

GaL-AA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 1st, 2017 (Skype Meeting) 7:30 pm EST

Attendance:

Present:

Denise R., Chair
Carol N., Deputy Chair
H. Pierre B., Treasurer
Mark P., Secretary
Rob F., Technical Liaison
Jim A., Advisor I
Eric W., Advisor II
Randall R., Advisor III

Absent:

Chair—Denise

- Denise called the meeting to order and opened with a moment of silence, she recited the Serenity Prayer at 7:30 pm.
- Detroit face-to-face: all members are to fill out a registration form for the March roundup and send to Denise (GaL-AA will pay the \$85 roundup registration fee for each member).
- Randall has obtained a meeting room for our use for Thursday and Friday, March 16 and 17, respectively.
- Wednesday night's hotel room cost is not at the lower roundup room rate. After discussion and upon motion made by Mark P. and seconded by Pierre, it was voted that each member will reimburse GaL-AA for \$85 in connection with the first night's stay; Jim's is a wash as he is already registered and paid his registration fee up front.
- Members are also to e-mail Randall with their request for double or single bed.

Secretary's Report—Mark P.

- Mark distributed draft December minutes in advance of the meeting; upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were approved.
- He also sent an Excel spreadsheet of contributions with the minute draft (groups contributed \$547.42 by mail, and there were online contributions totaling \$229.25).
- He will send final December minutes to Rob/Eric for website posting.
- Earth Class mail costs: Mark contacted customer service at the mail-house vendor, and we're currently paying the lowest monthly fee. Our total monthly expenses are a direct result of the number of shipments made during a billing cycle (ends on the 11th of each month), the holding period for each piece of mail and method we choose for shipment. Mark will investigate 1) using 10 free PDF scans monthly to avoid shipping bank statements and insurance paperwork for now and 2) once he's a signatory on the bank account, he will try scans/photos of checks as a way to deposit. More to come in the future on cost-cutting measures for mail. Pierre and Mark J. will let Mark P. know if they can go paperless for bank and insurance correspondence. Overall we should see a reduction in mailing expenses over the next six months if we institute these changes.

Treasurer's Report—Pierre

- We have a checking balance of \$4,734.56; international conference funds are \$5,000.54; and the prudent reserve is \$10,002.14. Pierre will issue formal reports next meeting.
- Insurance was paid (\$278), and we received the anticipated \$500 fee rebate from Bank of America.

- All committee members are to send Pierre by scan, fax or mail proof of insurance for auto and a copy of their driver's license.

Deputy Chair—Carol

- Follow up on election matters:
 - Carol to send Mark P. the committee contact list to update and maintain going forward.
 - Rob will fix/update the executive e-mail group; he will also set Randall up with e-mail and provide ID and pass-code.
 - Pierre is to meet with Mark J. on February 19 for orientation and transition of treasury.
 - Bylaws: we will amend as necessary in Detroit for updating the statement of inclusion and the number of required face-to-face meetings.

Advisor III—Randall

- No report.

Technical Liaison/Web—Rob

- He has a lot to do (one of the priorities is adding donation links) and web design is going slow.
- Rob wants to involve Brian from Columbus; Brian is techy and does websites and is looking for a service opportunity; he can program and help with databases and he is interested in working with us. Rob needs the help and will interview Brian further.
- He will work on the additional donation buttons for Square Cash and Venmo.
- Rob will prepare website analytics and web a usage report for our Detroit meeting.

Advisor II—Eric

- Winter newsletter went out and the next one is scheduled for March (Eric will have a draft for the Detroit face-to-face meeting).
- He has updated several roundups and has monitored support emails; the Brazil meeting has been updated (he had to apologize to Brazil and has interacted with them twice, but corrections/update are now instituted).
- Eric or Denise will prepare an invitation for general public participation for the Detroit face-to-face; we're looking for LGBT+ community members to join in preparations and an ad hoc committee for the upcoming 2020 International Convention.

Advisor I—Jim

- No current requests for Sober & Out were received; he will follow-up on intergroup hyperlinking (see below).
- Jim will also send Denise NYC group links.

Old Business:

- Hyperlinks to GaL-AA from other AA intergroups/national area committees:
 - Denise encouraged the members to contact local intergroups and their webmasters in larger cities and area websites to hyperlink to GaL-AA.org. We're to emphasize our primary purpose and that we're special composition AA with no purpose other than to help the LGBT+ alcoholic who still suffers.
 - Denise had reached out to Rhode Island's intergroup, and they've turned down adding a link to our website.
 - Jim will start with Southern California; Mark will approach Boston Central Service Committee and Area 30 (Eastern Mass. General Service Committee).



**NEXT MEETINGS WILL BE IN-PERSON MARCH 16 AND 17, 2017 AT THE DETROIT
ROUNDUP**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mark P. and seconded by Jim, and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P.