

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: July 12, 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 Noon PDT. The board members present were: Dan Carrigan, Mahala Kephart, Byron Kerr, Emily Marcus, Joe Mott, Tim Reith, and Craig Whalley. Executive Director Robert Stump was also present.

Consent Agenda

It consisted of the May 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 being absent, details were not reported. Craig comment, however, that financially, we are behind relative to this time last year.

Member Support

There was no input.

Governance Advisory Panel

Tim reported that he worked with Byron and Advisory Panel members on the possible rewording of Bylaw 6.17. It was agreed that the wording change to it, as suggested by Joe at the Member Congress last month, clarified an issue relating to the seating of the new board. Byron commented that the new wording was ratified and sent to the absentee voters with this wording change shown on the ballot. The new wording also renders this bylaw gender neutral.

LifeRing Press and External Outreach

Mahala reported that work continues on the "Sobriety Is Our Priority" brochure. Emily and Bobbi C. are substantial contributors to this effort.

Emily addressed contributions to Kathleen's "Stories of Secular Recovery" book: As of today there are 18 submissions, and more are expected. The deadline was extended to Labor Day.

Administration

Njon said that a new draft of the Opening Statement was completed. It proceeded to the Administration Committee during the week of July 12 for finalization.

Annual Meeting for 2016

The location and dates for it were addressed in a conference call discussion on July 19. Details were circulated as an addendum report to the agenda for this meeting.

Byron provided an update: He discussed San Diego as the location with several LifeRing members there, and given their enthusiastic responses, he recommended that we choose this location. Hosting and facilities were discussed. Byron agreed to act as the board liaison. Dates were also discussed. These meetings are usually held on the weekend immediately following that of Memorial Day. For 2016, these dates are June 3, 4, and 5. Njon suggested that an *ad hoc* committee be formed to firm up these dates, working in concert with local San Diego personnel.

Joe moved that such an *ad hoc* committee be formed. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Registrar's Report

The Secretary certified the 2015 election results. There were two bylaw amendments on the ballot. Approval requires a super majority vote to pass. All passed, although with some opposition to the new wording of Bylaw 6.4.2. Byron suggested that the Instant Runoff process, using the OpaVote software, is not needed if the number of persons running is equal to the number of seats needed to be filled, as it was this year. Tim commented that all persons running need to be doing so for full three-year terms. Otherwise, ranking would be needed.

Byron will send Robert election result documentation for the website.

Election of Board Chair for 2015-2016

Byron declared his desire for this position. Joe nominated him. Njon nominated Mahala. Both nominations were seconded. There were no other nominations. It was noted that for this vote, an absolute majority is required for election (that is, five "aye" votes).

With an absolute majority, Byron was elected as the new Chair.

Election of Officers for 2015-2016.

As defined by Bylaws 7.1 and 7.2, the officer positions are: Treasurer, Secretary, and Executive Director.

In her absence, a motion to nominate Carola as Treasurer, was tabled until next month. A motion to nominate Tim as Secretary was made. With his acceptance, it was seconded and carried unanimously. It was agreed that Robert should continue as Executive Director.

Items from the Board

Craig said that Marty completed the Second Edition of the “How Was Your Week” book. The printing method was discussed. Marty suggested that we use “Print on Demand” and this was agreed to by general consensus. Robert commented that Marty is not planning to receive a royalty for this edition. The cover artwork was briefly discussed, and Mahala, as Press Chair, will review the choice with Marty.

Byron was asked if we had any materials in the Spanish language and it was suggested that an *ad hoc* committee be formed to address this matter. (To clarify, this was not a board question.) Tim commented that Kathleen worked with a person earlier that is fluent in Spanish. He has translated at least one of the brochures, and perhaps more. It was agreed that she would be the contact person. Mahala and Emily will follow up and bring a plan forward.

Dan acknowledged Njon’s service as Board Chair during the past year.

Adjournment

Given that there was no other business, Byron, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM PDT.

Submitted on July 24, 2015

Tim Reith, Board Secretary