

Minutes of the LifeRing Board of Directors Meeting: October 13, 2019

It was determined that a quorum of board members was present and the meeting was called to order by Board Co-Chair Dan Carrigan at 9:00AM PDT. Co-Chair Lorraine Hull was also present. The other Board Members present were: Mary Beth O'Connor, Donal Breen, Scott Judkins, Fergus Cantwell and Steve Gonzales. The Executive Director, Byron Kerr, was present as was Robert Stump, General Manager. and David I., Volunteer Outreach Coordinator.

Volunteer Outreach Coordinator: David I.

Definition of Role: Volunteer outreach consists of finding facilities to host LifeRing meetings, finding convenors to get into those facilities; and starting meetings around the people who come out of those programs.

Efforts at cultivating ATon have been paying off: LifeRing is very active at ATon which keeps giving them more and more meetings. Also, successfully adding meetings at Lasting Recovery Treatment Center. Three other potential treatment facilities in the San Diego area are in process. Of note, Lasting Recovery is where LifeRing got started.

Public Comments

There were none.

Board Elections

Motion made to nominate Ewa Conroy to the Board. Motion seconded and carried unanimously. Ewa will continue to serve as Board Secretary. Will begin search for note taker to take on this role.

Consent Agenda

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

The September Consent Agenda was moved, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the Consent Agenda as submitted. The September P & L was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously as submitted.

Committees

Executive Committee

Byron: Initiative to get SAMHSA to acknowledge LifeRing is ongoing. Has not heard back from the congresspeople he had contacted.

Updates: Recovery Together people have approached LifeRing to put us on their "Recovery Map". California Initiative to promote recognition of evidence-based peer support has begun.

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

No new updates. Dan suggests a committee meeting in the near future.

Finance Committee - (Robert, Mary Beth, Donal)

During their monthly meeting the committee took a look at examples of non-profit procedures; they plan to adapt these for LifeRing's purposes. They feel the first two priorities should be to look at LifeRing's expenses processes and internal control processes. All members of the Board in agreement.

Removal of two individuals who are no longer active on the Board from LifeRing's bank account: their names can be removed if Robert is present; he plans to go forward with this. In addition, Dan and Mary Beth will have to meet Robert at the bank to finalize the matter. Tentative plans made to all meet at Chase Bank in Oakland.

Budget: requesting that committees submit what they think they need to carry out their work, e.g. money for conferences.

Marketing and Communications Committee -

(David I., Scott J., Steve G., Lorraine H., Byron K.)

No new updates.

Steve just sent out an invite for the committee to meet. Discussion of filling the role of Fundraising Chair. Mary Beth suggests that the skills inventory be utilized in looking for LifeRing members who've had experience in fundraising. Steve will plan to get the survey sent out to everybody and see who responds (while making sure that fundraising is specifically listed in the surveys); then review the surveys and reach out to those individuals who have time and interest. May want to move forward on this in order to be ready for the end-of-the-year fundraising. December 1st set as target date for planning.

Open Business

Pop-Up Committee to review addiction terminology in LifeRing literature

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

Review of language changes proposed for LifeRing brochures: motion made to accept the changes as proposed. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.

Will review language in other LifeRing literature and propose changes for future editions of LifeRing books to Marty N. Will inform the LifeRing community that updating the language is being done. Ewa will write up a paragraph that can be posted on Facebook and sent out on the Convenors list.

Byron reports that he was approached by *Counselor Weekly* magazine about running an ad in their online publication. A one inch banner with a link to Lifering's website their digital weekly magazine would cost \$1300.00. Byron reports that it is a widely read publication with a readership of around 117,000 and is the most consumed publication in that genre. Historically, Marty has posted some of his articles in the publication. They

are going paperless at this time. Mary Beth suggests that consideration of this be postponed until discussion of the 2020 Budget.

Plans for 2020 Annual Meeting

Re: tentative plans to hold 2020 Annual Conference in Greenwich, CT.

Cindy K. has been spearheading the effort to have the Conference in Greenwich and she has received approval from Greenwich Hospital to hold the conference at their facilities for no cost. They have conference rooms and digital capability.

Discussion of the cost/benefit ratio of having the conference where members meet physically. Travel expenses can be a hardship for some Board members.

Article 6 of the bylaws states that members can meet either face-to-face or electronically. Given that attendance at the Conference has been sparse may not be the most effective investment of time and money. Committee will meet in one week to further discuss the pros and cons of physical vs. electronic (or combination) Annual Conference and Congress.

New Business

Robert S. requesting a cost-of-living increase; he will submit a proposal for the increase. He is also taking over the shipping for Craig W. so his responsibilities will increase. The Board will go into Executive session to consider.

Adjournment

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

Submitted by Ewa Conroy

LifeRing Deputy Board Secretary

November 8, 2019