

Taxpayer Communications Project Committee Meeting Monthly Meeting Minutes February 9, 2021

Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

Cedric Jeans Designated Federal Office

Member Attendance

•	Hercules Analitis	Chicago, IL	Member
•	Patricia Anthony	Garland, TX	Member
•	Marlon Bell	Pearland, TX	Member
•	Hodari Brown	Redford, MI	Member
•	James "Jim" Buttonow	Summerfield, NC	Chair
•	Rita Green	Memphis, TN	Member
•	Ai Lin	China Lake, CA(Absent)	Member
•	Donna Patterson	Bothell, WA	Member
•	Tracey Randall-York	Ontario, CA	Member
•	Joanne Thurston	Marietta, GA	Member
•	Leigh Ann Wood	Columbia, SC	Vice-Chair

Staff

•	Kevin Brown	TAP Secretary
•	Terrie English	TAP Director
•	Conchata Holloway	TAP Program Analyst
•	Antoinette "Toni" Ross	TAP Program Analyst
•	Fred Smith	TAP Program Analyst

Self-Introductions/Roll Call

Quorum was met.

Public

None

Welcome/Announcements/Review Agenda/TAP Mission

Jeans opened the meeting at 11:00am ET. Jeans welcomed the committee and explained that WebEx is the primary program that is used for TAP meetings. We will use Zoom periodically. Jeans explained the TAP mission to the committee and the place for each member of this committee. English welcomed everyone to the meeting also ensured the members that the technical issues will be resolved soon. English looks forward the committee's flexibility and for a good TAP year.



TAP Meeting Procedures

Holloway gave an introduction of herself and her work experience with the IRS. Jeans explained what the DFO is and that they are tasked with ensuring that each committee follows all the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) guidelines. Therefore, the DFO approves the committee agendas, with buy in from the Chair, opens and adjourns each meeting and ensures each meeting makes quorum.

Ground Rules

Holloway reviewed the ground rules designed to keep the meetings productive and running smoothly. These rules are needs because there is a lot of business done on the monthly meetings and they are usually only one hour long. Identify yourself when speaking so members and note takers know who is attributing to the meeting; participate in each meeting; listen and give respect to fellow committee members; avoid sidebar conversations while the meetings are occurring; respect each other's time by being prepared for the meetings and follow the agenda as approved for each meeting.

Telephone & E-Mail Etiquette

Keep phones on mute until you are speaking to avoid outside noise; please do not put the call on hold, especially for those calling from an office. Call back into the meeting if you have to take another call; practice sound e-mail etiquette when replying. Reply All only if needed, otherwise reply to the individual(s) that need to read your message.

Meeting Types

Most of the TAP meetings will occur using the WebEx program. WebEx requires a separate dial in number for the sound and works very well for file sharing that is done during most TAP meetings. Periodically there may be Zoom meetings.

Establish Quorum & Consensus

Quorum is half the committee plus one, while consensus is a majority of the committee. Quorum is required for committee meetings to conduct business such as voting and approving decisions for the committee.

Minutes/Minutes Approval

Minutes are approved as submitted or after any changes or suggestions by a motion being made and seconded.

Agenda & Pre-Read Information

Review the agendas and pre-reads before the meetings. Make any changes prior to the meeting so we are providing the most updated information before the meetings start.



Activity Reports/Time Reporting

The reports will be your time sheets in a sense, which is used to capture all your time you are committing for TAP activities. These will be for all outreach activities (virtual and in person), all meetings and subcommittees, all time spent preparing for meetings or outreach events including phone calls and e-mails sent for TAP business. At the end of your tenure with TAP your hours are tallied to determine which Presidential Award you may be eligible for: Bronze 200 to 300, Silver 301-499 and Gold 500 and above.

Methods of Communication

Carbon copy (CC) the TAP mailbox when sending e-mails to conduct TAP business. This email is tapadvocacypanel@irs.gov. The www.tapspace.org or the www.improveirs.org are your primary resources for TAP business. New members should login and setup their profiles on this site. Conchata Holloway, the committee analyst, is the primary resource for any committee issues.

So You Want to Be a Chair or Vice-Chair?

Holloway reviewed the responsibilities of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair for perspective members interested in committee leadership. Holloway discussed the importance of quorum and why it is needed to conduct committee business. Quorum is half the number of members plus one. Consensus is a simple majority of the committee membership to move forward on issues. A meeting will be administrative unless quorum is met. No votes or decisions will be made if quorum has not been met.

Holloway reviewed how motions are made in order to move issues forward, approved decisions and get things done in the committee. Each motion requires a second in order to be accepted or approved. The motion process is an abridged version of the Robert's Rules of Order for TAP meetings.

Nominate Candidates

Wood self-nominated for Vice-Chair and Buttonow for Chair. Buttonow accepted the nomination for Chair. Buttonow and Wood introduced themselves and gave information about their backgrounds.

Election Results

Because the nominations were unopposed Jim Buttonow is the Chair and Leigh Ann Wood is the Vice-Chair.

Approval of Minutes

November 10, 2020, Buttonow added follow-up with media relations about the TAP new release. Wood motioned, Analitis seconded.

Action: minutes approved as amended.



Establishment of Subcommittees and Meeting Dates

Full Committee Meeting- Second Tuesday 12:00 to 1:00pm ET.

Subcommittee 1- Buttonow, Analitis, Bell, Green, Patterson, Thurston

First Tuesday, 12:00pm to 1:00pm ET.

Subcommittee 2- Anthony, Wood, Brown, Lin, Randall-York

First Wednesday 12- 1pm ET.

Outreach (Vice-Chair)- Wood

Screening Members- Green, Thurston, Buttonow, Anthony,

Quality (QR)- Patterson

Internal Communications Rep- Patterson

Review of IRS Responses

Issue 37272 Tabled until May

Continuation of Project Work from 2020

- Issue 40485-Tax Calendar Sub. 2
- Issue 40148-Multiple Year "Where's My Refund" Online Tool Sub. 2
- Issue 41883-Official Written IRS Payoff Amount on a Tax Balanced Owed Sub 1

2021 Project Committee Work

- Issue 42909–Electronically sign F8888, Allocation of Refund and F8822 Change of Address Sub. 1
- Issue 42572–Acknowledge Receipt of Mailed in Tax Return Sub. 1
- Issue 43623—Communicating with the IRS via Text or Email Sub. 2
- Issue 44227–Consolidation of the IRS SP Office Sub. 1
- 44163-Understandinf of the Refundable Credits Sub. 2

Action Items Summary

• Follow-up with media relations about TAP member new release.

Closing

Buttonow thanked everyone for joining the meeting. Jeans closed the meeting at 1:00pm ET.

The next monthly meeting March 9, 2021 at 12:00pm ET.

These minutes have been approved and certified by the committee chairperson.