



LIFERING SECULAR RECOVERY MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY JULY 9, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND IDENTIFICATION OF PUBLIC ATTENDEES

The meeting was called to order by Sue at 9:02 a.m. pst.

Board members present:

- Sue Betts (Chair/Interim ED)
- Njon Sanders
- Bobbi Campbell
- Joe Franklin
- Rafal Klopotoski
- Mary Beth O'Connor
- Robert Stump

Non-board members present:

- Mike H
- Anna
- Monica

Absent board members

- Lisa Swing-Corney (absent)

Approval of Minutes

June Minutes: Mary Beth requested that last names be removed from non-BOD attendees and replaced with initials to ensure privacy. Anna will make those changes. Motion to adopt as amended by Rafal. Seconded by Bobbie/Mary Beth

VOTE: Approved.

Approval of May Profit and Loss Statement

Motion to approve by Robert, Seconded by Rafal.

VOTE: Approved.

Approval of June P&L Statement

Motion to approve by Sue, Seconded by Robert. Njon abstained.

VOTE: Approved

LifeRing BOD Chair | 2023-2024 Administrative Year

Sue asked if anyone wanted to be chair. Mary Beth motioned to appoint Sue; Njon seconded.
VOTE: Approved.

LifeRing Officers | 2023-2024 Administrative Year

- *Treasurer* – Joe has volunteered to take over from Steve as Treasurer. Sue motioned, Rafal seconded.
VOTE: Approved
- *Secretary* – Sue mentioned the Secretary does not need to be a BOD member. Anna agreed to continue as Secretary until a replacement is identified.
- *Executive Director:* Sue has been interim since last July. She is hopeful that having a Director of Development will allow us to grow enough funding for the ED position and to capture the interest of someone interested in taking on the role. Sue is willing to be interim until we have identified a replacement. Rafal motioned to have Sue be interim for next year, Robert seconded.
VOTE: Approved

ONGOING BUSINESS — STATUS UPDATES

Recap Annual Meeting

Great turn out and positivity. Most popular segment was Mary Beth's on memoir writing and recovery. And the second was BOD candidates.

Mary Beth received a Silver award from the NonFiction Author's Association

Emily Marcus Award

Sue said people really liked the award. Five awards were given. Sue complimented and thanked Njon for writing the intro to the award that is on our website. Will talk about using the award to pay for the Director of Development in the Executive Session

Comeau Family Foundation

Sue provided background about the award to the new BOD members. **Currently, only approved use is for the in-person grant.**

New Business

Relations/International Entities

Rafal requested we adjust the agenda since he needs to leave briefly and he wants to be here for this topic.

DEI BOD Awareness

Since February of last year, Lisa has led this initiative. Sue wants to make new BOD members aware and encourages everyone to look at the resources. Njon mentioned he is a trained DEI practitioner and would like these resources to be more widely accessible. Once finalized by Lisa/Sue, they will be posted on the website.

Proposed Changes to Existing Sobriety Statement

Brought forward by Michael T. Sue put together a comparison of current versus proposed policy changes. Key points to consider include creating a meeting for those who are considering moderation as a tool. Sue pointed out that this contradicts our articles of incorporation, and has highlighted where she thinks we have an issue. Mary Beth: we'd need to talk with Cooley if we want to change the articles of incorporation. Robert: some meetings are unchartered (Family & Friends), so meetings such as moderation could be unchartered and would need to be separate. Joe would be good to include but is still not our focus; would be interesting to have a place to direct people to who are "sober curious." Njon created a pre-proposal to look at these issues in depth, and would like a more in depth study and analysis, including outside help (DD Stout [harm reduction], Candace Shelby, etc.) to get input. He would like the BOD to review his proposal and discuss next time. Sue advised that paid consultants would require an approved funding request. She agreed it is important to involve the community, and create the space to talk about it. She suggested having this conversation when Lisa and Rafal are present, and that the conversation doesn't need to wait until the next BOD meeting.

Relations/International Entities

Mary Beth, Cooley will be here at 11:00pst, to make sure new BOD members understand what their responsibilities are.

Mary Beth was surprised about how loose our relationships are with International groups, and thinks that we need to ensure we have the proper protections and paperwork. She has asked Cooley to review and has a meeting scheduled with them in September.

Sue mentioned meeting activity in Australia. Robert: it's been difficult to get in touch with the principles involved to find out the details about the meetings.

High Level Finance Review

Sue hasn't received it yet from Steve. In tandem with the P&L that Robert put together, it shows where we are compared to last year. Joe is working with Steve and will have something next month.

LifeRing Team Updates

Sue suggested new BOD members to review the status reports for the various committees and workgroups. Reviews are held every quarter, next is on the 27th..

Bobbi mentioned she will be starting and leading a new website committee, and will email the conveners to see if there are people interested in joining it. Robert: biggest decision is whether to stay internal or go external for help. Njon mentioned that new tools are much easier to use and do not require tech expertise.

Mike H is working on a letter to the VA and came across info about handing out information and handbills and wants BOD to review because there is language about anti-solicitation. He provided link to the documentation:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KOg-4OFyXpnOoYf_ReajPLe_jcfFH3AdSj7vpEGhtAo/edit

Mary Beth will take a look at it and if it looks complicated will pull in Cooley. Mike will email it to Mary Beth.

ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sue asked if there was any other business that the BOD needed to cover. There was not, and Sue adjourned the BOD meeting at 10:01a.m. pst.

Motion to adjourn by Robert, Seconded by Mary Beth.

VOTE: Approved

PUBLIC FORUM

Sue asked if there were any comments from the public.

Mike expressed “hard no” to incorporating moderation.

Njon wanted to know whether we used the voting icons under Reactions. Sue thought that was a good idea.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board met to discuss:

- Presentation by pro-bono legal counsel concerning Board Member responsibilities
- Approval of Director of Development contract

Respectfully submitted on July 10, 2023 by
Anna Bedolla