

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: March 8, 2015

It was determined that a quorum of board members was present, and the meeting was called to order by Board Chair Njon Weinroth at 12 PM PDT. The board members present were: Dan Carrigan, Byron Kerr, Emily Marcus, Joe Mott, Tim Reith, Craig Whalley, and Carola Ziermann. LifeRing Executive Director Robert Stump was also in attendance.

Consent Agenda

It consisted of the February 2015 Minutes and the Treasurer's Report. It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to accept both reports as submitted.

Public Forum Comments

There were none.

Committee Reports

Revenue

Carola reported that the Financial Committee recently met. Their final budget proposal is included in the Consent Agenda. Total income and expenses allow allocation of funds for a new office computer, workshops, and conferences. Funding contributions from other sources were discussed, including local California meetings, and the Amazon "Smile" program. A travel budget, not yet included, was recommended.

Member Support

Robert and Byron reported that we have California Area Representatives, falling under the Regional Representatives jurisdiction. We are lacking representatives for a few areas including one part of the Bay Area and Sacramento. All the rest of California is represented including Fresno and San Diego.

A temporary chairperson for the Volunteer Committee is being sought, with the eventual goal of a volunteer list. A person was identified and should respond soon.

Governance Advisory Panel

Tim reported that most of this month's activity focused on a confidential matter and will be discussed at a forthcoming special meeting. He commended all members of the Panel for their participation.

LifeRing Press and External Outreach

Emily reported that a meeting is anticipated soon. Reworking the brochures was a priority for everyone. Joe drafted a new "Choice" brochure that included the Hazle v. Crofoot settlement.

Marty reached agreement with a Swedish non-profit organization for translation of his books into Swedish and their free distribution by electronic means. At Marty's request Tim, having had some correspondences with several prisoners, is writing the main points and some anecdotes of his experiences with them to be included in a second edition of the HWYW Handbook for both the U.S. and Sweden.

Administration

Njon reported that we are close to finalizing a response to a member concern. This effort is also providing an opportunity to reformulate policies and procedures to avoid future ambiguities.

He also reported that the Convenor List is now moderated. Only a few entries were rejected last month.

Byron reported that a Registrar is needed for the 2015 Congress. This appointment is overdue. Byron agreed to do this, teaming with Robert.

It was agreed that to promote fresh board compositions, the materials sent by the Registrar to members in preface to the Congress include encouragements to run for open board seats. Emily volunteered to help Byron with his Registrar activities. Robert reviewed the timeline in preface to the Congress.

Agenda Items

Items from the Board

Njon, with collaboration on presentation materials, will represent LifeRing at the upcoming "Multiple Pathways Conference" to be held in October. The Conference will fund his expenses.

Byron commented that there are new meetings in New Hampshire, North Carolina, Prescott Arizona, and San Mateo.

Items from the Public

There were none.

Adjournment

Given that there was no other business, Njon moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM PDT.

Submitted by Tim Reith

LifeRing Board Secretary

March 18, 2015