

CGPA Board Meeting Minutes July 11, 2016

Date: July 11, 2016

Attendance: Aida Cabecinha, Stephen Gillies, John Sherry, Joan-Dianne Smith, Ken Schwartz, Wendy Wildfong,
From First Stage: Jessica Kerr, Doug Rosser, Sue Munro

Regrets: Kasra Khorasani, Jane Mitchell, Rowan Sharkey, Colleen Wilkie, Ward Yuzda, Andre Roch

President/Chair: (acting) Joan-Dianne Smith

Secretary: Wendy Wildfong

Minutes: Motion moved by Joan-Dianne, seconded by Stephen that the minutes of the June board meeting be approved as circulated.

1. Update on Committee of Understandings: Stephen reported that Terry Simonik, Maureen Coleman, Kas and he are the small working group. He asks board members to read the memorandum and send comments which Stephen will take to his working group.

We have local groups active in certain parts of country entering into contractual relationships with external parties from time to time. How do we formalize these, and handle the mechanics like branding, etc? The board notes that Stephen's is work highly appreciated. Stephen gave a bit of a historical review and has been involved in new bylaws and articles of incorporation, which are on the website.

2. Response to TIGS sponsorship acknowledgement request. Discussion: TIGS is sponsoring at \$500. What level of acknowledgement and recognition is appropriate for this particular occasion before having our guidelines in place? Stephen notes that a gift of money or service requires no obligation but rather we wish to encourage this from a branding/marketing and fundraising perspective. We wish to recognize this significant gift in a significant way, with awareness of motivations of altruism and also to increase their profile. A motion was made by John and passed unanimously to acknowledge this sponsorship as per the following:

- i) Verbally acknowledge them at the time of each talk.
- ii) Acknowledge them on the website page to do with Sunday night seminars.
- iii) Mention them in the conference brochure under an ad for the Sunday evening seminars.
- iv) Acknowledge them on the sponsor's and patron's page.

ACTION: Check with contributor whether the sponsor wants a dollar amount noted.

3. Conference Steering Committee update/ registrations/ finances and marketing. Sue from First Stage joined us for this item. The challenge now is marketing. We are continuing regular e-blasts highlighting aspects of the conference, Kas is working on his network. Sue agrees that our big focus, as there are 4 registrants to date. A branch of marketing is meeting Friday with a new initiative. Agencies and bureaucracies are to be pitched. Hard copy flyers are available as needed (contact Jessica).

4. A research request was received from Fordham University student regarding people of colour in counseling groups. The request regarded reaching out to those who might meet the criteria of this research for phone or video chat. CGPA supports research and the board was asked whether this study meets our criteria. We considered perhaps offering access to our members if the researcher becomes a member. As this might be a barrier perhaps we might put the information on the website and people could contact the researcher if they wanted to, thereby not breaching the privacy of our membership. We will put this request in In The Loop?

A motion was made by Stephen and seconded by Aida that the researcher be contacted with these suggestions.

ACTION: Kas would be the one to reply to this student. This decision will be forwarded to Rowan by Aida. Jessica will post on the website when directed.

5. Request from Catholic Family Services, Toronto, was received by Kas forwarded to Aida who handled it. CFS is in the process of putting forward

a proposal for funding for group work. In the spirit of good will Aida sent guidelines from AGPA from which to extrapolate, also suggested information they could purchase and suggestions about developing a library. She also invited them to the conference. Requests like this are coming to us.

6. Nominations, Honours and Awards proposed document. This document would be sent out to members to provide some information but not overwhelm them. Joan-Dianne sees this as a PR move and giving people a chance to say their piece. This might be an important process even if we do not receive a resounding response.

ACTION: Joan Dianne will send out a personalized email and Jessica will create a Survey Monkey form as that formally collates the response information.

7. Next year's conference continued: Joan-Dianne reports that Jackie is very keen to have the conference in Halifax and is confident that she can get the crowd out. Winnipeg will take a turn in due course. Toronto may be getting fatigued and also as a national organization we do not want to become Toronto-centric. Doug wonders whether there are university facilities there due to high cost otherwise. He also knows that it is easy to get to Halifax and it also potentially draws on New York and New England participants.

ACTION: Joan-Dianne will check with Terry as to her experience the last time. She will frame a direct question in the outgoing email (item 6) to members. *Halifax? Would this appeal to you?*

8. Thanks to Joan-Dianne for deft chairing of this productive meeting. Suggested potential agenda items for next time: request from Stephen for budget information. Doug will provide current financials (balance sheet, profit and loss).

Next meeting:

Monday, August 8, 2016.

BC-2 pm, AB-3 pm, MB-4 pm, ON-5 pm, NS-6 pm; please try to attend five minutes to the hour

Call in:

Local: 1-416-764-8610

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