

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

Meeting Date: 3/10/19

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on March 10, 2019 via GoToMeeting. The meeting convened at 7:10 pm by Renee' DiGregorio, as President/ Recording Secretary.

Members present :

Renee' DiGregorio

Network Event Coordinator / NEC; Board President and Recording Secretary

Stephanie Laurean

Network Financial Coordinator/ NFC; Area Representative/ AR - San Diego and Imperial Valley

Karima Khatib

Network Coordinator of Leaders- NCL; Area Representative/ AR - Orange County and Inland Empire

Elizabeth Krey

Area Representative / AR - Nevada and Northern CA Deserts

Hedi Herrmann-Blanton

Network Professional Liaison

Sharon Savene

Director-at-Large / LLLUSA Council Delegate for LLLSCNV Network

Not present:

Romy Rapoport

Area Representative / AR - Central LA Beaches

Departments not represented:

Leader Accreditation - NCLA not assigned

Agreements - OPEN

Approval of Minutes

2/10/2019 Approved by quorum as revised

Page 2 of 5 - Board Minutes for 3/10/19

Old Business

Possible interested Leader for Publications Dept Director is asking for short-term commitment. This will be discussed this next month and findings will be presented at next meeting.

New Business

Via Leader Facebook pages, interest has developed for logo decals we produced for Conference. Inventory of 116 found in storage and will be sent to Elise Hamel (who produced them for Conference) This stock will be used for current requests. It will be determined if demand will require the Network to place an additional bulk order.

-Interest has also been noticed that there could be a demand for logo fabric. Research will begin on textile companies that can produce yardage in smaller quantities until we realize the demand requires more.

-Research into FB Birthday Fundraisers and how they can be used by individual Leaders for their Group; Area or Network. What EIN# would be used?

Department Reports

Leader Dept

-Dialogue with interested Leader in OCIE Area Representative position continues.

-OCIE workshop planned for March on Birth Trauma has been postponed due to lack of interest/sign-ups. A minimum would have had to be required to cover expenses. Same speaker/Leader posted a free webinar on similar topic without contacting NPL first. She was asked to remove post until further dialogue is completed.

-Action still to be taken from 4/8/18: Address mixing causes policies via Area Letters and Network FB page. Added 1/13/19 Also address business identifying email addresses or email signature tags as clear mixing causes.

It is believed that since an Area Handbook has not been published in years, many Leaders are unaware of basic procedures. It is suggested we publish Department role descriptions (Leader; PL; Finance; Events; and LAD) and gently outline or draw attention to how Leader support can be obtained from these departments. Dept Heads will begin composing descriptions to go out to all Leaders and be posted in the Leader section of the website.

Leader Dept Summary attached

ADA report

Two Bakersfield Leaders have been sent final reminder letters regarding severely delinquent Leader Assessments. One responded that she is moving to Texas; the ADA provided all options available to her. Efforts are progressing to determine group(s) status and bank account details in that area.

Page 3 of 5 - Board Minutes for 3/10/19

Finance Dept

-Financial Report submitted and attached.

-Action from 2/10/19? A wording will be written to advertise Conference Recorded Sessions to be placed on our Network Website; both Network Leader and public Network FB pages to promote sales. Placement ads will be designated for LLLUSA Leaders 'Official' and LLL Leaders FB pages

?Action from 2/10/19 Proposal: Grant monies that had been awarded to a now closed group can be designated as 'seed'/start up fund for group(s) that wish to participate in Live Love Latch events. Preparation of wording regarding eligibility will cover such points as : the group would not normally participate in this major fundraising events without the help of start up monies to cover initial expenses. This might provide groups the money to fund their own Leader Enrichment or Leader Assessments.

Update? Action from 1/13/19 -It was now finalized that groups within LLL of SoCANev Network will now be able to open group accounts using the LLLUSA tax exempt status. Group Leaders will be notified. -

-Action to be taken from 12/8/18 Update?

Status of Group Financial Reports and follow up reminder.

LAD report - Provided by Lori Bryan RALA

Reported no change from report of 2/10/19. There are currently 6 active Applicants; 1 new applicant has been added to the 'wait' list.

Agreements

Two Board Directors continue to update our Network Agreements using Garden State Network recent updates as a guide. Process is described as arduous. It is agreed that if we intend to remain a corporation that we should also update our By-Laws as they are more legally binding.

-Action to be taken from 1/13/19 : Discussion on whether an appointed volunteer for this position is necessary for the future.

