

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting: February 12, 2012

It was determined that a quorum of Board members was present and the meeting was called to order by Craig W., at 6:30 pm PST. Also present were: Kathleen G., Dru B., Laretta M., Joe M., Mahala K., Robert S., Njon W., Bob O. and Tim R.

Annual Meeting: Njon, Mahala, Laretta, Craig and Kathleen

The LGBT Center has been reserved for this meeting. It is reserved for May 11 and 12. For Sunday, May 13, another venue needs to be found. The Alano Club should be available. The total cost is \$1775. Fundraising to cover this cost will be primarily from pre-registrations. Kathleen will also solicit additional funds via e-mail. Mahala suggested that we solicit funds from outside sponsors, so that we would not have to rely on memberships, and also to expand outside awareness of our organization. Laretta suggested that we add the cost of overhead such as speaker fees and transportation. A discussion of external sponsorships followed. Mahala will follow up with a list of potential donors. Kathleen moved that we allow Mahala to proceed forward in this regard. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Njon commented that a deposit for the facility is not required until two weeks before the event. It was decided to delay posting the event on the website and that Lynn would be able to help with this later.

Speakers for Annual Meeting: Kathleen and Joe

We have one definite speaker. Joe has solicited some potential speakers from the Bay Area, but there has so far been little response, except from some people who have said they can not do it. Specifically, Dr. Timothy Durazzo, one of our speakers from last year, will not be able to join us this year. But Joe has heard from Dr. John Monteroso who said that he would be able to come. It was agreed that further discussion can be done off-line for now, as there is still some time before final decisions need to be made.

“Friends and Family” Group Discussion: Laretta, Kathleen, Mahala and Others

Craig asked whether we would want to have a “friends and family” type of group, similar to Al-Anon, but secular. Laretta suggested that we might want to have an unofficial advocacy for this group. A number of people asking for such a group. Troy wants to start such a meeting in Modesto. It was asked to what degree can this be supported. Laretta commented that participants in such a group would need to be supportive of the LifeRing philosophy. Kathleen raised the concern of additional administrative burden. Mahala suggested that a working group, offline, be established to address issues such as insurance and administration. It was

suggested that we talk directly to Troy regarding this issue. Joe will call Troy to discuss issues such as administration and insurance.

Minutes: Tim

It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve the January 2012 Minutes:

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/liferingBOD/files/2012/>

Financial Report: Robert

Reports for December, 2011 and January through December 2011 were posted, as well as a comparison between totals for 2010 vs. 2011:

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/liferingBOD/files/2011/Financial%20Reports/>

In summary, for December 2011, the gross profit was about \$7.3K and total expenses were about \$3.6K, resulting in a net income of about \$3.7K.

Sales and donations were up considerably and accordingly this is reflected in the net income. Robert stressed that we need to find another source of income.

It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously that Robert will continue to act as the Office Administrator. Carolla has agreed to run for Treasurer. It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that Carolla would be elected to be the new Treasurer.

Robert has been in touch with a CPA, Linda S., and he will engage her services as our CPA. Part of her work will be *pro bono*. Additional costs will be modest.

Robert expressed a desire to provide the organization with a balance sheet each month, which is not being done now, and he expects that Carolla will do this.

Administrator's Report: Robert

The brochures have been updated with some minor changes (such as the correct web address). Robert expects Lynn will do additional and more significant updates later when her personal workload decreases.

Planning Report: Kathleen, Craig and Others

The planning sessions are on hold. Quite a bit of ground has already been covered and is more than sufficient to deal with at the Annual Meeting. Kathleen suggested that some of the planning topics could be discussed on the Friday of the Annual Meeting, with the solicitation of additional volunteers to continue some of the work.

Executive Director Discussion: Laretta, Mahala, Kathleen and Craig

Laretta suggested that for the future a process should be put in place for recruitment and vetting such that a list of candidates would be available for the Annual Meeting. Craig commented that for now, we should continue the practice of recruitment from someone within the group. Kathleen suggested that such a process might be put in place for the Annual Meeting of 2013. Mahala commented that “stability of governance” can be an issue for fundraising activities. Joe suggested that some record or log be kept by the Executive Director that subsequent Executive Directors could draw upon. Craig and Kathleen both commented that some of the Executive Director work is not amenable to this sort of documentation; “Diplomacy” is an example.

Officer Compensation Discussion: Laretta, Craig, Robert, Kathleen and Joe

Laretta asked if this topic could be put on the website with feedback requested. Kathleen suggested that Laretta might put the language together for this. This issue was discussed at the last Annual Meeting. A discussion followed which raised the question of whether the Executive Director would be an officer. Robert commented that the by-laws stipulate that officers can not be compensated; perhaps the Executive Director would not be an officer and would be appointed instead of elected and would report to the Board.

Fundraising: Mahala, Laretta and Craig

Mahala will get with Laretta to decide on a name for the fundraising position. Laretta moved to nominate Mahala for “Director of Fundraising” (actual name TBD). The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Website Development: Karen I. and Robert

Robert will work with Karen initially. Many thanks were given to Robert for this effort.

Practicum Report: Kathleen

Kathleen has been unable to contact the person (Carolyn Harris) who would be carrying out the practicum, and Kathleen believes at this time that it will not proceed. Upon looking at the proposal last month, Lynn thought it was too much like we were already doing as part of the planning effort. Lynn and Carolyn were to discuss this matter together, but this has not happened.

New On-Line E-Mail Group: Craig

The focus of the new group which Craig is suggesting would be “dual diagnosis.” That is, for persons with an addiction problem and who also have mental health issues. This group could potentially become quite large. Craig is looking for volunteers to head up a third on-line group.

Adjournment: Craig

There being no additional business at this time, Craig moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at about 8:00 pm, PST.

Tim R., Board Secretary

February 19, 2012