

La Leche League of Southern California, Inc. Board of Directors' Minutes

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on March 14, 2021 via Zoom at 7:09 pm with Elise Hamel as host.

Members present :

Sharon Savene

Board President, Outgoing LLLUSA Council Delegate for LLLSCNV Network

Stephanie Laurean

Network Financial Coordinator/ NFC

Karima Khatib

Network Coordinator of Leaders- NCL / Events co-Chair

Hedi Herrmann-Blanton

Network Professional Liaison / Events co-Chair

LLL USA Council Delegate for LLLSCNV Network

Elise Hamel

Network Coordinator of Communication and Social Media / Events co-Chair

Patricia Ochoa

Area Representative / AR - San Diego Imperial Valley

Romy Rapoport

Area Representative / AR - Central LA Beaches

Renee' DiGregorio

Executive Council Facilitator

Not present:

Elizabeth Krey

Area Representative / AR - Nevada and Northern CA Deserts

Emily Niemeyer

Area Representative / AR - Orange County Inland Empire

Departments not currently represented:

Leader Accreditation - Network CLA not assigned

Agreements - OPEN

LLL USA Delegate OPEN as of 3/31/21

Approval of Minutes

A draft of the Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting held 2/21/21 were sent for review during the month and approved by quorum vote. The minutes have been posted on the Network website. A notice will go out to Network Leaders that these documents are available for viewing. [Elise]

Page 2 of 4 - Board Minutes of 3/14/21

Old Business

- Area Representative for San Diego/Imperial Counties. After enthusiastic response from SDIV Leaders, Patricia Ochoa has been chosen as their representative to the LLL of So CA Inc Board of Directors. Orientation has begun and Patricia will prepare an introduction letter to all Area Leaders. Welcome Patricia!
- LLL USA Council Delegate: expressed interest in the position has not been received. It is felt that likely Leaders should be approached directly.
- Applications of new Group EINs. (See Finance report)
- Communications Skills status (refer to Board Minutes of 11/9/20, 1/10/21 and 2/21/21 - Old Business). Karen Peters has agreed to set up 2 - 3 full workshops for our Network. She and her team of CS Facilitators will consult their schedules and arrive at dates. She has also agreed to train interested Leaders to become Facilitators so that, ultimately, our Network can provide our own CS enrichment. At the time Karen was given an open calendar as our Network had not yet planned any dates for enrichment. At tonight's meeting, May 23, 2021 was chosen for LES. Renee will reach out again to Karen Peters to give her this date exception when planning their scheduled workshops

Department Reports

Leader

- Stats Survey was sent to all Primary Connected Network Leaders. Response has been best when the AR follows up with phone calls. At times, the AR will obtain those needed stats and fill out the survey based on their answers. Future requests will set a 4 weeks response deadline.
- 3/14/21 Update: Emily Neimeyer is still compiling all Leader responses for the Network Report
- Suspension of in-person meetings. A statement was sent out to all Leaders (see Minutes of 12/3/20 and 1/10/21) as a reminder on November 17, 2020. While still to be confirmed, the Board has received some second hand information that a Leader/Group might be planning on starting in-person meetings again. LLL USA recently, as of last week sent out another reminder that the suspension of meetings mandate has not been lifted. Another update will be set via MailChimp to all Network Leaders.

LAD

There are 8 current active Leader Applicants (3 just starting)

Finance

- Conference Acct: \$5,000.00
 - General Acct: \$9,876.82
 - Morgan Stanley: \$23,053.35
- Renee sent out LLL USA alignment Letters to each group with a new EIN by postal mail. Two copies were set, one to keep, one to sign and return in a provided self-addressed-stamped envelope. March 18 was given as a return deadline. Upon receiving all, Renee will scan each alignment letter and forward to Linda Anderson.

Page 3 of 4 - Board Minutes of 3/14/21

Finance report continued:

- Stephanie sent out the Annual Financial Report form for review with the plan for it to go out in early April.
- Notice was received that our current Go-To-Meeting subscription will expire in March. As agreed last year, we will allow it to expire. At that point we will pay the annual fee to use Zoom platform for Board and other general Network needs. The annual fee of \$149.00 will present a substantial discount as opposed to month-to-month fees. It was agreed that through enrichment workshop fees, the approximate \$13.00 per month will be covered.

