

## **Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: April 12, 2015**

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 PM PDT. Those present were: Mahala Kephart, Byron Kerr, Emily Marcus, Joe Mott, Tim Reith, Craig Whalley, and Carola Ziermann. LifeRing Executive Director Robert Stump was also in attendance.

### **Consent Agenda**

It consisted of the March 2015 Minutes and the Treasurer's Report. It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to accept both reports as submitted.

### **Public Forum Comments**

There were none.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Revenue**

The sale of the "unhooked.com" domain name was approved. The negotiated price was \$10,000. The name will be removed from any publications where it is still used, including third party use.

#### **Member Support**

Craig requested that a replacement be chosen for him in this committee.

#### **Governance Advisory Panel**

There was no input this month.

#### **LifeRing Press and External Outreach**

The revision of the "Choice" brochure is complete and will be submitted to Robert this afternoon. Revisions to other brochures are underway. This brochure will in part determine the design for subsequent ones.

Tim, based upon his experience with prisoners, completed his requested input to Marty for incorporation into the Second Edition of *Empower Your Sober Self*. *(Note from the Secretary – this item was not discussed but is included here since the request was discussed in last month's meeting.)*

The Annual Meeting was discussed:

Carola requested that Sunday's activity be started one-half hour earlier and this was agreed to. The travel and lodging expenses for Robert's attendance at the subject meeting were approved, since he is the Office Administrator as well as the Executive Director. The former is a paid position.

A question was raised regarding the Friday showing of “Pleasure Unwoven.” If a new video of this sort is available by then, it will be shown instead.

Awards were discussed. Establishing a “Nicolaus Lifetime Achievement Award” was agreed to while retaining only a few Pioneer Awards. Tim solicited nominations for the latter. Criteria for them were discussed.

Ticket prices were discussed. Robert and Karen will post registration information on the website. There will be limited capability to pay at the door.

Lodging accommodations for the Annual Meeting were discussed and suggestions were made.

### **Administration**

Njon started a rework of the Opening Statement, but progress has slowed due to other commitments. He asked that someone else assume this task after the Annual Meeting.

### **Agenda Items**

#### **Items from the Board**

The specific language for bylaw amendments needs to be presented and approved at the Annual Meeting for subsequent inclusion in the ballot.

Craig, Dan, and Carola are up for re-election. The latter two expressed their desire to run again. Craig was uncertain.

Craig voiced concern that we are being too strict regarding posts on our governance lists, and he asked for input from the Board in this matter; there is no list in which conversations not specifically related to recovery can occur, or links to interesting articles can be given. Joe suggested that some “moderating guidelines” be put in place for consistency across various moderators and forums. A lengthy discussion followed:

Mahala suggested that this discussion be moved out of the board meeting and into a working group, with the board providing direction. Njon agreed, and recommended that such be composed of members from the Administration, Member Support, and LifeRing Press Committees, along with members from the non-board population. Joe moved to set up an *ad hoc* committee to address this issue. His motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Emily agreed to chair the committee. A two-month effort was suggested for committee recommendations and review by the board.

### **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 1:15 PM PDT.

Submitted on April 26 by Tim Reith,

LifeRing Board Secretary