

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: April 9, 2017

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 other board members present were: Dan Carrigan, George Gidora, Byron Kerr, Emily Marcus, Harold Marques, Robert Mullaly, and Craig Whalley. The Executive Director, Robert Stump, was also present. Board Member Carola Ziermann was not present. There were no members of the Public present.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously as submitted. It consisted of the Treasurer's report and March 2017 Minutes, which required minor correction; it was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to accept the March 2017 Minutes as submitted, with correction.

Committee Reports

Administrative Committee

Still need volunteers to sign up for various tasks associated with preparation for 2017 LifeRing Annual Conference.

Byron will submit proposal for a previously successful workshop led by David Fletcher: "Leadership by Example, Influence and Design" for Board Development.

LifeRing Press

No new updates.

External Outreach

No new updates.

Member Support

Recent increase in activity has subsided to previous levels.

Ongoing correspondence with Mykel H. (Elmwood Prison) re: development of prison/inmate outreach once he is released later this year, as long as the Board has no objections. Board voices no objection.

Revenue Committee

43K in bank.

Revenue down approximately \$600 in February, but not unexpected since January through May are traditionally slow months.

Book sales out of Oakland LifeRing office are down; however, Amazon sales are up. Would need to increase Amazon sale quantity in order to reach profits made by sales of books the old way. Note that in the description of *Empowering Your Sober Self*, William White is listed as co-author. This may or may not be intentional: will need to review with Marty.

Ad Hoc

Annual LifeRing Conference date and venue confirmed: June 3-4, 2017 at Hamilton Building's Ballroom at 631 O'Farrell St., San Francisco, CA

Discussion re: budget for cost of meals during the Congress. LifeRing can pay for lunches but attendees will pay for Sunday banquet; if anyone has difficulty paying, LifeRing will assist. The banquet may have approximately 30 people at \$25-30 per head.

Spreadsheet/Meeting schedule: Robert M. and Dan will collaborate on both the Committee Meetings (or Reformat Structure) as well as on Board Development and Planning. Goal is to provide an outline for facilitating discussion on the direction and focus of the Board going forward.

In summary, there will be no charge for the conference itself; attendees will pay for the lunch banquet on Sunday. EventBrite will be used to register for the Sunday banquet.

Bobbi C. has sent out blog with meeting invite and election information.

Old Business

Professional Advisory Board

No new updates.

New Business

Election information is up on LifeRing website.

Discussion re: need for Board Candidates. Lorraine, a convenor from CO, with background in non-profits and Choice in Recovery is submitting application. Bobbi C. is undecided; Byron K. will run.

Bylaw Changes posted on website. Clarification of proposal for change to Bylaw 5.2.2. which reads, "The date that a meeting must be in place in order to be eligible to send a delegate to the annual Congress shall be forty-five (45) days before the Congress."

Since "must be in place" is vague, proposed change would be as follows:
5.5.2 language would be replaced entirely with this wording, "In order to be eligible to send a delegate to the annual Congress a meeting shall be registered with the Service Center 45 days prior to Congress".

In The Rooms: Robert and Penny had recent discussion with founders of *In The Rooms*. Penny is eager to pursue a LifeRing presence there, as she is great proponent of FTF online meeting format. *In the Rooms* hosts hundreds of meetings on its site, mostly 12-Step, although previously there were two SMART meetings as well as one WFS meeting. LifeRing's presence in In The Rooms would encourage cross-pollination; downside is would have to tolerate advertising, and some LifeRingers may object based on their own negative perceptions about any relationship to 12-Step.

Public Comments

There were none.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn. It was seconded and carried unanimously.

*Submitted by Ewa Conroy
LifeRing Board Secretary
May 4, 2017*