

Call to order: 6:37 PM

Roll Call

Board members present: Laurence Mohr, Kevin Santulis, Jurgen Patau, Martin Mika, Dan Hyslop, Dave Leiphart, Christine Zeltner

Review and Approval of the Agenda

The meeting agenda was amended by removing section 4. *MMSD partnership proposal by Ben Senson*, since this occurred casually before the meeting was called to order. The board toured both Oakwood Village and Memorial High School and MMSD Planetarium before the meeting began.

Kevin moved to approve the agenda as amended, Christine seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Review and Approval of 8 January Board Minutes

Jurgen moved to approve the 8 January 2026 meeting minutes as presented, Dan seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Priorities and Guidance for the Web Committee in 2026

The board had a spirited discussion about the function and roles of the webmaster and ad-hoc website committee in defining the priorities of the new club website. The consensus of the board is that the webmaster has a broad directive to implement features and functions chosen by the board and that the committee exists to support him in executing this plan. The committee is not itself a steering committee meant to define the direction or functions of the website and perhaps the board did not communicate this well.

The board's priorities include functional improvements like online membership tools and document access.

Kevin will prepare a document defining the board's priorities for the website and Jurgen will meet with some of the individual committee members.

It was also observed that the bylaws are not very specific about the structure of committees and it may be worthwhile to revisit this language in the future to formally define the board's intent that committees are led by a board appointee who is responsible for making decisions.

Moon Over Monona Committee

The board deferred discussion of this topic to the next scheduled meeting.

Board Succession

Many of the board members have been serving a long time and it would be beneficial to bring in some new blood. President Mohr specifically is retiring at the end of this term and Kevin is willing to take on the role next year to build a bridge to a new generation of leadership. The board's nominating committee identified several active committee members who may make good board candidates and will approach them about serving.

Meeting Site and MMSD Partnership Discussion

The board weighed the pros and cons of the two facilities we toured today, Oakwood Village and Memorial High School/MMSD Planetarium as options to replace UW Space Place as a site for monthly club meetings. Oakwood had generally better facilities but not enough to outweigh the benefits of a long-term partnership between MAS and MMSD. The board believes that partnering with MMSD will accelerate membership growth, especially with young people. The board also sees benefits of working with Oakwood and we may host irregular events there like banquets, larger talks or movie nights.

Jurgen moved to formally apply to MMSD to use Memorial High School and the MMSD Planetarium as a primary meeting site while keeping Oakwood Village available for other events. Kevin seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

Kevin had previously identified an alternative property insurer that would offer better premiums than our current provider. Further exploration discovered their product only covers leased and not owned facilities. Dave found out what provider Milwaukee's society uses and the board will revisit the topic closer to the renewal date.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 4th at 6:00 PM.

Jurgen moved to adjourn, Kevin seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM