



Board Of Directors Minutes

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Call to Order and Identification of Public Attendees

Chair Sue Betts called the meeting to order at 09:00 AM Pacific Standard Time.

Board Members	Present	Absent
Sue Betts	x	
Bobbi Campbell	x	
Monica Foy	x	
Jonathan Magid	x	
Michael Anderson	x	
Lisa Swing-Corney	x	
Ivona Szudelski	x	
Travis Boozer	x	
Anna Bedolla	x	

Non-Board Members Present:

- Lorraine Hull, Director of Development
- Robert Stump, Operations Manager
- Ewa Conroy, Board Secretary
- Laura M

Approval of Consent Agenda

May, June & July 2026 Minutes

May 2026 Minutes

The Board reviewed the May 2026 Board of Directors meeting minutes.

Motion: Monica Foy moved to approve the May 2026 minutes as presented.

Second: Lisa Swing-Corney.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to approve the May 2026 Minutes as presented.

June 2026 Minutes

The Board reviewed the June 2026 minutes.

Motion: Michael Anderson moved to approve the June 2026 minutes as presented.

Second: Monica Foy.

Abstention: Travis abstained because he was not present at the June meeting.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to approve the June 2026 Minutes as presented.

July 2026 Minutes

No questions or corrections were raised.

Jonathan and Lisa moved to approve the July 2026 Minutes as presented.

Monica seconded the motion.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to approve the July 2026 Minutes as presented.

July 2026 Financial Reports

The Board reviewed the July 2026 financial report. No questions or concerns were raised.

Motion: Lisa Swing-Corney moved to approve the July 2026 financial report as presented.

Second: Monica Foy.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to approve the July 2026 Financial Report as presented.

Ongoing Business

Development Report

2026–2027 Board Year

Ridgecliff Grant / LifeRing Akron Recovery Kits

Lisa Swing-Corney provided an update on the Ridgecliff Grant, which is being developed in collaboration with Lorraine. The grant application is due by the end of September, with the team intending to submit it approximately two weeks ahead of the deadline.

The proposal is designed to support LifeRing Akron Recovery Kits that would be distributed to treatment facilities, probation offices, and other community locations. The kits would contain LifeRing books and information about local meetings, with the books available at no cost to people receiving them.

The materials expected to be featured include Humanly Possible, Empower Your Sober Self, and the Recovery By Choice Workbook. The project is intended to make LifeRing resources readily available to professionals and people who may benefit from recovery support.

The anticipated grant request is approximately \$11,600. The majority of the funding would cover the cost of books. Approximately \$4,000 would support a stipend for an individual who would assist with placement and organization of the materials. Additional costs would include printing and quarterly webinars for professionals involved with the project.

Lisa explained that LifeRing currently offers a 25% discount from retail price when 50 or more books are purchased. The grant proposal requests authorization for a 30% discount for the project. The additional 5% discount would be treated as an in-kind contribution from LifeRing. Lisa emphasized that LifeRing would not lose money on the book sales and would continue to earn revenue.

The Finance Committee had approved the proposed 30% discount, and Lisa requested approval from the full Board.

The group also discussed sustainability. Grant funders generally want projects to continue beyond the grant period rather than ending when grant funding ends. Under the proposal, the approximately 20 participating locations would continue to receive the 30% discount after the grant period ends. Lisa explained that this ongoing discount would provide a sustainability component to the project.

Sue strongly endorsed the proposal and praised the work that went into developing the financial summary and grant concept. She noted that, regardless of whether the grant is ultimately awarded, the project provides LifeRing with a useful model for responding when funding opportunities arise and for demonstrating how additional resources could be used.

Sue thanked Lorraine for identifying and developing the opportunity and Lisa for refining the proposal, and also recognized Laura's contribution.

