to attend today and
something came up. Okay. And then one other thing that we might wanna put
down.

274

Eileen Wollam 00:46:23.900 --> 00:46:24.140
Is that.

275

Eileen Wollam 00:46:25.860 --> 00:46:30.700
Right now as far as I know, she's the only one on friends who has access
to that bank account.

276

Eileen Wollam 00:46:35.020 --> 00:46:42.060
I think if we're, you know, as, as we've grown and we're talking about
larger amounts of money.

277

Eileen Wollam 00:46:44.020 --> 00:46:49.980
That we, you know, that I think we need to have a backup treasure versus.

278

Jim Snell 00:46:51.700 --> 00:47:05.540

Yeah, well I, I think it's pretty common for, for, you know, smallish nonprofits to have that both the chair and the treasurer have signature authority on the on the bank account.

279

Jim Snell 00:47:06.980 --> 00:47:24.300

And and and sometimes depending on how the nonprofit is set up and what their bylaws require, sometimes they require sign signatures of two people on all, all checks. I don't friends isn't set up that way. Yeah. And i'm suggesting that it should be, but that is.

280

Nathan Farnor 00:47:24.900 --> 00:47:27.540

There's no like credit card or anything, right? I'm assuming.

281

Eileen Wollam 00:47:28.340 --> 00:47:29.260

There's the debit card.

282

Jim Snell 00:47:29.460 --> 00:47:30.940

Yeah, she has a debit card.

283

Nathan Farnor 00:47:31.300 --> 00:47:51.660

Okay, ok. Yeah. My other, my other question I think all that makes sense. So two questions. One Jim, is ideally I think it would make sense to try to talk to Stephanie before the friends meeting. If And this is a, this is a process question, a legality question if.

284

Nathan Farnor 00:47:51.780 --> 00:47:57.500

If Stephanie and I just ask the two of us were to chat about this, does that considered a meeting?

285

Jim Snell 00:48:00.100 --> 00:48:02.620

Two or more, yes it sorry Eileen it is.

286

Eileen Wollam 00:48:02.740 --> 00:48:03.100

Search.

287

Jim Snell 00:48:04.580 --> 00:48:12.260

The state statute is pretty clear, two or more members of a governing body, it's considered a meeting.

288

Nathan Farnor 00:48:13.460 --> 00:48:13.980

I think.

289

Terry Silver 00:48:14.420 --> 00:48:14.700
Vote.

290

Jim Snell 00:48:17.380 --> 00:48:20.020
So w we've, we've.

291

Nathan Farnor 00:48:22.020 --> 00:48:23.020
These are the things that keep.

292

Jim Snell 00:48:23.260 --> 00:48:27.660
Vast legal about that in the past and that they they don't think that
that's really a distinction.

293

Jim Snell 00:48:29.580 --> 00:48:38.260
That would probably pass Mustar if someone from the public were to I
mean, because the, the, the point is that there's not back room to
eelings.

294

Jim Snell 00:48:40.340 --> 00:48:46.700
And whether or not there's a vote, it's could potentially run a fowl of
the open meetings requirements.

295

Terry Silver 00:48:47.540 --> 00:48:47.780
Hey.

296

Nathan Farnor 00:48:48.180 --> 00:48:48.980
I'll navigate.

297

Nathan Farnor 00:48:51.420 --> 00:48:55.180
So does the content matter or no? Because of what comes to mind is.

298

Nathan Farnor 00:48:56.460 --> 00:48:59.860
Like when friends, the friends aboard as a meeting.

299

Nathan Farnor 00:49:02.300 --> 00:49:04.180
And there's obviously several commissioners on that.

300

Jim Snell 00:49:04.740 --> 00:49:04.820
Yeah.

301

Nathan Farnor 00:49:05.460 --> 00:49:07.940

Data is that theoretically of a VT meeting?

302

Jim Snell 00:49:09.340 --> 00:49:17.900

No, because those, those folks are participating in that meeting in their their capacity as board members of friends of volunteer at Tennessee.

