



## Board Of Directors Monthly Meeting Minutes Sunday, November 24, 2024

### Call to Order and Identification of Public Attendees

Sue Betts called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM Pacific Time.

Board Members	Present	Absent
Sue Betts	√	
Bobbi Campbell	√	
Monica Foy	√	
Joe Franklin	√	
Michael Anderson	√	
Mary Beth O'Connor	√	
Njon Sanders	√	
Robert Stump	√	
Lisa Swing-Corney	√	

### Non-Board Members Present:

- Ewa C.
- Jodi E
- Taresa N.
- Laura M.
- Anna B.
- Lorraine H.
- Rafal K.

## Approval Of Consent Agenda

### October 2024 Minutes

Monica made a motion to adopt the October 2024 Minutes as presented. Michael seconded.

**VOTE:** Sue confirmed a consensus of votes to adopt the October 2024 Minutes as presented, with one member (Lisa) abstaining.

### October 2024 Financial Report

Sue made a motion to adopt the October 2024 Financial Report as presented. Monica and Joe seconded.

**VOTE:** Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to adopt the October 2024 Financial Report as presented.

## Ongoing Business

### Website Redesign

Bobbi reports that web redesign continues with weekly meetings of the redesign team in order to bring it to completion. The design is meant to be smartphone friendly as well as faster and will feature a better calendaring system to post events. Will be doing beta testing.

## New Business

### Online Convenor Recruitment

Sue reports that Robert brought forward the idea of creating a new position: Online Convenor Recruiter, in order to help meet the goal of having online meetings going all the time. It would be a part-time volunteer position. Sue believes that the Bylaws state the Board may assign coordinators to support efforts of the organization's movement forward and would thus directly tie into LifeRing's strategic plan for growth and continuing to build LifeRing's reputation. Sue adds that UCSF was impressed with LifeRing's ninety-two online meetings and as a result moved LifeRing up to the top of their recommendations list. The Board is all in agreement on going forward with the plan for an Online Convenor Recruiter.

### Fourth Annual Thanksgiving Meeting

This has been popular in the past and members are looking forward to it this year as well.

### Pop-Up Meeting Proposal

Taresa and Kemper have been working on putting together a proposal for pop-up Zoom meetings which would provide members with an opportunity to gather informally with other sober people. Sue thanked Taresa for her efforts and reports that the Board is prepared to act on the proposal. Sue has created a Convenor poll which will be sent out to gauge Convenors' opinions. Once Taresa approves the language, the poll will be sent out to all online convenors with a seven-day turnaround for the survey. Sue has reached out to the e-groups moderator as well as the Forum moderator and neither one had any concerns or thought there would be any negative impact on their groups.

## Reports

### Treasurer's Report

Monica presents the income and expenditure information in its new visual graph form. There has been a significant increase in assets recently due to the Comeau Family Foundation grant and other donation(s).

### LifeRing Book Sales Report

No new updates.

### LifeRing Development Report

Lorraine reports that the Comeau Family Foundation has donated \$20,000 to LifeRing for the third year in a row. Lorraine and Sue met with Katie Georgitis of the Comeau Foundation on October 10, 2024. They shared some of LifeRing's annual reports and Ms. Georgitis was pleased to see that the web redesign was moving forward. Lorraine is working on scheduling a follow-up appointment with Ms. Georgitis and her two brothers in the Denver area; Kathleen G. (and perhaps Joe) will be joining the meeting as well.

Lorraine adds that there was also a sizable donation from the Ned and Ellen Purdham Charitable Foundation through Schwab in Michael A's name.

The FMC (Fundraising/Marketing/Communications) committee has been meeting on a weekly basis since the beginning of October and will continue to do so through the end of December. Lorraine continues with her ongoing search for other secular minded philanthropic organizations and will be researching 'donor advised funds' such as the donation made by the Ned and Ellen Charitable Foundation. Joe F. is involved in the ongoing work of creating a grant proposal template describing LifeRing's mission/services for organizations. There are several fundraising ideas for the time between now and the end of the year, including a Giving Tuesday push and a blog highlighting different meetings that will launch on the 14th. Lorraine has also attended four webinars on grant writing that were helpful. Lorraine will be meeting with Rachel Garcia (recommended by Lifering's contact at SAMHSA) to talk about Ms. Garcia's success in using the Opioid Response Network to obtain funding.

## LifeRing Teams Updates

### Social Media

No new updates.

### Tech Team

Sue introduces Taresa as the lead of the newly formed Tech Team which will keep the Board updated on tech developments.

### Community Outreach

Sue reports that UCSF Health reached out re: The Liver Spot. UCSF wants to begin discussion about coordinating with LifeRing and the Liver Spot to help them create a program for graduates of UCSF's post-transplant program. As a result, LifeRing will receive first billing on their "Substance Use Disorder Recovery Resources", a recommended list of resources which UCSF sends out to all their patients and other care providers. This is a great achievement for LifeRing and Liver Spot; and will hopefully help LifeRing initiate similar programs at other transplant units such as Stanford or Johns Hopkins.

## Adjournment of Board of Directors Meeting

Sue made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Monica and Bobbi seconded.

**VOTE:** Sue verbally confirmed unanimous approval to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 10:17 AM Pacific Time.

## Public Forum

### Meeting Management

Anna leads the discussion about ongoing disruptions in meetings such as political comments post-election, individuals who may be under the influence, as well as other problems that arise. Convenors may avoid such disruptions by being proactive, being sure to start online meetings with very clear guidelines about rules for participation. Having a structure for this is important and should be done consistently across all meetings in order for it to be effective. Anna points out that there are a number of different opening statements available on LifeRing's website for convenors to use, and that it may be helpful to have just one opening statement that has been vetted and includes clear information about guidelines and expectations, while still allowing for convenor individuality. Discussion ensues re: meeting issues that arise as well as the goal of having all group members involved in self-policing and keeping meeting discussions focused on recovery. Sue believes this should be formally addressed with

LifeRing's convenors. Thank you to all members of the public who participated in the forum today.

## Executive Session

- International Relations
- Insurance and Liability Questions
- Disciplinary Actions