

# *LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting*

September 11, 2022

## Call to Order and Identification of Public Attendees

Meeting was called to order at 9:02am by Sue Betts, Board Chair. Board members in attendance were Mary-Beth O'Connor, Lorraine Hull, Rafal Klopotoski, Casey Cannizzaro, Michael Toal and Sue Betts.

Public attendees: Mark Franklin; Joel R.; Josh McLaughlin, Board Secretary; and Robert Stump, Operations Manager

## Anna Bodella Appointment to the Board

Lorraine nominated Anna to be appointed as Board Member to take the currently vacant seat. She shared that Anna has been working as a convenor for quite some time.

Anna shared that she has been co-hosting Friday's topic meeting. Having been a participant in LifeRing for one and a half years, she is grateful to be offered a position on the board, which will help her give back to LifeRing.

Lorraine made a motion to appoint Anna to the open board seat, which was seconded by Sue. The vote was unanimously approved to appoint.

## Approval of July 2022 BOD Meeting Minutes

It was during this time that Mark Fussel and Robert Stump joined the meeting.

Lorraine moved a motion for the approval of the July minutes, which was seconded by Rafal. The vote was unanimously approved.

## Approval of July 2022 P&L Report

Lorraine moved a motion to approve the July 2022 P&L Report which was seconded by Michael. The vote for approval was unanimous.

## Approval of August 2022 BOD Minutes and P&L Report

Lorraine made a motion to table the approval of the August 2022 BOD Minutes to the October meeting, which was seconded by Michael. This item of business was subsequently deferred to the October BOD Meeting.

## Approval of the August 2022 P&L Report

Lorraine moved a motion to approve the August 2022 P&L Reports, which was seconded by Rafal. The vote for approval was unanimous.

## Ongoing Business

At this time, the board wished Lorraine a heartfelt happy birthday and thanked her for her dedication and continued contribution to the LifeRing Board of Directors.

## Authorized Signer

Due to the absence of Treasurer Steve Gonzales, this item was deferred until the October BOD Meeting.

## New Business

### Notification of By-Law Changes to the IRS

Robert suggested that the BOD consult with LifeRing's legal representatives as to legal obligations in filing.

Mary-Beth suggested that the updated by-laws be filed in full.

Sue agreed to send the documents to the board members for review, before submitting the filing.

### 'Meet the BOD' / New Meeting Time Survey

Sue encouraged the BOD member to complete the new meeting time survey to determine availability for attendance of the donor appreciation event ('Meet the BOD').

### CCAR/MPRC: Multiple Pathways of Recovery Conference – Florida (January 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 2023)

Sue shared that she was tasked with putting together a budget for sending a delegate/speaker to attend the MPRC conference.

Lorraine shared that she had a positive experience in attending this conference in May of 2022. She noted that the LifeRing session was very well attended, with good discussions and interactive exercises.

Mary-Beth shared that the multiple paths of recovery focus of the conference is compatible with LifeRing. She also stated that attendance to the conference would provide a great medium of exposure for LifeRing.

Sue agreed to put forward a draft budget for this item and to have it reviewed by the Treasurer, with a view of presenting it at the October BOD meeting.

### Recovery Month Events

Sue shared that LifeRing will be doing a recovery month event on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2022, of which Mark Fussel will be the Master of Ceremonies. The event will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm PST.

Mary-Beth informed the board that she would be tabling on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September in San Jose, and on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September in San Mateo County. She shared that she had recently done a New Jersey Recovery month event as well, which dealt with continuing education for legal practitioners. She also passed a speaking engagement on to Casey.

Casey shared that he had recently taped a podcast with Beyond Belief, which would be released mid-October. Casey gave a brief history of the Beyond Belief Podcast with John Sheldon.

Sue shared that she would be giving away cookies for donations with Robert Stump and Mark Fussel at the end of September.

Michael shared that he would be participating in the Scottish Recovery Month Walk as well.

Joel R left the meeting at this time.

### DEI Board Awareness: Harvard Implicit Association Tests

Casey shared an overview of the Harvard Implicit Association Tests, which is a battery of tests weighing bias towards sexual identity, gender, religion, ethnicity, etc. He shared his findings when took the tests, noting his increased awareness of implicit bias though taking the tests.

Sue and Lorraine shared their experiences with taking the tests and agreed with the introspective value of taking them.

The board was encouraged to confidentially explore these tests to evaluate their own biases.

### High-Level Review of Finances

Though the Treasurer Steve was absent, the document was provided for presentation.

Robert assisted with sharing the document but noted that specific questions were better fielded by the Treasurer.

### Committees and Workgroups Updates

Mary-Beth raised the question of the status/plan of bringing back in-person meetings.

Sue noted that the regional reps (Lisa-Swing Corney, Kathleen Gargon and Chris Smith) were absent and that they would be best to answer this question. She informed the board that this could be brought to the Committee quarterly meeting and raised in the October board meeting.

Rafal offered to raise this question with the Convenors Committee which he is currently volunteering with.

Michael gave an update on the progress of the LifeRing app. He advised that he is currently in the process of navigating development issues and will provide further updates in due course.

### Adjournment of Public Meeting

Motion to adjourn was moved by Casey and seconded by Michael. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.

### Public Forum

The LifeRing visitors present discussed various topics.

Minutes submitted by Josh McLaughlin

LifeRing Board Secretary

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022