303

Jim Snell 00:49:18.900 --> 00:49:23.340

And so, I mean, and in in theory you could say that.

304

Jim Snell 00:49:24.620 --> 00:49:26.900

In this particular instance Stephanie would be.

305

Jim Snell 00:49:28.540 --> 00:49:38.180

Part of that discussion as the treasurer of friends of volunteer Tennessee and representing friends of volunteer at Tennessee and therefore it doesn't constitute a public meeting, but.

306

Jim Snell 00:49:39.980 --> 00:49:47.540

I, I think s someone could also say that that split splitting hairs. So, you know, I I I I.

307

Nathan Farnor 00:49:47.620 --> 00:49:51.460

So we gotta invite the public to me and Stephanie just having a chat.

308

Jim Snell 00:49:53.380 --> 00:49:56.820

And I I think I mean I think you could probably do it.

309

Jim Snell 00:49:59.580 --> 00:50:11.180

With the rationale that she would solely be representing friends of volunteer Tennessee. Okay. But, but if there were any discussion at all about volunteer Tennessee.

310

Jim Snell 00:50:13.220 --> 00:50:18.220

Business, then that would run a fowl of of the open meetings requirements.

311

Nathan Farnor 00:50:19.020 --> 00:50:20.980

Okay, so.

312

Eileen Wollam 00:50:21.580 --> 00:50:29.420

I'm to your Tendency needs to meet the open meetings requirements but friends on its own does not.

313

Jim Snell 00:50:31.140 --> 00:50:32.260

Well, well, so the.

314

Jim Snell 00:50:34.340 --> 00:50:38.540

I, it's been a while since I've looked at the statute, but the statute.

315

Jim Snell 00:50:40.860 --> 00:50:41.860

I think is written.

316

Jim Snell 00:50:44.580 --> 00:50:49.100

It's for the open meeting requirements for organizations that have.

317

Jim Snell 00:50:52.020 --> 00:51:10.700

The ability to set policy and and probably not saying it the right way. And so don't, don't take me a hundred percent on this, but it's kind of like that. So if you, if you're an agency that has the ability to set some sort of policy, then you have to have an open meetings. I don't, I don't.

318

Jim Snell 00:51:11.460 --> 00:51:31.140

Know that it applies to nonprofits across the board. I I don't know because again I'm I'm I'm not I can't represent friends of volunteers Tennessee as a staff member so I I I've not really investigated whether or not it should or does apply to friends. I, I don't think it does, but I I could be wrong about that.

319

Jim Snell 00:51:33.860 --> 00:51:36.780

But in the in that case, it still.

320

Jim Snell 00:51:39.620 --> 00:51:42.620

Would still only be a single member of friends.

321

Jim Snell 00:51:44.340 --> 00:51:47.980

Talking to someone who is not on friends and and so.

322

Jim Snell 00:51:50.620 --> 00:51:55.100

Nathan definitely is not on the friends board. So in that direction, there's no.

323

Nathan Farnor 00:51:55.660 --> 00:51:58.700

That to be. And.

324

Jim Snell 00:51:59.660 --> 00:52:14.820

Right now, right now you're not and so in that direction from the friends direction, even if it's required for friends, Nathan's not a board member of friends, and so it wouldn't apply. It's the other direction because they're both part of volunteer Tennessee where it could be a bit sticky.

325

Nathan Farnor 00:52:17.100 --> 00:52:21.340

So all that to say, I will I'll chat with you offline Jim, and we'll figure out how to navigate that.

326

Jim Snell 00:52:22.500 --> 00:52:24.300

Well, and I, you know, I think I think.

327

Jim Snell 00:52:26.340 --> 00:52:40.820

You you could I mean you could probably send her those questions in an email and copy me, and then it becomes part of the public record if someone were to do a freight of information request, then it would be available.

328

Jim Snell 00:52:42.340 --> 00:52:49.580

We wouldn't actively post it, you know, online, but it would be available to the public if the public wanted to, to get access to it.

