

Saving Sight March 9 Board Meeting Brief

The board of directors met via Zoom on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. The following are some highlights from the meeting.

In attendance: Lion Pat Martchink, PCC Larry Boettcher, CC George Winkeler, VCC Scott Sattler, Lion Mike Oldelehr, Lion Dr. Cassidy Obermark, PDG Pat Scott, PDG Roger Tiemann, PDG Al Dohmen, Amy Leslie, Hon. Jeff Schaperkoetter, VDG Devin Struttman, Dr. Michael Korenfeld, Tony Bavuso, Tina Livesay, Marlene Wilkerson, Patrick Gore, Kathy Gray, Annie Kuhl

- Saving Sight's eye banking operations continue to fare well during the pandemic. Recently, the EBAA shared that eye banks reported an average 14% decrease in domestic surgeries during the pandemic. Saving Sight only saw a 6% decrease.
- Many staff have returned to in-office work at Saving Sight's offices, and work is underway to encourage all staff to get a COVID-19 vaccination.
- The board will put together a nominating committee to develop a slate of officers for the upcoming 2021-2022 fiscal year. The committee will meet over the coming weeks to develop the slate and present it to the board at its June 2021 meeting.
- Saving Sight's work in processing Vital Tears (autologous serum eye drop) orders has continued to grow over the past year. As a result of this growth, Vital Tears and Saving Sight have started a construction expansion project for its lab into the adjacent office space it owns that was previously rented out to a daycare. The construction project is expected to be completed by April with expectation that the space will be in use by May. Vital Tears has also purchased the land adjacent to its building in Kansas City with the intention of constructing a new building for its operations in the future.
- In the first six months of the fiscal year Saving Sight continues to perform well financially and within its income and expense budget, with a positive net income.
- The board reviewed its investment policy and approved adjustments to that policy to maximize returns.
- In the coming months the board will be going through an anonymous self-evaluation process to identify areas for growth and development.
- The board's business development committee will meet as needed to review and vet ideas for mission and business expansion before bringing proposals to the board.
- Beginning in March, Saving Sight will send out a quarterly e-newsletter to Lions called Lions InSight. The newsletter will share mission stories, current information and other volunteer opportunity information for our supporting stakeholders and Lions.
- The next meeting of Saving Sight's board of directors will be on Saturday, June 19, 2021 at Saving Sight in Kansas City. Any Lions who wish to attend may contact Saving Sight's Communications team at pr@saving-sight.org or 800-753-2265 for more information.