

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: March 10, 2019

It was determined that a quorum of board members was present and the meeting was called to order by Board Co-Chair Lorraine Hull at 9:00am PDT. Co-Chair Dan Carrigan was also present. The other Board Members present were: Mary Beth O'Connor, Harold Marquez, George Gidora and Rick Thompson. The Executive Director, Byron Kerr, was present as was the General Manager, Robert Stump. Project Manager, Steve Gonzales, was present and Jenny Sligh, LifeRing Fundraising Chair, was also present.

Board member Donal Breen was not present.

Public Comments

There were none.

Consent Agenda

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

The February P&L reports were moved, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the Financial report as submitted.

Executive Committee

Byron: Has received proposal from translator in Quebec for amount of \$7000 per language/book. This may very well be a fair price but LifeRing is not budgeted for such an expense at this time. Byron will write a letter to the translator.

An agreement has been reached with Irena Bugolamova of the Choice in Recovery Project: LifeRing will be mentioned in her class on Choice in Recovery.

New and Existing Meetings

Harold (and Donal): no new updates. Byron adds that there have been two inquiries about convening a LifeRing meeting by two former SMART facilitators. Both had become disillusioned with SMART because of the funding direction SMART has taken as well as SMART's endorsement/acceptance of moderation. One is already convening a meeting in Chicago; the other is hoping to start both an online and FTF meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

Robert will provide an update on number of current meetings as well as comparison in number of meetings from 2017 at the next Board meeting in April.

Finance Committee

Bob, Robert, Donal: no new updates.

Marketing/Communications Committee

George, Mary Beth and Rick: Craig W. will be featured in upcoming newsletter and Marty will be interviewed for the Fall newsletter.

George has completed work on spreadsheet for skills inventory. It is posted on Google Docs. Might want to add more questions or tweak in some other way. Members will review, provide feedback and will discuss at next Board meeting.

Recovery Month: Mary Beth will be part of the San Francisco Meth Task Force (methamphetamine deaths in San Francisco area reaching levels of opioid deaths).

Annual Conference will be a good time to review both the newsletter and the surveys with Members.

Pop-Up Committees

Social Media Policy

Bob: No new updates.

Mission Statement

Rick, Kathleen G., Donal and Jenny have met and plan to have one more meeting after which they should have a sample Mission Statement to present to the Board at April meeting.

Regional Representative Role Review

Lorraine: Planning to insert the intervention steps for complaint resolution put together by Harold and Dave F. into the current Regional Representative role description.

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

Kathleen is going into final edit and expects to turn it around to Robert in a couple of weeks. Need to find a volunteer to do the cover art.

Web Re-Design

Steve, Byron, Robert, Jenny, Lorraine: Have received several proposals, mostly around \$1500 range. Hoping to make main page a little different. Currently designed for members; plan is to redesign it to be more welcoming to newcomers and easier to use. Main goal is to streamline, update and modernize. Plan is to have pop-up team work closely with the web designer. Will plan to review final version with Board prior to switching over. Pop-up committee will provide the project management.

Motion for budget of \$2000, seconded and carried unanimously to budget \$2000 for web redesign.

Bylaws Revision

Mary Beth: has been working with Cooley: first draft completed and reviewed with Byron and Lorraine. Wants to review a couple of points with Board prior to going forward with any changes.

There is an article stating “coming together of two or more persons for the purpose of abstinence, secularity and self help using the LifeRing name constitutes a meeting of LifeRing Secular Recovery”. How does that reconcile with LifeRing wanting meetings to go through the Service Center and to having an official charter? Consensus was to keep the concept but change “abstinence” to “sobriety” in order to maintain the three S’s; also to change the wording as follows: “...coming together of two or more persons for the purpose of **sobriety**, secularity and self-help using the LifeRing name **and principles** constitutes a meeting of LifeRing Secular Recovery”.

Similarly, for ByLaw 5.4: add the word “principles” to sentence “as long as meeting complies with LifeRing **principles**”.

Sobriety requirements for LifeRing officers: Board members are required to have two years of continuous sobriety; both the Executive Director and Treasurer should have the same two year requirement whereas the Secretary may be left at the one year requirement.

Plan is to go back to Cooley for final draft after which will present to the Board for review prior to putting on the ballot.

June 1-2, 2019 Annual Conference

Byron: Each committee will do a 20-25 minute presentation on the past year’s accomplishments, challenges and plans for future directions.

Jenny S. will join the Conference pop-up committee as this ties into fund-raising and member engagement.

As far as elections of Board members goes, need to determine who is going to be running. Four seats are up for re-election. George G. states he will not be running again this year.

Will need to nominate Delegates as well as a Registrar. Motion made to nominate Byron Kerr for Registrar; seconded and carried unanimously. Will need to solicit candidates for open positions.

Adjournment

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

Submitted by Ewa Conroy
LifeRing Deputy Board Secretary
April 8, 2019

