

CMG Board Of Directors Meeting

November 20, 2016

Julian, CA (Camp Stevens)

In Attendance

Board Members: Frank Rothacker, Mohabee Serrano, Matthew Sunderland, Jamie Simmons, Michael Varnen, Ben-Andy, Cat Walker, Jim Ruboyianes, Shabaz

Absent Board Members: Joe Wagenhofer, Drew Blanchar, Charlie Malarkey, Norm Skonovd, Jeffrey Rykhus, Lee Usher, Steve Iberra, Milo Shapiro

Visitors: Mike Fahy, Vic Fusilero, Frank Hermann, Patrick Knisely

Elders Present: Patrick, Cat, Jim, Mike

Meeting Brought To Order: 8:35 AM

President's Report (Matthew Sunderland)

These three positions will be elected, due to term limits: President, Vice-President, and Secretary. The current Executive Officers are searching for replacements.

Urgent Business: Low attendance at 87th CMG (Michael Varnen)

Michael, Board Rep. for the 87th CMG, reported that 63 men attended, but we're below the minimum for this camp. The camp may negotiate with us, but there's a possibility that they may not welcome us back. The Fall Gathering may need to keep \$750, which was donated to this Gathering, for general use, at the forthcoming 90th CMG. Scholarship funds were accepted, from the 86th CMG (Summer), and LEC-DC. Promotions were extensive, including the FB videos, and printed advertizing. Every member of PC donated something out of pocket, to help meet the budget. Michael thinks the Board of Directors may need to consider cancelling this Gathering, since we're not making the numbers. Michael pointed out that Newcomers comprise only 12% of the attendees. He suggested that the Board of Directors look into alternatives to holding a Fall Gathering

next year. The 2016 Presidential Election may have had an effect on men coming. Michael wants to call for Planners and volunteers for the forthcoming Gatherings, at the closing ceremony.

Discussion diverted to how the Board can resolve Michael's concerns. Surveys were suggested, to gather relevant interest data from the general membership, but this was dismissed as ineffective.

REPORTS AND OLD BUSINESS

Approve Minutes of Sept. Board Meeting (Mohabee Serrano)

The Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report (Ben-Andy Hein)

The CMG Treasury is still shrinking; there's an argument the 86th CMG Planners, regarding the return of unbudgeted money. This will be resolved by Dec. 5, when the Summer Gathering's returns are due.

Treasurer's Question:

What are the sustainable costs for a CMG, per Gathering?

Ben-Andy says that it depends on what comes out of the Gathering. The metric is very hard for a PC to determine. Registration ends on the day before, and there are too many moving pieces during the week of the Gathering. What we're missing is time to plan, and people attending the Gatherings. B-A says the people are the most important aspect. We have minimums for paying camps; Spring, for example, is 100 attendees. The Spring PC has budgeted the Gathering for 130. The "behind the scenes budget," according to Frank Hermann, is different from the actual budget. We need to look at this in the big picture, so that the Board's expenditures can be covered. The 13 percent rule is still in force. B-A suggests that these items will need to occur: LECs might need to cover the entire costs of email service; and there will be a consolidation of bank accounts. All of these items will be considered by the Members at the 2017 AMM.

When we transitioned last year, we discovered that Wells Fargo's transfer practices occur differently than the previous banks. The automatic payments that are debited from the individual accounts have to be changed when we consolidate the accounts.

Mike Fahy, acting as Vibes Person, sensed negative energy, and called for the Board to consider quiet and peace. After a minute of calm, the meeting resumed.

VP Report (Jamie Simmons)

Insurance—Jamie wants a list of CMG Properties; Full inventory is due at the 2017 AMM.

Update: AMM 2017 (Ben-Andy Hein)

Next AMM will be at W. Hollywood Park, in the Sky Room, Jan. 13-15, 2017.

Archivist Report (Cat Walker)

Electronic transfers are in progress; Cat thinks he'll be completed by the January, 2017 AMM. Cat plans to step down next January, and will introduce a possible replacement.

Spring, 2017 CMG (Frank Hermann)

Frank passed out a draft budget to the Board. Frank says that the pool heater at Pathfinder Ranch will cost about \$1300, and that's covered by the budget item last year. A secondary budget, provided by Frank, shows revenue from low-paying attendees instead of high fee payers. It is noted that this is a preliminary budget, since the camp costs are not yet known. The Board Treasurer will work with the 88th Planners, to devise this budget.

Shabaz is introduced as the new Board Rep. Frank is the treasurer; Vic is the 88th CMG Chairman. Matthew confirmed that the Spring committees have been holding the line on their budgets.

NEW BUSINESS

Logs of the Website (Frank Rothacker)

Frank R. has volunteered to check weblogs, to find patterns of use and promotion.

Check boxes at Registration, and Encouraging Participation

Does this need to continue? We've had this process in motion over the years—do we want to spend time on determining the reason we are short on attendees? Do we fit in with changes of culture? What do we respond to? Deep needs of the culture—are we meeting this? Mike would like us to research what the culture really needs.

Jim thinks that we're not getting the message out. FB ads are community-building, but it's not advertizing. He favors in-your-face kind of advertizing. Magazine ads are not the way. Get the message out to those we want to reach. We can get our numbers up. The promotions need to cover the CMG generally, and less on themes, according to Jim.

CMG Confidentiality Agreement (Frank Rothacker)

Does this still apply? Does this apply to Planners? Matthew thinks this would apply to anyone with access to sensitive info. Shall we take an oath of office?

Frank also seeks private advice and counsel, regarding an incident seen during the summer registration process. Matthew will work with Frank on this matter.

Conclusion (Matthew Sunderland)

Mike is thanked for calling the Vibes during this meeting. Matthew says we need to remain optimistic about the CMG, despite the negativity that was expressed.

Next CMG Board Meeting, Date, Time, and Location

Sunday, Jan. 15, 8:00 AM, West Hollywood Park (time and date subject to change).

Meeting Adjournment: 10:00 AM.