

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: August 11, 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: Donal Breen, Leigh Justison, Fergus Cantwell and Rick Thompson. The Executive Director, Byron Kerr, was present as was Robert Stump, General Manager. Members Mary Beth O'Connor and Scott Judkins were not present.

Public Comments

David I., Lifering convenor from San Diego, presented a proposal for position of Interim Volunteer Outreach Coordinator, which he would fill until it becomes a Long-term Volunteer Outreach Coordinator position. This would be part of LifeRing's overall marketing program. Would like Lifering to increase its institutional (treatment center) presence by convening private LifeRing meetings at treatment centers; the ultimate goal being to increase the number of convenors and thus the number of LifeRing meetings. The position would require a separate phone number and generic business cards. Lorraine requested a more detailed job description for the position. Leigh will assist David in writing up a formal job description. Motion made to accept the new position of Volunteer Outreach Coordinator as proposed in the outline. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The June Consent Agenda was moved, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the Consent Agenda as submitted.

The July Consent Agenda was moved, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the Consent Agenda as submitted (with minor correction to the Minutes).

Committees

Executive - Byron reports that he had written to SAMSHA director requesting that LifeRing be added to the list of self-help and peer-assisted groups listed on their website and received a letter back refusing the request. Has since written to his Congressman and is working with a staffer on a written to reply to the person who wrote the letter of refusal. Mary Beth has been involved in the process.

Meeting Support - (Donal B., Dan C., Jenny S., Fergus C.)

No news except that Jenny S. has unfortunately had to resign her position as Fundraising Chair. She has put a great deal of time and energy into fundraising campaigns, which have been very successful, and she hopes to come back; LifeRing will need a new Fundraising Chair.

Finance Committee - (Robert S., Mary Beth O'Connor)

Financial Task List reviewed, which was included in August's Meeting Agenda. Will need to be fleshed out but is an excellent start. Grant-writing should be included under Marketing rather than Finance.

Marketing and Communications Committee - (Rick T., David I., Scott Judkins, Steve G., Lorraine H., Byron K.)

Newsletter came out, no other updates. Positive feedback has been received.

Tabling at National Conferences

(Mary Beth O.) No new updates.

Open Business**Pop-Up Committee to review addiction terminology in LifeRing literature**

(Ewa C., Lorraine H., Monica F. and John C.)

Review of information put together by Monica F. comparing/contrasting old vs. new terminology being used to discuss addiction. Some preliminary work has been done reviewing LifeRing literature e.g. brochures and website to ensure that language being used to discuss addiction to alcohol and/or other substances is current.

Plans for 2020 Annual Meeting

Discussion of possible event sites: Pop-up committee will be formed to explore a number of options. Dan, Lorraine, Byron and Robert will work together on narrowing down choices of venue. Discussion re: having the meeting outside of the Bay area; possibly Greenwich, CT.

Promote board meetings to convenors and membership (remind open to all)

Discussion of LifeRing's use of Email lists, FaceBook, social media in general. Rick will add this topic to Communications committee agenda. Robert suggests that we change our communication strategies, e.g. moving away from email since many people, especially younger people, are not using email anymore. Consider new communication platform. Rick: may need to be addressed in sub-committee but it hasn't been addressed yet.

Legislative visit strategies in local areas/possibilities - Dan

Discussed the importance of getting involved in local government and building relationships locally and in legislature. Pop-Up will be formed to explore this area: Lorraine, Dan, and Byron.

Adjournment

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

Submitted by Ewa Conroy

LifeRing Deputy Board Secretary

September 5, 2019