329

Nathan Farnor 00:52:50.020 --> 00:53:10.420

Well maybe that's maybe that's what I'll do is I will draft up a little bit more narrative format. What of what we're thinking about and kind of our justification. I will send that over to Stephanie and I'll copy you on it Jim, and just kind of hey Stephanie, here's what we're thinking. What are your initial thoughts feedback on this concerns you may have, and I'll also share that we're thinking.

330

Nathan Farnor 00:53:12.260 --> 00:53:32.100

Sharing some of this at the larger friends meeting, but really just wanting and then if Stephanie has Stephanie feels as though we need to have a conversation prior to the meeting, then we'll navigate that. But if not, but at least but if it if if she reads it and feels comfortable with all of it, then, then the conversation will beat the meeting itself, right? The one that will have in December so ok my.

331

Nathan Farnor 00:53:33.100 --> 00:53:50.500

Second follow up question then is, do you have an Eileen, you may also this I guess we can breather of you. Do you have any existing relationship with any other friends of service agencies like any of the other states level or or I'm just I I've got those relationships with.

332

Nathan Farnor 00:53:52.180 --> 00:53:57.220

Friends of other nonprofits and Tennessee but not of a, of an actual service commission. So I'm cu.

333

Jim Snell 00:53:57.260 --> 00:53:57.300

Yeah.

334

Nathan Farnor 00:53:57.940 --> 00:53:58.500

Have a sample.

335

Nathan Farnor 00:54:00.580 --> 00:54:00.820

You know.

336

Jim Snell 00:54:01.180 --> 00:54:02.220

Yeah, well.

337

Jim Snell 00:54:02.980 --> 00:54:19.980

Yeah, I mean I could I could check with other states, but, probably what you would be more beneficial for you because other state laws are different and so talking to another commission might not necessarily be helpful. But, Nancy's Challeen who represents.

338

Jim Snell 00:54:21.860 --> 00:54:30.180

The Tennessee Department of Environment and cons conservation, I think has a lot of interactions with friends of state parks.

339

Jim Snell 00:54:34.380 --> 00:54:46.660

That could be someone who might be able to kind of shed a little light on this kind of thing. I I don't know if she gets into the weeds of, of, you know, money and how the money flows, but.

340

Nathan Farnor 00:54:47.140 --> 00:54:53.460

Or she may know of somebody who does though. Yeah. So I'm just curious in terms of that like government to non government.

341

Nathan Farnor 00:54:54.820 --> 00:55:00.220

Are there some good, are there some samples of some things that have, that have been working that haven't seen to run a miss of any.

342

Nathan Farnor 00:55:01.900 --> 00:55:22.100

Government legal things, right? Challenges, so. Okay, that is helpful. I may do that offline I may I may just shoot an email and just just ask some questions there as well just to give us some other ideas about when we, you know, assuming friends is on board with all these things and we do move forward into thinking through what is the platform, what are the

costs, what are the percentages? How do we, what are our, what are our process.

343

Nathan Farnor 00:55:22.620 --> 00:55:25.540

If they're already some good working best practices, I'd rather not.

344

Nathan Farnor 00:55:26.940 --> 00:55:33.220

You know reinvent the wheel. So, yeah. Okay, what are we missing? I know we've only got eight minutes left.

345

Terry Silver 00:55:35.140 --> 00:55:49.700

I think this is a great start. I really do. I think we need to definitely get friends on board and and if once we have something in place, then we can start talking about sponsorships and reaching out to others. Yeah.

346

Jim Snell 00:55:49.860 --> 00:55:56.180

Yeah, and Nathan I I sent you the the invitation to the next friends meeting. Perfect.

347

Jim Snell 00:55:58.900 --> 00:56:03.780

You know J James will have to be the one to say whether or not that meeting's gonna actually happen. I mean.

348

Nathan Farnor 00:56:04.580 --> 00:56:04.700

Yeah.

