

Minutes of the Soarin' Hawk Board of Directors
University of Saint Francis, Achatz Hall of Science
Feb. 10, 2026

Members in attendance – M Dobbs, L Weber, A Candor (virtual), J Hardy, G Stewart, J Moore, L Ostergren, D Rezits (virtual)

Absent – M Watts

Call to Order 8:32 – Lou

Approved January minutes

Budget Overview – Mike

- Provided high-level budget overview
 - o Costs trending steadily up with not much room for discretion
 - Utilities, rescues, food
 - o Accounting expense is necessary with increasing amounts of paperwork
- Revenue is projected ~\$10k short of expenses
 - o Harder to predict, heavily reliant on individual donations
 - o Currently planning to withdraw ~~\$20k~~ \$12k from STAR and \$10k from marketing initiative
 - **Andy will contact STAR to adjust withdrawal procedures**
 - Mike suggests that we only withdraw what we need to balance the budget mid-year
 - Next meeting we will address the need for a supermajority to withdraw from endowment principal
- **Approved 2026 Budget**

Marketing Committee – Andy

- Need to become more intentional with marketing initiatives
 - o Gigi committed to posting 3x per week, volunteer Tyler helping with content
 - o Website has become somewhat dated
 - **Jacob still looking at websites from other organizations**
 - o Harping on social media about expenses involved and that we do not receive any federal or state funds
 - o Directed donation campaigns i.e. a new fridge, a medical need, food
 - Funding education kits to send to outlying schools

- Lou discussed idea of memberships with exclusive benefits
 - Tied idea into Patreon or other paid subscription
 - **Jacob will send links to Patreon, YouTube subscription options**

Interpretive Training – Gigi

- Gigi spoke with Monique from Colorado who will provide an in-person program tailored to Soarin' Hawk's needs (PATH – People, Aim, Theme, How)
 - Suggests option C in proposal (\$3500 plus basic travel and accommodation)
 - Two Saturday sessions
- **Jacob putting together guidelines about language during presentations**
 - Monique also has some ideas on this
- Andy asked about designated “lead/moderator” at presentations to open and close, subtly ask for donations
- Need an overhaul of how we do presentations
 - Asking questions, rolling with the punches, being more engaging with the audience
 - People don't want to hear us talk. They want to see the birds.
- **Passed a motion to proceed with Monique for training and travel expenses**

Peregrine falcon cam – Lou

- Birds are in the box. Is the camera on?
 - We will follow up
 - Lynne checked and cam is on

Board Consultant – Lou

- With Rhonda being unavailable, **Lou will ask Rhonda for other suggestions**
 - **Andy talking to Foellinger**

New Bird Acquisition – Gigi

- Can't break ground on Jefferson's mew until the weather breaks
- Peregrine is coming in March

New business

Issue with rescue meetings/training – Mike and Gigi

- Need to address volunteer taking over responsibility of rescue without authorization

Meeting adjourned 9:51

Next meeting TBD