

ExComm Meeting April 3, 2011 held at home of Sylvia Zadorozny

Present: Sylvia Zadorozny, Thomas Thomas, Kathy Crum, Ronan Heffernan, Barbara Loewe, Eloise Hurst, Erica Rogers. Late: Melissa Stephens.

Officers: Fran Orenstein, Jay Johnson

Guest: Bill Melms of Fort Worth,

Meeting called to order: 3:06pm.

Minutes:

Motion: To accept the Minutes as previously sent to all members, BL. Second EH. Motion passed, one abstention.

Reports:

Scribe:

JJ: Minutes of the February ExComm were sent to all members on March 26 in preparation for this meeting. The Minutes of the December 2011 meeting were approved and sent to the Webmaster for inclusion on the website. No other request for Scribe was made since the last meeting.

Treasurer:

KC: On the RG, Net Profit is registrations that have come in. There is an additional \$375 that needs to be deposited in registration fees. National Support and everything else is in line. We haven't had any RG expenses. Outflows are lower at 72% for the year. A little high on *Sounding* printing from budget, that kind of goes up and down.

KC: Everything else is fairly well inline. Cash Flows show the transfer from checking to the mail account. Account balances by year: \$1200 compared to end-of-year last which is RG registrations. Itemized categories are up to date.

TT: Regarding the Equipment list, the number of long staplers is 'one'.

Proctor Report:

FO: I contacted 75 candidates, 10 responded. I placed test information in *Sounding*, on the National Calendar, 4 newspapers and newsletters. Jay has one scheduled for Wednesday. My hope is that we can set up Thomas and Terry at John German Library because most candidates want to go there. Thomas tested 4 last month, including 2 with a double stipend from a national promo, and he won't be able to do any testing in May. There is a coupon deal for April but it is a bit unclear, will work on it.

Scholarship:

SZ: Theresa is not here. I got a note from Marilyn Wolf, apparently people are still going to her.

JJ: I have no idea if we had a winner or who it would be. We rated them and Theresa sent them forward

Calendar:

EH: I posted everything that was in up to Friday.

Editor:

RH: Everything is proceeding as normal. I will start to work on the May issue soon. One item: We are putting the full ExComm Minutes on-line, but are we still required to print any ExComm "actions" in the newsletter? (relevant actions will be printed)

Webmaster:

RH: The November and December ExComm Meeting Minutes are now on the website.

Membership:

RH: Because I was out of the country, for the month of March I contacted our new members via email. The April electronic files should be available this week, and phone calls and Welcome Packets will resume.

I have started updating our Member Handbook. So far, only corrections and minor formatting problems have been addressed. Please send any new additions or changes to me within the next few weeks.

Circulation:

TT: There has been a recent change to regulations. The AMC has passed an ASIE that as of September, electronic as opposed to paper, will be offered to all members. If the person doesn't have an email, they will get print. If they have an email but said it can't be released to the organization, they will get print. If an email bounces they get print. You can still choose to receive print. New members who do not choose will get electronic. If you have already opted for electronic you will have to do nothing. There will be an effort to make sure everyone is notified of their options. Impact to us is that a lot of our members will be receiving electronic, but not below what will risk our periodical permit. Our printing costs may be impacted - if we do more than 10,000 prints we get a much lower rate – from 4.5¢ to 2.5¢. With fewer members and electronic default it may raise the price but lower the cost. We will still get the same stipend from National, as far as we know. Because we will be sending out more email notices, we will have to figure out a way to send without getting flagged as spam. This decision may be reviewed by the new AMC after the elections. Also, because this requires input, it may not be representative of member's choice because we are forcing an action. The PDQ will not have the option for renewals but it will change eventually. If a member has flagged 'do not send me notices', is that the same as 'do not send me newsletters'?

GCC:

MS: No updates.

Programs:

MS: No report.

Publicity:

MS: We had a few announcements go out for testing.

Committee Reports:

Election:

JJ: We are on schedule. Two "Call for Candidates" went out. There is nothing in this coming *Sounding*. The deadline for petitions is April 15 and so far I have 5 – Ronan, Thomas, Barbara, Erica and Art Schwartz. I uploaded a blank form to Kyle and Jim and added a note to "Call for Candidates" that a blank could be obtained from any of us three. I have had no need to communicate with Kyle or Jim outside of the original communications. I will cut and paste any paper Candidate Statements to *Sounding* to assure accurate transmission.