Jonathan Magid similarly praised the proposal as clear and well thought out. He suggested that the Recovery Kits concept could become a model for expanding LifeRing's presence in other communities, behavioral health organizations, criminal justice organizations, and other settings where LifeRing currently has little or no presence. He emphasized the importance of exploring ways to replicate the approach in a financially responsible manner, even when grant funding is not available.

Lisa clarified that the requested 30% discount would apply during the grant period and would continue for the participating locations if the grant is awarded.

Motion: Travis moved to approve a 30% discount on LifeRing literature in support of the Ridgecliff Grant, during the grant period and continuing for the participating locations thereafter.

Second: Monica Foy and Ivona participated in the motion discussion/seconding.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to pursue the Ridgecliff Grant Proposal as presented.

Ongoing Business

Committee & Policy Updates

Grievance Committee

Sue reported that the Grievance Committee has been working collaboratively on a proposed committee charter. The charter was not yet ready for final Board review because Bobbi was absent during some of the work and needed an opportunity to review the document.

Anna reported that the committee has a solid draft but agreed that Bobbi's review was important before finalization. Anna also highlighted an important feature incorporated into the proposed charter: the grievance process can identify broader organizational improvements.

The discussion recognized that individual grievances may provide information about systems or practices that LifeRing could improve in order to prevent similar concerns from arising in the future.

Sue noted that specific current grievance matters and concerns being considered by the committee would be addressed during executive session rather than the public portion of the meeting.

Status: Grievance Committee charter remains under development and will return to the Board after further review.

LifeRing Email Addresses / Insurance and Revocation Guidelines

The Board discussed operational guidelines concerning LifeRing.org email addresses, including circumstances in which an individual's organizational email account might need to be revoked.

Lisa explained that the purpose of the guidelines is to establish a clear process for situations in which someone who has been provided a LifeRing.org email address should no longer have access to it.

Sue reviewed the value of organizational email addresses. They allow individuals acting on behalf of LifeRing to communicate with an organizational identity rather than using a personal email address. They also provide a degree of authority and authentication when individuals are communicating externally on behalf of LifeRing.

The addresses also give conveners and other volunteers a separation between their LifeRing activities and their personal email accounts and provide access to the LifeRing Google Workspace and organizational business resources.

The discussion focused on establishing an appropriate operational process rather than treating individual account revocation as an ad hoc decision.

Emergency Meeting Policy

Sue thanked Travis for preparing the Emergency Action Policy in a concise and readable format. The policy has now been posted on LifeRing's policy page.

Investment Policy

Sue also reported that the Investment Policy has been posted on the policy page and gave particular recognition to Monica for the work involved in developing the policy.

Sue noted that the policy was sufficiently clear and understandable to pass what she described as an important practical test of readability.

Team Reports

Treasurer / Financial Overview

Monica presented a year-to-date financial overview.

Key Points:

Slight decline in assets year-to-date with overall revenue lower than in 2025. No immediate concern was expressed, pending further analysis.

Feb, March, April & May operated at a net loss (typical seasonal trend)

June showed positive net income ~ \$1,212.

June income - \$5,670

June expenses - \$4157- positive net income

January remains strongest revenue month

June revenue sources - \$2,696 in donations and strong book sales.

Much of book sale revenue reflects Amazon payments from bulk orders placed in April.

June expenses: largest category was wages, then program expenses and administrative expenses, with a smaller amount attributed to payroll taxes and fees.

The Treasurer concluded the report and invited questions from the Board.

Development Report

Lorraine presented the Development report.

She reported strong philanthropic activity in July, noting \$4,745.82 in activity relative to the previous July. The activity included a \$3,000 donation and two \$500 donations.

Lorraine reported substantial activity through DonorBox. Some of the fundraising activity was associated with the summer fundraising campaign focusing on the role of pets in recovery.

A significant additional development was an anonymous \$10,000 donor-advised fund (DAF) donation. Lorraine emphasized the importance of this contribution and indicated that LifeRing should place greater focus on donor-advised funds as a fundraising opportunity.

