

## **Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting: August 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 PDT. Also present were: Dru B., Kathleen G., Mahala K., Joe M., Steve S., Robert S., Njon W., Carola Z., and Tim R.

### **Consent Agenda: Craig**

It was moved that the Board accept the Consent Agenda as posted. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

### **Old Business**

#### **CAADAC Conference: Craig, Joe, Robert, and Kathleen**

The CAADAC Conference in San Diego was discussed. The conference dates are October 4 through October 7. Exhibition days are Thursday and Friday. The fee for an exhibit only is \$500 and a full registration fee is not needed. Conducting a LifeRing meeting earlier in the day was discussed so that people could observe how one is actually carried out. Joe is willing to go, as is Cat, who lives rather close. No plans have been made for travel or lodging. Robert agreed to fill out the application for the LifeRing exhibit booth. Robert commented that banners for display are available in the office. The logistics of getting the books to the conference were discussed but no conclusions were drawn. The sale of books was also discussed. Possibly we could have some for show and use order forms for actual purchases. Tim mentioned that there is a smart phone app that allows credit cards to be scanned at the point of sale and that Robert knows how to do this. Robert suggested that Joe contact him later for details.

### **New Business**

#### **Access to Chat Passwords: Craig and Robert**

Craig commented that we need to make sure more than one person has access to the various passwords for chat and this was agreed to; we do not want to be dependent on only one person. Kathleen asked about the possibility of holding our committee meetings on voice chat. Robert commented that this was entirely possible but there would be no recording capability, unless a computer could be set up with recording capabilities. Transcription could then be done from this audio capability. Tim asked if Robert knew how to do this. Robert said that he was sure this was possible but some research would be needed. There is presently a log for typed messages, but not voice.

#### **Pricing of the RBC Workbook and the Empowering Your Sober Self Book**

Because overhead for the organization has increased, Craig suggested that the Workbook price be raised from \$25 to \$30 and that the EYSS book price be raised to \$19.95; the sale of these books is an important source of our income. We would allow discounts for members and special situations. There was agreement to do this, and a change to the website will be made

**Fundraising: Robert, Craig, Steve, Carola, and Joe**

Robert sent out about 115 letters to a target list of those people who had donated to LifeRing in the last three years. The mailing cost was about \$100, but about \$1100 was raised. Kathleen suggested that email might also be used. Steve suggested posting on on-line venues. Craig commented that we need more people who are willing to donate monthly, and Joe suggested that we might reach out to convenors in this regard. Carola suggested that flyers could be distributed at meetings and that posting a monthly solicitation on the website could be done. Robert commented that we have only about 50% of our convenors listed but that this should be handled at the local level. Joe suggested that constructing this list be made a priority over the next six months, via our regional representatives, and that the Absentee Voting Committee could then use that list as the default list for delegate voting.

Craig said that 400 RBC Workbook orders were filled for a prison in Manitoba who contacted us. There was a discussion about doing outreach to prisons in the US as well, and perhaps such prisons could be another market possibility. The possibility of reaching out to other prisons in Canada was discussed. This responsibility falls to the Outreach Committee, and perhaps with a higher priority.

**Online Report: Craig**

Craig commented that the LSRmail activity is very slow, with only about one to four short emails per day. Craig asked that if anyone had thoughts on how to make this list more active to let him know.

Steve has changed the LifeRing Group settings on Facebook. The settings can be open, closed, or secret, and the setting was set back to private. Open means everything is visible to the public. Secret means that individual members' posts as well as individual members themselves are not visible to the public, but members can see other members and their posts. There is very little activity on this page anyway.

**LifeRing Canada Discussion: All**

Some issues related to LifeRing Canada were discussed including the 11 face-to-face British Columbia meetings that are under the control of Michael W. and the rest which are not. Robert commented that LifeRing Canada views itself as a separate entity. Joe questioned whether the British Columbia meetings would participate in the absentee voting process. Tim suggested that Robert be the "ambassador" to Canada regarding such issues and he agreed to do this by contacting Michael. Kathleen commented that we have gotten approval for a *pro bono* lawyer to deal with these questions.

**Recovery Survey: Kathleen**

Kathleen reminded us of this survey and that we are looking for 12K responses to that database. She will continue to send reminders in this regard.

**Adjournment: Craig**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM PDT.

Tim Reith, Board Secretary, August 25, 2012

