

## **Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: October 9, 2016**

It was determined that a quorum of board members was present, and the meeting was called to order by Board Chair Njon Weinroth at Noon PDT. The other board members present were: Dan Carrigan, George Gidora, Emily Marcus, Craig Whalley, Carola Ziermann, Robert Mullaly and Harold Marques. The Executive Director, Robert Stump, was also present. Board Member Byron Kerr was not present. LifeRing Members Richard Campbell and Bobbi Campbell were also present.

### **Public Comments**

There were none.

### **Consent Agenda**

The Consent Agenda was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously as submitted.

It consisted of the September 2016 Minutes and was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to accept the September Minutes as submitted.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously as submitted.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Revenue Committee**

Grant proposal has been accepted by the Peter Dodge Foundation. LifeRing received email acknowledgment directly from Robert Dodge and should be hearing back from the Foundation in November.

#### **Member Support**

Lisa is working on improving prospective Convenors' support system and regional representatives are getting involved in outreach to convenors.

#### **Advisory Committee**

Since Tim Reith does not intend to continue in his position as Chair, Njon Weinroth will reach out to members of the Advisory Committee in order to gauge their interest in continued participation as well as to see if anyone is interested in taking on position of Chair.

## **LifeRing Press**

No new updates.

## **External Outreach**

No new updates.

## **Administrative Committee**

There has been extensive discussion recently on Convenor's forum re: inclusion of minors in LifeRing meetings. Formation of a group in order to formulate a set of guidelines to address these concerns is necessary and is in preliminary stages.

## **Annual Conference Ad Hoc Committee**

Plans for a large Annual Conference in 2017 continue to be on hold but LifeRing is required to hold Annual Congress, according to the by-laws. Discussion continues on how to re-conceptualize the Congress. Carola Ziermann will continue to chair the Ad Hoc Committee. More concrete recommendations expected in November 2017.

## **Fundraising Committee**

Richard Campbell presents concepts on fundraising in effort to double LifeRing's annual donations which currently figure around \$25,000. Proposal to establish permanent, fixed location for people to donate on LifeRing's website. Graphics on Donation page to track fundraising would be helpful. Provide categories for people to select giving levels, for example:

- Friend - \$50
- Supporter - \$100
- 365 Club - \$1 per day
- Patron - \$500
- Founder - \$1000

Bobbi Campbell brings attention to web-based "Giving Tuesdays" which can be tapped into as powerful means of fundraising, especially on "Black Friday", the day after Thanksgiving, and "Cyber-Monday". This may be incorporated into LifeRing's Facebook page.

General discussion on how important it is to give people reasons why they should donate: to support the spread of secular recovery, to raise the visibility of LifeRing and its growth as an organization. Currently no formal requirements for convenors to collect money at meetings; passing the hat would help enhance members' participation, sense of ownership and empowerment. Agreement on importance of utilizing any and all means for raising funds in order to grow LifeRing as an organization.

### **Additional Activity**

Online Venues: Chat Rooms continue to be problematic, with only four meetings weekly and often going offline. Chat supplier unreliable. LifeRing Forum has similar problems. Yahoo Mail has been sold and future there unclear. May need to overhaul online venues overall eventually.

International Insurance: questions regarding LifeRing providing insurance to meetings abroad.

### **Public Comments**

There were none.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn by Dan Carrigan. It was seconded by Emily Marcus and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 PDT.

*Submitted by Tim Reith  
LifeRing Interim Board Secretary  
November 10, 2016*