

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: September 8, 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, Fergus Cantwell,, Scott Judkins, Mary Beth O'Connor and. The Executive Director, Byron Kerr, was present as was Robert Stump, General Manager. and David I., Volunteer Outreach Coordinator. Board members Leigh Justison and Rick Thompson were not present.

Happy National Recovery Month!

Public Comments

InTheRooms Online Meeting Presentation - Penny P.

Penny P. has been hosting meetings online via InTheRooms for the past two years and has had as many as 25 attendees. Believes in the connection possible in video and how "LifeRing is a conversation". Penny will create a video to show how to access the InTheRooms platform. The meeting can be accessed through LifeRing's website.

Board Elections

Unfortunately, both Leigh Justison and Rick Thompson will not be able to complete their terms as Board members.

Motion made to nominate Steve Gonzalez to fill one of open Board seats. Motion seconded and carried unanimously to vote for Steve Gonzalez as Board member.

Dan, Byron, Scott, Lorraine will form a Pop-up committee to do search for candidate for remaining open Board seat and will start an email chain.

Consent Agenda

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

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

Committees

Executive - Very good chance LifeRing's Annual Conference 2020 will take place in Greenwich, CT; Greenwich LifeRing members have met and general consensus is that they want to do it. Principle location will be Greenwich Hospital which will have conference facilities available. They will have definite answer within the week. As an aside, Byron projects that the 2021 Annual Conference will most likely be held in Sacramento.

Byron reports that he continues to work on having Lifering added to SAMHSA's list of self-help and peer-assisted groups listed on their website.

Volunteer Outreach Program Update

David I., Volunteer Outreach Program Coordinator: plan is in process to increase LifeRing meetings by increasing awareness of LifeRing at treatment facilities, finding new convenors and meeting sites. A link with details will be provided.

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

No new updates.

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

Discussed who should be listed on the signer list for LifeRing bank and Amazon accounts. Motion made to add Dan Carrigan and Mary Beth O'Connor to the accounts while deleting Craig W. and Carola Z. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Marketing and Communications Committee - (David I., Scott J., Steve G., Lorraine H., Byron K.) Will need to have someone take over Rick's position as lead, which would include the following responsibilities: convening the group, taking a look at LifeRing's communication platform as a whole and putting out the quarterly newsletter. Motion made to nominate Steve G. for lead. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.

Tabling at Denver Conference on Addiction Disorders

Lorraine and Kathleen G. will be tabling the event, which cost \$2000 and will take place on October 24, 2019. The conference is geared towards the treatment community. Working on creating a more concise and focused LifeRing brochure geared to the treatment professional.

Open Business

Pop-Up Committee to review addiction terminology in LifeRing literature

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

Review of work being done reviewing language in LifeRing literature e.g. brochures and website to ensure that language being used to discuss addiction to alcohol and/or other substances is current. Request that members review the highlighted changes over the next month and be ready to approve all or some of the suggested changes.

General consensus that we plan to reach out to Marty N. to consider similar language changes in the next edition of his book.

Plans for 2020 Annual Meeting

See above, tentative plans to hold 2020 Annual Conference in Greenwich, CT.

Strategic Planning/Succession Planning

Leigh put together some ideas for planning which is based on SMART strategies which will be shared with the Board. Robert reports that a great deal of work has been done on strategic planning in the past; he has materials he will share with the group.

The study of other secular support groups would be helpful to explore as part of the overall strategy: this would be an effort to see what works for other groups, what makes

them successful, and what sets LifeRing apart or distinguishes LifeRing from the others and would be an opportunity to evaluate LifeRing's strengths and weaknesses.

Appointment of Secretary

With Rick gone, need new secretary. Motion made to nominate Ewa Conroy. Motion seconded and carried unanimously to appoint Ewa C. as LifeRing Secretary.

Adjournment

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

Submitted by Ewa Conroy
LifeRing Deputy Board Secretary
October 12, 2019