February 1, 2021

GHI Website Task Force Minutes: January 28, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4 pm. Participants included task force members: Ken Shields, Monica Jerbi, Mary Roth, and David Frauenheim. Task force member, Olivia Guerrieri, did not attend the meeting. Neron Adams-Escalera and Tom Sporney, GHI staff members, also participated in the call.

Team members discussed and reviewed the task force charge. Consensus was achieved and the updated charge was sent to GHI for review and approval at an upcoming board meeting—date yet to be determined.

The team also discussed and debated the merits of website products such as Drupal, WordPress, and other open-source platforms in addition to the YARDI's proprietary website solution that was presented to GHI late last year. We talked about costs, implementation, and challenges with each option.

Next Steps
1. Garner approval for the task force charge from the board.
2. Share the YARDI website proposal submitted to GHI with website task force members.
3. Schedule presentation by YARDI of the proposal they presented to GHI outlining their website capabilities.
4. Discuss schedule of meetings, assign minutes responsibilities, and the possible addition of members from outreach and communications committee

Addendum to minutes prepared by Monica
Thanks so much, Ken. The minutes and attachments are helpful, but I note they do not reflect my concerns/questions from the previous two meetings about what the actual estimated costs of a Yardi public website (if separate from the members or board login only) content management system, design, wireframe development, etc. would be. That was the context for the discussion around open source (free) content management systems, and your minutes don't reflect that. David also brought up a great point, also not reflected in the minutes, that one possibility is Yardi is a bunch of apps/modules and not a website at all. He also brought up some great points about the web design process, particularly the need for wireframes, to guide development, etc., and how that generally fits in web development pricing.

I would still like to see the actual Yardi proposal and respectfully ask you to consider this email represents the fifth time I have asked to see that document without getting it. Is there a reason why this committee cannot see it? The Business Solutions Task Force document is dumbed down for a non-technical audience, so it has limited value from a technical standpoint to fully understand what is happening here. It seems odd the cost for the members only/board website is listed as zero versus hourly. You'll note there is no mention of any wireframe development for the member's only portion of the website. That raises a question mark in my mind. Can you send the Yardi proposal before the next meeting? That would be very helpful for me to understand what is going on. Thanks again.