



THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUSING INSTITUTE

carrying life and thought forward

MINUTES - The International Focusing Institute Board of Trustees

Date: April 4, 2018

Documents submitted prior to the meeting via email

- Agenda
- ED report
- March Minutes
- March Board To Do List
- Proposed Structure for Board Portfolios
- Leslie Ellis Bio

PRESENT: David Rome (President), Susan Rudnick (Secretary), Paula Nowick (Vice President), Hanspeter Muehlethaler (Treasurer), Dana Ganihar, Catherine Torpey.

PRIME MOVER: David Rome

I. NEW COORDINATOR VISIT – Brian Korzec

- Brian visited for the first ten minutes as part of the Board's new policy to welcome new Coordinators.

II. OPENING SILENCE AND CHECK IN

III. REVIEW OF MARCH TO DO LIST

IV. MARCH MINUTES

- Approval pending review of updated version being sent to the Board members.

V. STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

- This new regular agenda item was tabled for this month, as it is implicitly included as part of this meeting's conversation about Board functioning.

VI. VOTE ON NEW BOARD MEMBER

- **DECISION:** Board voted to approve Leslie Ellis as the sixth Board member. They will welcome her at the next Board meeting.

VII. ED REPORT

Catherine submitted a written report in advance and briefly discussed the following points from that report.

- Catherine reported that April 15 is the projected date for the public launch of the Spring Fundraising campaign.
- She gave a brief update on the ILC/Board small Working Group. After the January joint meeting between the Board and ILC, a Small Working Group was formed (Susan Rudnick, Roberto Larios, Hejo Feuerstein, Catherine Torpey and Elizabeth Cantor). They are going to create a document to frame more conversation about how the Institute can interact with regional groups. Once they complete their document, then small groups of combined Board and ILC members will meet, followed by another joint meeting. Since Hejo is temporarily unavailable, and a European viewpoint on this is very important, the Small Working Group has asked Astrid Schillings to take part in its next meeting. Astrid was asked by Catherine to be part of the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee, and is very involved with the German Focusing community.
- Nada Lou is giving the Institute all her unedited video tapes of Gene. This is a significant gift. The Board expressed their appreciation and delight.
- The TIFI logo has been re-designed to replace the tagline “Carrying Life and Thought Forward” with “Building on the Work of Eugene T. Gendlin since 1979”, as decided by the Board last year. It will be inaugurated at the Felt Sense Conference.
- Website update: The webmaster, Scott, has been meeting with the developers regularly, but we have asked them to meet with Catherine in the hope that doing so will push them to get the site to us soon.
- ILC update: Akira Ikemi completed his last meeting with the ILC. Hejo Feuerstein will be finishing up in summer. The Nominating Committee will be looking to replace them.

VIII. BOARD FUCTIONING

Proposed Portfolio Structure (From Paula, Dana and Catherine):

A detailed document suggesting a new portfolio structure was distributed in advance.

To begin a new emphasis in Board work, each Board member would have at least one “portfolio”.

- The Board discussed this model at length and voted to move forward with the proposal on an experimental basis.
- Board members volunteered to take on the following portfolios: Membership – Dana (Hanspeter will attend); Fundraising - David; Governance/Paula; Finances/Hanspeter; Programming/ Susan, (Dana will attend); Outreach/Leslie Ellis was recommended. Each portfolio holder will be responsible for monitoring the goals in their area in connection to the Strategic Plan. Paula expressed an intention to stay in touch with each of the portfolio leaders on an ongoing basis.
- The Board will continue to meet monthly through July. After July, the Board will meet every 2 months.

DECISION: The Board approved the written proposal to give each member a portfolio, and to move Board meetings to every other month beginning after the July meeting.

IX. REPORT ON THE ROUNDTABLE

- David and Paula led a recent Roundtable (online conversation sponsored by the Membership Committee) and reported on that group’s desire to have direct communication with the leadership of the Institute including the Board and ILC.

X. CLOSING