Lorraine noted that October 8 is the third annual National DAF Day and said additional outreach around donor-advised funds would be forthcoming. She plans to make the donation page more clearly explain DAFs, since many potential donors may not be familiar with them.

The Board discussed donor-advised funds as a mechanism through which individuals can direct charitable contributions using funds associated with their savings and investment.

The \$10,000 DAF contribution was recognized as an especially important addition to LifeRing's philanthropic activity.

Team Status Report

A team status report was referenced during the meeting. The transcript moves from the development report into subsequent agenda items without a detailed discussion of the individual components of the team report.

Annual Congress

The Board discussed possible dates for the next Annual Congress.

The proposed dates were the first weekend of June 2027:

June 5–6, 2027

The Board agreed to proceed with those dates.

Town Hall

Sue reported very positively on the most recent Town Hall.

The focus of the Town Hall was on what LifeRing is doing and the areas in which community members can contribute. Sue said the format resonated with participants because it helped people understand current organizational needs and provided concrete ways for them to become involved.

One example discussed was the need for a new social media person. Rather than simply identifying the need, the Town Hall explained what LifeRing is doing in that area and how community members could support the work.

The Board viewed the Town Hall as a successful way to communicate organizational priorities and engage volunteers.

Recovery Month

Michael Anderson provided an update on LifeRing's plans for Recovery Month in September.

He reported particularly strong enthusiasm during the Town Hall concerning Recovery Month activities. LifeRing has developed an ongoing list of Recovery Month events and, at the time of the meeting, had more than a dozen events identified.

Most of the events were in California, with additional participation expected from Colorado and Akron. Michael also mentioned potential events in upstate New York and at the University of Washington.

Michael has been actively visiting meetings and encouraging members to report Recovery Month events in their communities. LifeRing can then help identify someone to represent the organization at those events, or the local participant can represent LifeRing directly.

The organization will provide representatives with appropriate promotional materials and other resources.

Michael noted that he learned a great deal from last year's Recovery Month activities and has incorporated those lessons into the 2026 effort. He expressed strong optimism about this year's program.

Sue thanked Michael for his work and recognized both his enthusiasm and the enthusiasm of the LifeRing community. She expressed support for continuing to build out the Recovery Month initiative.

Additional Board Business

Sue invited Board members to raise any additional public Board business before the meeting moved to the community forum.

No additional public Board business was raised.

Adjournment of Open Board of Directors Meeting

Sue called for a motion to adjourn the public/business portion of the August 9, 2026 Board meeting.

Motion: Monica Foy moved to adjourn the business portion of the meeting.

Second: Ivona.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to adjourn the August 2026 BOD meeting.

Community Forum

Participants in the community forum included Lorraine, Ewa, Laura, and Robert.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Association Conference

Laura raised the possibility of LifeRing participating in an upcoming EAP Association conference.

Laura explained that she has been working on the EAP project and that Anna had received an invitation specifically encouraging LifeRing to attend the organization's fall conference.

Laura emphasized that the EAP field could be a significant source of referrals because Employee Assistance Programs connect employees with resources for recovery and other behavioral health needs. She encouraged the Board to consider allocating resources toward participation in the conference and developing a relationship with the EAP Association.

Jonathan clarified for the group that EAP stands for Employee Assistance Program and noted that large employers commonly operate or contract with EAP programs. He agreed that they represent a potentially substantial source of referrals.

Laura emphasized that the opportunity should not be overlooked because of the potential importance of establishing LifeRing as a recovery resource within the EAP system.

Executive Session:

- Emergent Threat
- Grievance Committee: Ongoing
- BOD Chair Succession: Finalized

Report of Actions Taken Outside of Regular Session:

- **Issuance of Interim Suspension of Participation:** Resolved, that on August 3, 2026, the Board, by unanimous written consent, authorized the issuance of interim suspension of all LifeRing participation to a LifeRing meeting convenor.