

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 May 16, 2021 via Zoom at 7:11 pm with Stephanie Laurean as host. Special focus devoted to the upcoming Leader Enrichment Seminar.

Members present :

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

Sharon Savene

Board President

Patricia Ochoa

Area Representative / AR - San Diego Imperial Valley

Romy Rapoport

Area Representative / AR - Central LA Beaches

Renee' DiGregorio

Executive Council Facilitator

Not present:

Elise Hamel

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

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 (2nd seat) OPEN as of 3/31/21

Approval of Minutes

A draft of the Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting held 4/11/21 was 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]

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Old Business

- Communications Skills status

(refer to Board Minutes of 11/9/20, 1/10/21, 2/21/21, 4/11/21 - Old Business).

Update 5/16/21 Renee wrote to Karen with the request that June 1st be the date set to hear from her for a workshop date this year...that if not, we would be looking to establish our own outline and workshops. Karen replied that she had since spoken with one of our Leaders, Lana Wahlquist, who will now be trained as a Facilitator. She will assist Karen on an upcoming workshop and it is felt Lana could conduct workshops for our Network after that. Renee will communicate with Lana further on details.

- 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.

4/11/21 Update: During the month a question arose if the Leader/Group Liability insurance would be voided if a Leader chose to hold in-person meetings, despite knowledge of LLLI mandates to suspend in-person meetings, and a COVID exposure was traced to an in-person meeting. Hedi had indicated she would ask during a USA Council meeting, but forgot to ask that specific question.

Renee will write to the Executive Director for guidance.

Update 4/20/21 (noted here after Board Meeting date as response received was timely and important): Response from Zion Tankard was as follows: "LLL USA and Alliance have both committed to not encouraging in person meetings due to COVIC-19. LLLI insurance will not cover (in person) meetings during this period and Leaders do assume all the risk that may be attached". Discussion will continue on the necessity to send out another reminder to specifically include the risk element.

Update 5/16/21 According to our LLL USA Delegate, this topic was covered in depth at the recent LLL USA Council meeting. The uniqueness of a LLL meeting environment presents many variables. With legal input, consultation will address those issues with the liability insurance underwriters. A special LLL USA Council meeting is planned for this coming week.

Department Reports

Leader

5/16/21 Update: Leader Stats for the period of July-Dec 2020...Karima will contact Emily regarding the status of the compilation and the subsequent forward to LLL USA.

- A Leader from Edwards AFB will be moving to Las Vegas (still within the Nevada & Northern CA Deserts Area). Renee gave her contact numbers for LV Leaders.

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Department Reports continued.

LAD

No report obtained.

From 4/11/21: A new link has been added to the LLLI website under "Become A Leader" where an interested party can respond to a short google form. Cindy Garrison responds with an email giving links to the most basic requirements and if interest remains, she forwards to the closest RALA. Lori Bryan has reached out several times in the last two weeks to Renee to locate the closest Leader so that they can acquaint themselves and perhaps lead to an official applicant for leadership. It is expected to give a substantial surge in applicants.

Finance

-Conference Acct: \$5,000.00

-General Acct: \$9,339.29

-Morgan Stanley: \$22,996.25

-Group Financial Reports: All but 5 groups have reported. Two of which are accounts that have closed and are required to respond with a final report. One is trying to get to the bank after applying for a new EIN. Stephanie will reach out to all 5 Groups Leaders. Three of the reporting groups must submit a 990N before August 1, 2021. All other groups will not need to file 990N until next year.

- Status has not been received regarding the restoration of the Corporate non-profit status and reverse of the revocation of the EIN, though forms and restoration fees were submitted approximately 3 months ago. It is noted that the check has cleared. Stephanie will inquire with the IRS this week. Update: 5/16/21 No further notifications have been received.

PL / Events

LES planning.

-Registration information and agenda was sent to all Network Leaders via MailChimp. Same was posted on the Network Leader FB page, LLL USA Leaders 'Official', and LLLI Leaders pages. As of this date there are approximately 30+ Leaders and Applicants registered.

-The majority of the meeting covered assignment of who is to cover Opening Statements and guide icebreaker, who will introduce the speakers, how questions will be answered. Hark Ceremony and Milestone will be conducted by Renee with special consideration to how to manage it virtually.

- Renee has shipped Leader pins to all newly accredited Leaders. Milestone pins have been also shipped to cover all Leaders who are celebrating/celebrated milestone anniversaries in the last 3 years...including those that were not present to receive their pins at November 2018 or February 2020 LES. An email was sent to each recipient to encourage them to attend next week's LES. It is the Board's decision that costs for envelopes and postage be reimbursed from the Leader Enrichment Fund.

- As Elise was not in attendance, Renee will send her all the details discussed tonight in regards to recording; timing, and sending out Zoom link to all registrants.

- Sharon and Hedi will meet during the week to work on their presentations.

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PL department report continued:

- Plans for a minimum 4 webinars focused for lactation professionals.- no update as of 4/11/21
Topics: - 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")
4/11/21 Update. Moved to be discussed after LES.

Communications and Social Media

- Continued work 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. FB groups are being discovered we didn't know existed. Next step will be to contact each group to learn page administrators etc.
- Registration and Agenda for May 23 LES was sent out 4/17/21.
-Elise gifted still relevant books to other LLL groups. Shipping costs were paid by the recipient. She has purged dated supplies and organized the remaining stock. 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 5/16/21

Events - see PL Report

Agreements

Workgroup was held 5/2/21. Next workgroup has been rescheduled for June 27, 2021. It was discussed that the input by each participant should be heard and respected by all. All Board members are encouraged to attend all or at least as many as possible.
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.

LLL USA Delegate Report

Status of in-person resumption of meeting (See Old Business)

- Plans have begun for the LLLI 65th Anniversary celebration - tentatively in October 2021
- "The Letter" from Marian Tompson was the subject of discussion on all LLL platforms. The EDI Committee is committed to share the perspective of LLLI's statement of diversity and equity

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New Business

-Renee shared that the ADA from NoCA/Hi had opened discussion that they had been considering either merging with another Area or becoming an Area in another Network. Different scenarios were discussed and Renee shared the initial results should they join SCANV as our sixth Area. She will continue discussion with their Team based on our discussion.

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.

- Repeated here for reference: 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 June 13, 2021 at 7:00 PM with special focus on LES planned for the following weekend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM

Respectfully submitted

Renee' DiGregorio - Executive Council Facilitator