

## **Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: January 13 2019**

It was determined that a quorum of board members was present and the meeting was called to order by Board Co-Chair Lorraine at 9:00am PDT. Co-Chair Dan Carrigan was not present. The other Board Members present were: Mary Beth O'Connor, George Gidora, Harold Marquez, Rick Thompson, Donal Breen and Bob Crosby. The Executive Director, Byron Kerr, was present as was the General Manager, Robert Stump. Project Manager, Steve Gonzales, was not present. Jenny Sligh, LifeRing Fundraising Chair, was also present.

***Congratulations to Mary Beth O'Connor on twenty-five years of sobriety.***

***Congratulations to Rick on the January newsletter.***

### **Public Comments**

There were none.

### **Consent Agenda**

The December Minutes were moved, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the Minutes as submitted.

The December P&L report was moved, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the Financial report as submitted.

### **Executive Committee**

Byron: New meeting in Republic of Congo, who are seeking financial support. They are also requesting translation of LifeRing literature into French. Convenor kit will be supplied but no other financial support at this time, as this would set a problematic precedent. Meetings need to be autonomous and self-sustaining. Byron will pursue having LifeRing literature translated into French and Spanish as well.

Reminder from Mary Beth that she had forwarded questions from Cooley to Byron and Cooley is waiting to hear back from him. They can't move forward without those questions being answered. Byron will review and submit answers to Mary Beth and/or Cooley directly.

### **New and Existing Meetings**

Harold and Donal: no new updates. Harold and Donal will participate in Regional Rep Committee and will be putting together Convenor resources and tools.

### **Finance Committee**

Bob, Robert, Donal: no new updates. Same CPA (Linda) will be filing taxes for LifeRing.

## **Marketing/Communications Committee**

George, Mary Beth and Rick: Will continue quarterly newsletter. Plan is to feature profile of a Board member in each edition. Would like to feature Marty Nichols first, then Craig W., followed by each member of the Board and Kathleen Gargan.

George: still working on skills inventory which he feels looks promising; using Google Forms which can then be saved into a database and is easily shared.

## **Jenny Sligh: Fundraising**

Fundraising Campaign Update **\$9,175.00**

### ***Congratulations to Jenny on this record-breaking fundraising effort.***

Originally, fundraising efforts were made to target new cities/regions where LifeRing has not established a foothold. However, may be preferable to use funds to expand the regions where LifeRing has already been established; and also to invest some money in one new city, Columbus, OH, where Jenny is planning to convene a meeting. Money would be used for targeted FaceBook ads in effort to target people who've never even heard of LifeRing. Will need to have breakdown of how the money will be spent on ads. Jenny will put together proposal and a special meeting will be called on Zoom.

## **Pop-Up Committees**

### **2019 Annual Conference**

Byron: New venue possibility in Santa Clara, "Hacker Dojo", a facility designed for freelance tech workers. 5-6000 square foot facility. Cost is reasonable. Area is lodging-friendly, transit-friendly, and close to downtown San Jose.

## **Old Business**

### **2019 Budget**

Robert: Mary Beth requests that budget be more detailed prior to being voted on. Robert will break down budget details and send to all Board members. 2019 Budget will be put on agenda for vote at the next Board meeting.

### **By Laws Update**

Mary Beth: has provided written summary of by-laws changes to all Board members. Changes are proposed in an effort to be consistent, without contradiction, and to avoid conflict due to confusing language. The one major change is to require that all by laws changes be submitted thirty days before Congress.

If Board is in agreement, Cooley will draw up the by-laws and will create table indicating where changes are being made and why, so members will understand. Proposal is to submit as one document as opposed to item-by-item. Mary Beth will bring proposal back to the Board after Cooley has written it up prior to putting it on the Ballot.

## **New Business**

### **Social Media Policy**

Robert: Steve Gonzales was surprised to learn that there is no social media policy at this time. Proposal for formation of a pop- up committee to review social media policy and submit it to Board: George, Bob, Robert and Steve. Bob will lead the committee.

### **Mission Statement**

Needs to be re-written, too wordy at this time. Donal, Lorraine and Rick will work on this project, with Rick being Board lead; will involve Kathleen Gargan as well.

### **Update on publication of LifeRing member stories :“Humanly Possible”**

The title of the book comes from an idea within the 12-step model that states “it is not humanly possible to get and stay sober without their program”. Stories of recovery from LifeRing members were collected to demonstrate that people are able to get and stay sober on their own by putting together their own personal recovery plans per LifeRing’s philosophy of pulling together what works for the individual.

The book is in process of being formatted for printing by Mahala who has raised concerns that the collection of stories does not meet the requirement of being secular-specific; however, it is not clear that being secular-specific was ever the original goal. Mahala will be submitting all stories to Lorraine by January 30 and Lorraine will share with Board members. Concern raised that the book project has been pushed back too many times; it has been over three years since the project was started. Proposal to form a Pop-Up Committee to help move the project along

### **Adjournment**

Motion was made to adjourn. It was seconded and carried unanimously.

Submitted by Ewa Conroy  
*LifeRing Deputy Board Secretary*  
*February 6, 2019*

