

THE CALIFORNIA MENS' GATHERINGS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AUGUST 31, 2012 CAMP NEWMAN, SANTA ROSA

Present:

Board members - Michaiel Bovenes, Thomas Nicholson, Gregg Cassin, Ben-Andy Hein, Dave Clark, Chris Magnani, Norm Skonovd, Milo Shapiro, Jim Ruboyianes, Phil Darby, Matthew Sunderland, Ed Wahl, Frank Hermann

Visitors: Frank Rothacker, Joe Wagenhofer, Jamie Kravitz, Zakkary Zoah, Chris Colas

(Before assembling in the meeting room, in the lunch area Gregg led the board members and visitors in a circle of healing for Steve Ibarra, gravely injured and in intensive care.)

Meeting called to order by Mike F.

In Mohabee's absence, Michaiel volunteered to act as secretary to take minutes.

Approval of the minutes of the May 25th meeting is postponed to the next meeting.

Introductions and check-ins

Appointment as treasurer of Dave Clark, who was appointed treasurer on an interim basis by the executive committee after Ed Perez's resignation. Motion: Thomas; Second: Ed; Vote: Approved with 8 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions. Congratulations and thanks to Dave. It was clarified that Dave is now a voting member of the board since he is serving in a new job.

Treasurer's Report:

The overall, or total, CMG money in the bank is approximately \$95,000, which is similar to our total of five years ago. This is the sum of all the funds held by all CMG committees and the board. Dave concluded that we are in better shape financially than we anticipated at the Spring board meeting.

Gregg asked about our financial aid policy for newcomers, exploring how much we could give as a promotion for outreach if needed. Ben-Andy replied that we could not afford to give free registration to Gatherings as a program. He also described how he is able to give some men free entrance when another man cancels too late for a refund.

Joe suggested that we fundraise for the specific purpose of Educational Grants.

President's Report:

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Mike gave a review of our historical mission and our vision of the CMG since the January meeting, honoring our tradition and spiraling and integrating our values into a higher level of development. Mike read out a summary of his current thoughts on how we might express an integrated mission-vision, integrating our values of personal growth as men and creating community. He asked everyone to reflect and discuss more in the months ahead.

A motion for a committee to review our vision-mission statements and explore creating new statements was approved with 8 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

New Business:

Chris Colas brought up grievance about head space versus heart space.

Jim asked for job descriptions of three board positions that do not have one: development, outreach, and communications. Joe said we do have them for all board positions. Mike will send them to the board.

Appointment of director of development:

Mike said that after the January meeting, when the board renewed our intention to do development, Thomas had expressed interest in serving in this role and had been appointed on an interim basis by the execs. A motion was made to appoint Thomas now as director of development and was approved unanimously with 9 in favor.

Thomas reported on his development research:

We need to answer some basic questions in order to create a foundation for development:

-How do board members contribute to the organization? Most non-profits have board members who donate money.

-What is our purpose for fundraising? Why should people give us money?

-How involved are our board members going to be in supporting development and the mission? Donors will want to know.

Thomas will send us a survey to start gathering our values around fundraising.

Registration Process

Milo asked for consistency in our registration process to avoid inefficiencies and inaccuracies. He gave use of photos as an example.

Joe stated that the Summer PC had wanted to use a different system because our adopted system requires new men to fill out a profile before they could register for the event. This was thought to be a barrier to participation.

Ben-Andy said that as registrar he will run registration for any CMG event using our adopted system, but he won't use other systems for registration.

Milo said that we need a policy that individual committees shouldn't use different registration systems.

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Mike: No need to make a policy decision today. The issue will be added to the agenda for the Annual Business Meeting.

Desert Cities' ABM Proposals

Matthew reported that his LEC is developing proposals for the ABM on

-Process of Reconciliation Policy (conflict resolution)

-Due process policy

-What is a Member of the CMG? We need clarity about our definition.

Sacred Space for 12-step and men with HIV

Gregg asked that we always have an HIV support group and a 12-step meeting at each Gathering.

Milo moved that: We recommend that every Gathering have an HIV and a 12-step space for men to gather sometime during the weekend for support and community.

Passed: 7 in favor, 1 abstention

Update on Logo

Milo said the logo development was on hold; need a different process. A contest was suggested.

Committee Reports:

Phil for the Fall PC: coming along beautifully, 5 men on the PC, will be the weekend before Thanksgiving

Frank H. for the Spring PC: Theme is "Flourish! Come Grow with Us," want to get the workshops pre-planned and organized, plan a cold storage for meds, camp location has not been selected.

ABM Update

Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, San Diego, San Diego men are exploring venues

Meeting adjourned at 6:10PM.