



THE FOCUSING INSTITUTE
carrying life and thought forward

MINUTES - The Focusing Institute Board of Directors

Date February 3rd 2016 via Zoom

Documents submitted prior to the meeting via email

- Agenda (from Catherine Torpey)

PRESENT: Susan Lennox, Jim Iberg, Catherine Torpey, Jane Quayle, Kevin Krycka, Mary Jennings, David Rome, Elizabeth Cantor (for minute-taking)

MEETING FACILITATOR: Jim Iberg

I. OPENING SILENCE AND SHARING

II. AGENDA DISCUSSION – Approval of December minutes. Minutes from the last month are to be approved at the beginning of future board meetings.

III. The December Minutes were approved

IV. FINANCIAL UPDATE AND BUDGET – Kevin and Catherine

Stephen Tanner, Catherine and Kevin will meet this week to progress the conversion of the accounts to the accrual method. Catherine reported that a substantial donation has been received for the purpose of updating the website. The draft of the revised format for the 2016 budget was discussed and a few completing suggestions made. This will be completed for discussion at our next meeting.

V. UPDATE ON THE PROCESS FOR EVALUATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David will send out a revised version of the evaluation documents and has requested that all board members returned this document with their responses to him by 17th February. He will collate the responses and the Board will discuss these in the second hour of our March board meeting. The staff will send their comments as a written narrative to David.

We will have the opportunity to think through our ideas about the role and responsibilities of Executive Director when we meet with Rosa at our next meeting.

VI. MEETING FACE TO FACE IN CAMBRIDGE THIS YEAR

The Board discussed the feasibility of meeting face to face in Cambridge and our feeling is that it makes more sense not have a special meeting in Cambridge. The reason is that several members can't attend anyway (Akira, Kevin, Jim and Marine), and for others the cost in time and money is burdensome. Although we all agree that being together in person is wonderful, there is no compelling reason to ask people to make the sacrifice of extra time and money this year.

Instead, those Board and ILC members who do attend will make sure to find some opportunities to spend some time together -- perhaps dedicating one or two meals to being together, or finding an hour or two during the conference when it is feasible for us all to be together. Catherine will ask the members of the ILC for their feeling about this.

VII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jim updated us on the progress and we are still trying to find international candidates willing to serve.

VIII. STRATEGIC CONVERSATIONS WITH ROSA

Catherine clarified the calendar of proposed meetings with Rosa. It was agreed that the Strategic Planning Committee would create a process for bringing together the output of these discussions and

comparing / integrating them with the output from our meeting and the community input from Seattle in 2015.

IX. RELATIONSHIPS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Catherine initiated a discussion about ways for TFI to create formal relationships with international Focusing organizations. A variety of ideas were discussed including types of formal relationships which we already have in place. It was noted that many different kinds of relationships may be needed depending on the needs of the international organisation.

X. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Susan gave an update of the work of the membership committee and a discussion was begun about member's dues payments and the retention of members.

XI. HOUSKEEPING

The next regular board meeting: March 2nd, 2016 at 3pm Eastern Daylight Time

XII. SELECTION OF NEXT MONTH'S PRIME MOVER: Jane Quayle

XIII. FINAL SILENCE

TO DO'S arising from the meeting:

Catherine Torpey will

- Finalize the Budget for 2016

Submitted by Jane Quayle