

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: November 9, 2014

It was determined that a quorum of board members was present, and the meeting was called to order by Board Chair Njon Weinroth at 12 Noon PST. Also present were Dan Carrigan, Byron Kerr, Emily Marcus, Joe Mott, John Owens, Robert Stump, Craig Whalley, Carola Ziermann, and Tim Reith.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda consisted of the October 2014 Minutes and the Treasurer's Report.

It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to accept both as submitted.

Non-Board Member Anonymity

Njon suggested that in the future any non-board members joining by call-in to these meetings be asked if they would prefer anonymity. This suggestion was agreed to.

Public Forum Comments

There were none.

Committee Reports

Revenue

Carola commented that there will be a donation request sent between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Also, one will be included in the next Newsletter. Goal setting, including grant proposals, were discussed, as well as persons to be targeted, and funding strategy.

Member Support

Craig submitted a draft that summarized the duties of Regional Representatives, pursuant to Section 6.4.9 of the LifeRing Bylaws (see Item #3 below).

Dan discussed convenor training efforts. The next meeting will be held on November 19. A draft is in preparation detailing status and strategy.

Mahala submitted a survey draft. On-line convenors will be included for the first time. After feedback she will distribute it.

Governance Advisory Panel

Tim submitted a list of possible areas needing action or focus. He asked for critique and input.

LifeRing Press and External Outreach

Byron commented that the “Choice” brochure needs modification to include award settlement information regarding the Hazle vs. Crofoot lawsuit. Njon will ask Mahala to draft an update that will include this information.

Craig said that 2000 copies of the Second Edition of the *Empower Your Sober Self* book are due soon. The mark-up for this edition is larger, considerably helping our finances.

Kathleen is working on a book entitled *Stories of Secular Recovery*. A call for submissions has been sent. Craig moved to endorse this effort. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Robert suggested that a submission request be posted on the website after a publication date is released.

Administration

There was no additional input other than items already discussed by other committees.

Items

1: Communications Protocol Revisions

Robert has set up “lifering.org” email addresses for each board member. Internal testing is underway. Njon requested that board members start using their new accounts soon. He requested that each member understand usage and how to link to email services specific to each member. Off-line, Njon will provide whatever additional support is needed.

2: Conference 2015

Byron reported that two speakers have agreed to participate: One for free, and one with a request for expenses. A feature length film documentary about addiction, entitled “Pleasure Unwoven,” produced by one of the speakers, may be shown.

3: Regional and Area Representatives

The “Regional Representatives” draft submitted by Craig was discussed. Carola commented that a “monthly check” might be difficult for some and it was agreed to not make this frequency mandatory. Njon commented that the first bullet was somewhat ambiguous and requested that it be re-worded. Alternate wording suggested by Craig was agreed to.

There was no further discussion.

A motion to accept the document was made, seconded, and carried unanimously.

Other Items

Byron gave an update of the forthcoming National Geographic documentary on drug abuse in Silicon Valley. The production company will arrive in the Bay Area during Thanksgiving week and will remain for about one month. Interviews are planned, and he asked that interested persons come forward. The LifeRing San Jose meeting will be recorded. The specific recording date has not been set but will likely be in December.

Tim mentioned that the Saguaro Correctional Center in Eloy Arizona has expressed a desire to start an in-house LifeRing meeting. He will visit them on Wednesday, November 12, to assist them in this regard. A report on the visit will be given next month.

Adjournment

Given that there was no other business, Njon moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm PST.

Submitted by Tim Reith

Board Secretary

November 25, 2014