



**Professional Association for SQL Server
Board of Directors Meeting**

Teleconference – October 11, 2012
2:00 pm Pacific Time

Attendees: Adam Jorgensen, Allen Kinsel, Denise McInerney, James Rowland-Jones, Rob Farley, Kendal Van Dyke, Thomas LaRock, Bill Graziano, Neil Buchwalter, Jennifer Moser, Lara Rubbelke, Judy Christianson, Craig Ellis, Alison MacDonald.

Not in attendance: Rick Bolesta, Douglas McDowell, Rushabh Mehta.

Agenda for Discussion:

1. Program Lessons Learnt
2. Unaffiliated Event during Summit

Meeting Minutes

1. Program Lessons Learnt

Adam Jorgensen distributed lessons learnt from the 2012 Program Committee to the Board prior to the meeting. The lessons included starting the process earlier in the year, the need for better alignment between Microsoft and PASS calendars, and incorporating community feedback prior to the schedule going live. Communication was an area of focus. Adam recommended including Microsoft in the program committee meeting, improved communication within the team and re-evaluating feedback mechanisms.

The Board discussed scoring information and feedback to speakers. When looking at publishing scores or providing feedback Denise McInerney wanted to ensure the plan erred on the side of protecting the program committee. James Rowland-Jones requested the program committee establish its goals at the start – such as an increased number of international speakers.

Action Adam, JRJ, Kendal Van Dyke and Jennifer Moser will discuss this further after Summit.

2. Unaffiliated Event during Summit

Bill Graziano was asked if a particular unaffiliated event held during the same time frame as Summit violated the Anti-Harassment Policy and if the host of that event would be allowed to speak at Summit.

It was made clear that the event was not affiliated in any way to PASS or Summit. It will not be advertised on any PASS site. The Anti-Harassment Policy applies only to Summit and PASS-sponsored social events.

Bill did not want to cancel a speaker because of activities outside of Summit. JRJ agreed that PASS cannot stop anyone from expressing themselves outside of Summit; however the Board could ask them to remove any direct or indirect reference to PASS or Summit from their marketing materials. 'PASS' is a protected word-mark.

Denise agreed that references to PASS needed to be removed. She also felt there was a risk associated with the event organizer's session at Summit. The session had previously been recorded at a SQLSaturday and in that version the content would have been deemed unacceptable for Summit. Adam had previously spoken with the speaker and the questionable material was to be removed; however he had not yet reviewed the new presentation. He was working to ensure an alternate was lined up for the session. An additional concern about the session is that PASS is paying for a session recording that potentially cannot be used.

Denise said the Board was being looked to for leadership. While there is no jurisdiction over non-official events Directors can say that the Board does not condone this event. Rob Farley said there is more risk associated with harassing behaviour at a sanctioned PASS event than at one that identifies itself as no affiliated and which is advertised as being inappropriate.

Allen Kinsel questioned if similar courses of action would be taken again competitors that used PASS or Summit in their marketing materials. Denise clarified it is the character of the event and the liability associated with it that distinguishes between the event being discussed and other events.

Action Thomas will reach out to the event organizers to remove any affiliation or reference to PASS and Summit. The Program team always has alternate speakers available.

3. Next Meeting

In-Person Meeting at PASS Summit 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 pm pacific time.