349

Jim Snell 00:56:05.940 --> 00:56:09.460

I think at the Eileen, do you, were you at the last friend's meeting? I think.

350

Eileen Wollam 00:56:09.780 --> 00:56:09.820

Yeah.

351

Jim Snell 00:56:10.980 --> 00:56:21.860

And brought it up, say, well, we'll see in November. So as far as I know it's gonna happen, but you know, if, if he gets a bunch of people say, hey, I can't make it, he may cancel it.

352

Nathan Farnor 00:56:24.060 --> 00:56:44.020

Perfect. Yeah. I've got a whole bunch of new items on my thing. I will work on. Priority though is touching base with Stephanie to just make sure she's in alignment, see if she has any concerns or questions. Assuming that that meeting happens or if not that meeting, whenever the reschedule is, I I coming my.

353

Nathan Farnor 00:56:44.260 --> 00:56:56.660

Myself coming to just share kind of our thought process, the reasoning, what's prompted this, of course, which is a potential large donation intended for a rainy day fund. Maybe elicit some feedback from those folks and then when I pull us back together.

354

Nathan Farnor 00:56:58.500 --> 00:57:08.500

Hopefully we'll have some yeses and some research and we can get a little bit more in the weeds. So is that sound right? Okay, question Terry, is there any sense of urgency with this donation that you have.

355

Nathan Farnor 00:57:10.060 --> 00:57:11.900

They're not like we want it donated by December one.

356

Nathan Farnor 00:57:13.060 --> 00:57:14.660

If there's not a flame under us or anything.

357

Jim Snell 00:57:17.620 --> 00:57:17.940

You mean.

358

Terry Silver 00:57:20.740 --> 00:57:27.100

My apologies. Let me check on that. Okay. I don't know if it has to be done by the end of the year or if it can be in the new year. I'll check.

359

Nathan Farnor 00:57:27.140 --> 00:57:31.660

Yeah, you'll find out if we if we have a sense of urgency and we need to move quicker on something just so we know.

360

Nathan Farnor 00:57:33.180 --> 00:57:36.660

You know, it's a very generous donation and we want to honor the fact that they're.

361

Terry Silver 00:57:36.740 --> 00:57:43.740

So if it has to be done by the end of the year before we're ready, we could, it could go ahead and and be donated to friends and just kind of.

362

Nathan Farnor 00:57:44.420 --> 00:57:47.740

If we just on the back end, we'll know once we get this processed that it can get.

363

Nathan Farnor 00:57:49.540 --> 00:57:50.060

Is this.

364

Eileen Wollam 00:57:51.460 --> 00:57:54.460

The grant from middle Tennessee Electric that you're talking about.

365

Eileen Wollam 00:57:55.980 --> 00:57:57.780

Through Jay, this is something else. Yeah.

366

Eileen Wollam 00:57:58.580 --> 00:57:59.620

Okay, so.

367

Nathan Farnor 00:57:59.780 --> 00:58:15.340

Is an independent individual donor, you know, just wanting to donate that believes in the work and is wanting to make a large contribution and we don't really have a good process in place. So that's what we're trying to figure out. I think that's what prompted most of this. Yep. Yeah.

368

Nathan Farnor 00:58:18.140 --> 00:58:19.620

Thank you all. We get five minutes back.

369

Nathan Farnor 00:58:22.820 --> 00:58:29.020

Thanks Jim. Thanks, Candice, Terry Eileen, thank you all and I'll see you in the the email world. So.

370

Terry Silver 00:58:29.860 --> 00:58:31.220

Thank you Nathan for leading the group.

371

Eileen Wollam 00:58:31.900 --> 00:58:32.420

Had Nathan.

372

Terry Silver 00:58:33.300 --> 00:58:33.540

Everybody.

373

Eileen Wollam 00:58:35.060 --> 00:58:35.220

Huh.

374

Eileen Wollam 00:58:42.740 --> 00:58:43.820

Where I can I exit from.