

FMinutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting held on January 9, 2022

Call to Order / Introduction of Members of the Public:

It was determined that a quorum of board members were present and the meeting was called to order by Sue Betts, Board Chair at 9:01 am PDT. Board members present were: Steve Gonzales, Treasurer, Lorraine Hull, Secretary, Chris Smith, George Gidora, Paula Gillen, Mary Beth O'Connor and Lisa Swing-Corney.

Non-board members in attendance included: Robert Stump, Executive Director.

Minutes and P&L Reports:

Chris made a motion to approve the December board meeting minutes as amended. Paula seconded the motion and all approved. Paula made a motion to approve the P&L, Lorraine seconded it and all were in favor.

Old Business:

Authorized Signer for Checking Account / Credit Card

This has not been updated yet but Steve said it will be.

Budget Request Form

There was discussion of adding several new categories on this form from those listed on Quick Books to make it clearer for board members who want to request funds. Steve agreed to map a few of the ideas to cost centers and send it out for feedback. If needed, we will discuss it again next month.

New Business:

Strategic Planning and Execution Workgroup

In preparation for Robert's pending departure a strategy is needed to put basic tasks together. Also, reminded of the importance of having a strategic plan with goals that are agreed upon to use for the year. We need to plan for the future growth of LifeRing in online as well as in person meetings. The need for more convenors, and getting grant funds, as well as defining a process for members to suggest revisions was discussed. Mary Beth volunteered to be on the elections committee. Lorraine offered to work on the strategic plan and Lisa agreed to join as well.

Annual Written Report 10.4.6

The Bylaws require an annual written report for congress during the Sunday meeting. A planning workgroup for the next conference is also needed.

Season of Giving Overview

The overall donations totaled more for 2021 year-over-year; however we did not reach the Season of Giving fundraising goal. The chart reflects Donorbox totals only. It includes all payments that were made via credit card or PayPal.

Steve shared additional data:

- \$38,858 in cost center total which includes checks and other donation streams.
- \$4748 shifted offline donations to Donorbox. This shows the positive results of online efforts.
- Total income for the year was \$74K (including \$15 PPP). Last year it was only \$55K.
- \$250 deficit spending is immaterial. Set to deficit neutral. The operation takes in a certain amount of money and spends that money. LifeRing is not drawing on its savings account. \$11 of interest.

Starting a Speakers Bureau

This topic was tabled until Lisa can attend an Outreach Meeting. LifeRing is getting more and more requests for speakers. Chris requested to be added to the speaker list as a Regional Representative.

25th Anniversary

Plans are underway to hold a cupcake, bagel or other baked surface contest. The contest is primarily to design a LifeRing. Items may be judged for appearance, creativity, taste, etc.

Perhaps there will be an online open house with Marty and Tom.

Paula will design a special banner for this silver anniversary for the website and other promotional areas.

Committees – Detailed in the Quarterly Status Report

All reports were updated. A few specific details were discussed.

Miscellaneous Discussion

Sue asked George how things are going in Canada. George updated that the board there was down to three members but is now back up to six. They just had a great meeting the prior Saturday. There is lots of work ahead because they lost all but two in person meetings. The online meetings are up to six or seven. Jamie, a former board member, is now the president of LifeRing Canada.

Mary Beth questioned why the finance segment was moved to the Executive Session. She wants there to be a finance review in the regular meeting. Robert voiced agreement as he thinks it should be discussed in the public forum. Steve, who reviews the bottom line, does not feel it should be discussed in the public session. He expressed the memory of the feeling when the numbers were challenging. It was decided that the finances and this question would be discussed in today's Executive Session to determine whether or not the finance segment should be discussed in future regular or Executive Sessions. Steve stated that the obligation is to release year-end financial results.

Mary Beth asked about the complaint policy definition. Lorraine said it will be updated in February.

Adjournment of Board Meeting

With no further business topics requiring discussion, Sue made a motion to adjourn and Chris seconded it. Mary Beth opposed adjourning before having the finance update. All others approved at 10:01 am.

Submitted by Lorraine Hull
LifeRing Board Secretary
February 2, 2022