Please, no one hand me a ballot, mail it.

RH: By-laws say it can be handed in.

Last year one member made a fuss about another member pushing a write-in candidate. I have no problem with anyone stumping for anyone else. I see it as a statement of member involvement and it provides us with names of some who might want to be active in the future. Does anyone here have a problem with stumping? (No)

RG:

MS: We are finalizing the schedule. We have a bee-keeper, our beer aficionado for a brewing class, and we hope to get the orchid person to come back. We are going to the Columbia Restaurant on Saturday, it will be open, have your own dinner. Sunday, as part of the RG, we will do the Spaghetti Warehouse. Barbara, if you would like to pursue negotiating for us at the Spaghetti Warehouse we would welcome your assistance. Thomas is stepping in to help with Hospitality. Kathy McDonald will help with Registration packets. Vicky Tanaka, who is

going to take the Mensa test, will help with food on-site. Art Schwartz is going to do the tournaments and games. We are planning a debate on educational reform so we will be looking for debaters. We are planning activities for Monday.

Secret Mensa Domination Techniques:

MS: It will be June 11 at Wingate Hotel off I-75 at Bruce B. Downes. It is newly renovated and they are giving us a rate of \$250 for the conference room, 24-hours. We have to give it back to them by 10:00am Sunday.

Discussion: Speakers.

By-Laws:

TT: No meeting, we are waiting for National revision of new ASIE.

Annual Meeting:

SZ: I have signed a contract for Saturday,

August 3, noon to 6:00pm, and we are covered for insurance. UACCCC next to USF, the University Community Center on 22nd and Bearss. If we are a non-profit, it is free.

Old Business:

Retreat:

SZ: On hold until after the election.

Assistant to Key Positions:

TT: I am looking for someone to hold the FSM, 22 May, before the RG.

KC: Dan Chesnut did the equipment list.

Picnic:

TT: Text from Maxine: The post cards are in the mail. She has spent \$332.42 on the shelter, post cards, postage, and requests an additional \$200 advance for food. She may be able to do the Fall Picnic.

Bay Sounding:

TT: Nothing yet, leave it on the agenda.

Summer Social:

ER: We have a place booked. Barbara and I have talked a lot about summer and cold food. Since we have more money and no kitchen we are looking into Smoky Bones BBQ. We will finalize the menu but we will do the food first and then the meeting. We will work out the committee meeting later.

CultureQuest:

TT: April 10, my house, 4PM. The team name is *Smarty Crew* and officially, it is Kyle Lai, George Zadorozny, Ronan Heffernan, Erica Rogers and myself.

4th (not necessarily the last) Friday

RH: No one has stepped up. If we don't have any new host it will come off the Calendar.

Fall Picnic:

Maxine said she will do a walk-through with whoever the next person is, or she may be able to do it herself.

RH: I will do it.

Newsletter Policy on Ad Hominem Attacks:

SZ: There are people who feel that the last issue had things in it that perhaps were bordering on ad hominem attacks.

Discussion: We already have a policy on this. Did what we do qualify under that policy? Yes, we are discussing a specific item. Criticizing the ideas is not an ad hominem attack. Do we want to keep putting political things in *Sounding*? Nothing we are talking about here approaches anything in our submissions, and it is all being responded to. Need a legitimate reason to reject a submission. Cannot limit number of submissions. At least spelling, punctuation and grammar. Not a space problem. Proofreaders make corrections which are rejected. Brings down whole level of *Sounding*. Sets up writer to ridicule? Quality of *Sounding*. We won't limit ideas, just basic grammar. Is it Editor's job to accept only submissions that are of high quality? Can we get a counterbalance of ideas? We need to assure quality of presentation, or stop that submission.

Editor: According to the judgment of this board, I will assure submitters accept our edits or the submission will not be published.

TT: Publication is not guaranteed, everything is subject to editing.

SZ: Next meeting will be June 18, Election Committee at 2:30, the last board meeting will be 3:00, Sylvia's house followed by the first meeting of the new board.

Motion: To adjourn, KC. BL second. Passed.

Meeting adjourned 4:38pm.