PL

- Focus on EDI Training Grant- Update as of 3/14/21 For the applications submitted, SCANV was not awarded grant funds.
- Plans for a minimum 4 webinars focused for lactation professionals.- no update as of 3/14/21
- Plans for webinars for Leaders Enrichment - Update 3/14/21 May 23, 2021 has been chosen for spring LES. Topics: Supporting Mothers After Hospital Stay; and WHO code review
- On 2/21/21 a new suggestion was made that Marian Tompson be considered for an 'Afternoon with Marian' for a Leader Enrichment event. Update 3/14/21 Next Leader Social will be held during August World Breastfeeding Month with intention to invite Marian Tompson (added: perhaps an opportunity to sell our surplus of "My Passionate Journey")

Communications and Social Media

- Working to compile a list of Network Group social media platforms using Facebook pages/groups and if they are holding virtual meetings. When completed it will be maintained on the home page of our Network website. See 2/21/21 New Business
- A Save-The-Date for May 23 LES will go out as soon as possible [Elise]
- Elise was given permission to disperse, at her discretion, a substantial amount of older LLL books to Leaders across the country. Update 2/21/21 Further discussion revealed that Area supplies are scattered in several homes (garages or storage units). Renee currently is using a small portion of her personal storage unit for Conference supplies and ADA records and offered to share space to accommodate all supplies for a small reimbursement amount. Discussion will continue and perhaps obtain an inventory of all stored items to determine what should continue to be stored or purged. For historical purposes: In order to purge and lessen Network costs, 2 storage units in Orange Co were cleared in 2017. No update as of 3/14/21

Events - see Old Business and PL Report

Agreements

It was agreed that focused meetings devoted to only updating will be more effective. The 4th Sunday of every month was found to be best for the principals involved. Renee will send out the dates of the 4th Sunday thru the next 6 months. It is felt that meetings would not begin until 8:00 PM. All Board members are encouraged to attend all or at least as many as possible.

Page 4 of 4 - Board Minutes of 3/14/21

Agreements continued:

Following draft completion, the agreements will be sent to Network Leaders for approval or suggestions. Areas may use Network agreements as a template for Area agreements.

Update 2/21/21: Schedule was sent out designating the 4th Sunday for the next 6 months. One hour of dedicated time is considered reasonable to reach completion. Feb 28th is the next scheduled meeting.

Update 3/14/21: During last month's work group meeting it was found that frustrations will be minimized if suggestions are kept brief to attempt to cover more material and to maintain the 1 hour time limit. Next meeting: March 28th at 8:00 pm.

LLL USA Delegate Report

- Plans have begun for the LLLI 65th Anniversary celebration - tentative date in October 2021
- Hedi continues work on a committee towards a 2 million dollar grant for LLLI focusing on racial diversity. Update 3/14/21: Ultimately, LLL USA did not apply for the Grant
- Hedi informed the LLL USA Council that an interested candidate to replace Sharon has not come forward. Sharon's term ends 3/31/21

New Business

3/14/21 Repeated here for the benefit of new Board member:

-Review of written communications: It has always been good practice to ask for review for all communication sent to Leaders, either individually or to a group. We are encouraged to continue that practice even for those of us who are more seasoned at this form of communication. All Board members should make themselves available to review when asked. Members should use their instincts especially if they feel the situation deserves special handling. Reviews will catch 'tone' if evident and appropriate attempts at clarity. A good starting place would be when the draft of Board Meeting Minutes are received, input/corrections are always welcome. Those members who are unable to attend the meeting should respond with comments if the summary of discussion seems confusing.

- Discussion began regarding new Leader mentorship expectations. It was determined that any new Leader, but especially those who will be starting their own new Groups/leading more independently of an established Group/Leader, should receive a personal phone call from the PL department. Phone call can be a friendly introduction to offer continued support as well as follow up to the Leader welcome email sent by Renee/ADA/the Board. This email should include reminders of WHO Code Compliance, requirements for Leader reporting (including links to personal contact Google form & meeting sign-in Google form once completed) and best practices for avoiding liability in giving "medical advice".

Next Board meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM / Meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM

Respectfully submitted

Renee' DiGregorio - Executive Council Facilitator