Professional Liaison

It is reported that soliciting assistance from other PL members has been slow. Plans for department enrichment with 'case study of the month' topic will be "For the Love of Milk Sharing": This outline is still in draft form.

-Currently working to compile updated legal resources for Leaders and parents.

New Business: Effort to instruct Leaders on workshop planning and speaker procedures will most probably appear with other department summaries. (see Leader Dept Report above).

Page 4 of 5 - Board Minutes 3/10/19

Events

- It is time to arrive at a choice of what form our next Network Conference will take. It was suggested an all-day seminar with Leader Education in A.M. and full afternoon of CE topics..followed with early evening Network Meeting. Suggestion that Leaders should be polled for opinion
- Based on results of poll NEC will pursue securing The California Endowment Center in Los Angeles for November 2020.
- Full Conference Inventory was completed (Event Dept Report attached). Large quantities of Passionate Journey and Conference Totes can be advertised to local Leaders and Leader FB pages in an attempt to decrease inventory.

LES Suggested locations in Whittier/Downey area for Leader Enrichment Seminar has yet to be finalized. Should secure location soon. Proposed Saturdays in late September thru first weeks in November were given to determine availability. It has been suggested that topics be rich in supporting Leader responsibilities and procedures.

LLLUSA Delegate Report

- Our Network Leaders responded well to election ballots for LLLI Board of Directors vacancies. The candidate who received majority of our Network votes chose to withdraw from consideration.
- Status of Delegate Application: After phone interviews were completed there has been no further action taken. In an effort to receive some clarification why there has been a delay, a letter from the entire SoCA Inc. Board will be sent out to the USA Council asking for action in placing our candidate.
- Follow up: A post was sent out to all Leaders to announce the need for volunteers for the LLLUSA Help Line. Spanish speaking Leaders are critically needed.
- With the separation of Alliance Network from LLLUSA it is felt that LLLUSA could not risk losing another Network. Our declining numbers could be overlooked for now.

From New Business 1/13/19

It was proposed that the Director position of Publication department head be re-established. The title should be revised to better describe the responsibilities related to digital communications. One particular Leader was approached based on her extensive knowledge displayed throughout Conference planning. This was presented to her as a 'if it was your's to build-what would be the first steps to define purpose and goals. Individual is considering position if responsibilities are mother-sized. Update: Interested party wishes to explore if a short-term commitment was possible.

From New Business 2/10/19 - USA Delegate was to look into obtaining Communication Skills Trainers/support from LLL West Network.

Page 5 of 5 - Board Minutes for 3/10/19

The following will remain in minutes so that it is readily available:

While covering the topic of Agreements, the pros and cons of dissolving our Network was discussed further. There is no precedent and it was thought that perhaps maintaining the status-quo might be best. Some considered it best to explore BEFORE it is discovered that we no longer have the Leader numbers to support it. Looking for an Network to join would be another consideration as LLLWest asks \$98.00 per Leader cost sharing. An attempt to explore other Networks should be considered.

It was also considered to dissolve our Corporate status...(though unrelated to dissolving a Network) is basically due to several unfulfilled Director positions and loss of quorum. If considered, it was suggested that a pro-bono attorney be retained for counsel on dissolving LLL of SoCA Inc. Without a Network or Corporate structure; we would return to the basic Area Council structure.

[The following is re-printed here to show initial discussion]:

As suggested at last meeting, the Delegate presented the hypothetical to Council regarding our lowering numbers and how they would affect our Network status.

Feedback: A precedent for this scenario has not arisen before; but it is felt that any Leaders we have secondarily connected to our Areas may 'count' in maintaining Network status. These Leaders will not be included in our count for cost sharing fees.

Discussion from 8/12/18 Board Meeting copied here for reference:

*"With our progressively lowering Leader numbers, discussion regarding whether it is feasible to retain Network status. As no precedence exists for this action; our LLLUSA delegate will present the hypothetical to obtain input of advantages or disadvantages. **In addition**, with the pending retirement of 3 Board*

Directors in the next few months; legitimate concerns exist whether we are able to maintain our corporate status.

Possible advantages:

We would no longer have to file taxes

Possible disadvantages:

Loss of a Network LLLUSA Council delegate seat(s)

*Most neighboring Network(s) distribute fees differently (approx. \$62.) as opposed to what LLLUSA requests (\$58.00). Our small earnings would become smaller..unless we raise assessments fees."} **See comment above. We would have to either find a Network that charges less or fundraise to cover the balance for each Leader.***

Next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM

Respectfully submitted

Renee DiGregorio - President and Board Recording Secretary

Attached: Department Reports

