

GaL-AA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 9th, 2019 (Skype Meeting) 7:30 pm EST

Attendance:

Present:

Denise R., Chair

Mark P., Secretary

H. Pierre B., Treasurer

Jim A., Advisor I

Eric W., Advisor II

Randall R., Advisor III

Rob F., Technical Liaison

Absent:

Carol N., Deputy Chair

Chair—Denise

- Denise opened the meeting a few minutes early, called the meeting to order, we observed a moment of silence and then recited the Serenity Prayer.
- Jim A. was connected 9 minutes after the meeting commenced; a quorum was present to conduct any business on the agenda however.
- Denise announced that the upcoming elections information was posted on GaL-AA.org and that the related e-mail blast had gone out. Mark has submitted an updated service resume (rerunning for Secretary), and Carol and Randal may do so if their respective resumes/service histories have changed.
- Denise asked for an update on the 2020 Detroit local committee's activities from Randall while we waited for others to join on the call (the discussion is included in Randall's report below).

Secretary's Report—Mark

- Mark sent draft September minutes in advance of the meeting; upon motion made by Eric and seconded by Jim, the minutes were approved with correction of minor typographical errors noted by Mark on page 1.
- He also sent an Excel spreadsheet of contributions before the meeting; groups contributed \$680.33 by check, and there were no online contributions. No contributions in the mail were earmarked for the 2020 International Convention, and those so earmarked totaled \$2,407 year-to-date, which excludes recent deposits to the 2020 local committee's checking account (see treasury report below).
- Mark will send final September minutes to Eric for posting on the website.

Treasurer's Report—Pierre

- Pierre sent his treasury report for the month end September 30, 2019 prior to the meeting.
- Our beginning balance was \$8,201.39 (income was \$908.13 and expenses were \$1,289.88 [which included a \$1,000 transfer to restore the prudent reserve]). Our ending balance in checking was \$7,819.64.
- 2020 International Conference savings and our prudent reserve totaled \$15,008.58 (the reserve is now \$10,000). The Detroit checking account balance was \$9,386.21.
- Upon motion made by Mark and seconded by Rob, the treasury report was approved.
- Pierre indicated Heidi, as treasurer of the 2020 Local Committee, will track local expenses accordingly with Pierre's oversight; we on the Executive Committee will normally review bottom line balances. Pierre noted that he and Randall discuss significant financial matters, including expenditures, routinely as they crop up.

Deputy Chair—Carol

- No report.

Advisor I—Jim

- Jim noted no significant communications/support e-mails in the last few weeks. He has responded to e-mails about hotels/lodging for the 2020 International.

Advisor II—Eric


- Eric reported other support e-mail is quiet. He sent Rob and Denise a note about the spam we're getting through the website over the "contact us" link. It's risen to unprecedented levels over the last months (taking a lot of time to filter through the junk e-mail submitted by robots to get to the legitimate e-mails that require action).
- Eric noted that all 21 e-mail messages received just this morning were spam and asked about the possibility of filtering and/or capturing technology for robot-induced spam to block the unwanted e-mails. Rob will address and install a filter.
- For meeting updates, Eric's up to date with only one left. Roundups are up to date as well with little activity towards the end of the year.
- A newsletter draft is coming and Eric's striving to get it out for review by the next Skype meeting. One person has contacted us about volunteering to provide help with the newsletter (we need assistance especially for Rob and Eric). He noted that Gary also wants to get involved again with GaL-AA, especially in the technology area--Gary updates the Detroit local website regularly--and that our prior treasurer (Mark J.) is also interested in coming back to GaL-AA. Eric mentioned that he would also be interested in rotating on the Executive Committee.
- Eric will e-mail us when our documents are migrated from our old e-mail to the GaL-AA Google drive. (We have an organizational drive in our G suite now).
- He then exited the meeting.

Advisor III—Randall

- Randall indicated that the local members/groups are raising money. He did not attend the Motown Mansion luncheon tour, but he thinks the event raised \$3,000. There are a couple more fundraisers in the works.
- The Crowne Plaza wasn't officially notified by GSO about GaL-AA's room assignment(s). Randall has spoken with Gregg T., and GSO will contact us with the final arrangements for GaL-AA soon. Randall will wait until then to offer the single hotel room GSO has made available to us to someone on the local committee. Gregg will send a letter/form for us to claim the room and lock it in.
- The local folks requested a high-end DJ, but the local committee will first consult with Crowne Plaza event staff about recommendations for all types of vendors for the dance and hospitality.
- He'll also reach out to Detroit/Troy Marriott about our visit after Together We Can (TWC) is farther along with roundup planning at the hotel. There is a new committee organizing TWC this year.
- The Detroit fireworks display won't conflict with our GaL-AA dance if we were to hold the dance on Saturday evening, July 4 (the city's fireworks display is scheduled for June 22). At the Atlanta International Convention, we held the dance Friday evening, July 3, as Atlanta's fireworks display took place Saturday, July 4.

Technical Liaison/Web—Rob

- Rob indicated he's obtained the 2020 logo and will resize; he needs just a little more time to do this.
- He's also made progress on the meeting list plug-in and knows what to do to move forward. This was a significant hurdle that has been overcome by working with the plug-in provider.
- Rob will make a staging server available with pages of the new website (he is currently putting more of it together). He needs another 8 to 16 hours before it looks decent. Content transfer is



something Gary may be able to assist with. Rob will e-mail Gary about it; it will free up Eric's time to focus on e-mails. Rob will send links to the staging site as his work continues.

- We are all excited about the progress and thanked Rob for his efforts.

Old Business:

- None.

New Business:

- None.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mark and seconded by Jim, and the meeting adjourned.

NEXT SKYPE MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, AT 7:30 PM EST

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P.