

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 January 9, 2022 via Zoom at 7:10pm with Stephanie Laurean as host and Renee DiGregorio leading.

Members present :

Stephanie Laurean

Network Financial Coordinator/ NFC

Sharon Savene

Board President

Hedi Herrmann-Blanton

Network Professional Liaison / Events co-Chair

LLL USA Council Delegate for LLLSCNV Network

Renee' DiGregorio

Executive Council Facilitator

Not present:

Tyler Dodge-Griffin

LLL USA Council Delegate for LLLSCNV Network

Elise Hamel

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

Karima Khatib

Network Coordinator of Leaders- NCL / Events co-Chair

Elizabeth Krey

Area Representative / AR - Nevada and Northern CA Deserts

Emily Niemeyer

Area Representative / AR - Orange County Inland Empire

Patricia Ochoa

Area Representative / AR - San Diego Imperial Valley

Romy Rapoport

Area Representative / AR - Central LA Beaches

Departments not currently represented:

Leader Accreditation - Network CLA not assigned

Agreements - OPEN

Approval of Minutes

A draft of the Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting held 12/12/21 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

-Donation button for our website and for the public Network FB page. Stephanie will work with our webmistress and Elise on how to make this happen. Both can be connected to our existing PayPal account. Stephanie will work on the verbage to accompany this and provide account information for connectivity. As discussed before, this has been a missed opportunity to assist in the financial health of the Network.

Update 9/12/21 Stephanie will continue to explore with our webmistress.

Update 10/10/21 Elise shared what they did for their website and will explore adapting to our needs. See Finance Report for 11/14/21.

Update 12/12/21 It was found that the previous NFC was still listed as the responsible party on the PayPal account. A letter was drafted on Board stationary to update to current NFC. An email confirmation was received. Further updates will be completed to change from business status to non-profit.

Update 1/9/22 Responsible party has been changed on PayPal account. Action will be taken to change account from business to non-profit.

- Quarterly Stats Report for January - June, 2021. Update 12/12/21 Preparation to send out the next request for Stats will entail, in particular, how to compile the numerous zip codes of attendees. As approximately one third of our Network Leaders responded, further discussion was conducted on how to increase responsiveness to these stats requests. It is thought that the survey, with it's numerous questions beyond asking for true contacts, that some Leaders may be questioning the necessity of reporting. Hedi will draft a message to explain the reason(s) for required reporting and how the gathered stats are used. It is also agreed that the ARs would take an active part in communicating one on one with each Leader to encourage regular dialogue and to also stress the importance of reporting.

Update 1/9/22 Consensus is to hold off on updating form and send out to Leaders as is [Elise]

- A Communication Skills Workshop Update 1/9/22 Profits were shared with Pacific Horizons based on the agreement detailed in the MOU.

- Patricia, as a CS Trainee, relayed the plans to hold a special 'Communiating With Children' CS Workshop soon after the March 6th Leader Social and open to Leaders, parents and professionals. It would be a 2 - day event of 2 hours each. Maximum attendance would be 60 and could be a fundraiser for the Network and Pacific Horizons Area. Fees were discussed. Patricia will extend our support and enthusiasm so that plans can begin. An announcement will go out in News & Notes.

Update 1/9/22 Registration info sent out on all platforms and will go out in News & Notes this week. Scheduled for February 8 and 15th, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. \$10 for Leaders and Applicants, \$40 for interested parents. Registration is limited to 60 participants. Shared profits will be distributed similar to last CS Workshop.

- A full CS Workshop is planned for April/May with 12 maximum limit..more details to come.

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Old Business continued:

- Grant status outlined in 9/12/21 Board Minutes 'New Business'. Contact person has not responded to Patricia. Hedi has offered to help Patricia for, if nothing else, the experience of applying for a grant.. The sponsoring company was found to be WHO Code compliant. Update 11/14/21 Patricia heard from one of the coordinators of the grant and indicated that they are still working on the details and Patricia will be notified when applications will be accepted. Update 12/12/21 No update available for this meeting 1/9/22.

The Friends of LLL mini grants are available and should be considered. A possible use for funds would be to cover speaker fees for enrichment events.

- LLL of SoCA Inc. Board Elections will be held on February 13, 2022. All members are encouraged to attend.

*Maintained here for quick reference

-Continued discussion on whether to remain a Network. See New Business from 9/12/21. Pros and cons revisited. What Network would we join? Advantages to the Network that would accept us? Would returning to Area status actually relieve SCANV of administrative responsibilities in serving our Leaders? It was concluded that focused effort should be returned to growing our Leader numbers and encourage interest among current Leaders to give consideration to assuming Network leadership roles. Discussion will be re-addressed at any time in the future depending on the results of this effort.

Department Reports

Leader

- The NCL continues to be on family leave from her administrative obligations.

- ADA report. Area lists were reviewed and returned. New access was given to the new RE NXT platform. Issues of functionality continue. As of this date, there is a total of 73 active Leaders. Secondary connected Leaders amount to 20. Due to on-going down time of the RE, ADAs have not had access to make changes in preparation for receiving year end Area lists for review. It was only in the previous week that lists were received for review. Final Leader numbers by the January 31, 2022 will be used for cost sharing.

-One active Leader has requested a waiver on Leader Assessments. It was agreed that Leader Enrichments funds will be used to pay against Inv.# 1566 [Stephanie]

-During the month research revealed that there are no term limitations for Area Representatives. Term limitation was common in the past, but for some unknown reason omitted from the Network Agreements. Other discussion felt it should be restored and subject to the same term limitations as department heads. ARs are voting Board members and should be subject to term limitations. It was suggested that perhaps term limitations are outlined in individual Area Agreements. Renee will reach out to those ARs with expiring terms and discuss their intentions.

LAD

-There are currently 6 active Applicants. 2 new applications are pending.

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Department Reports continued

Finance

- Conference Acct: \$5,000.00
- General Acct: \$9,609.49
- Morgan Stanley: \$22,762.40
- Group Financial Reports: One Group remains to apply for a new EIN and go to the bank to update signatures; upon which a Group Financial Report can be completed.
- Donation Button: see Old Business
- Amazon purchases charged to Network account: Four (unknown to us) charges were discovered on our statement. Dialogue has begun to discover the source(s) of these charges and obtain resolution and credit. Update 1/9/22 Amazon had no details and suggested we contact our bank to dispute and reverse charges
- Invoice for Quarterly Cost Sharing received. Payment will be sent as soon as possible.
- Payments due in March for expiring domain names. Stephanie will submit a detailed email to outline the options and costs. A quorum vote will be required.
- Website domain names are coming up for renewal. Stephanie will send Board a summary detailing costs and choices and whether to maintain p underused domain names

PL/Events

- Speakers considered for a future webinar were forwarded to the USA Code Committee. Sharon spoke with Linda Anderson who questioned that one speaker as 'too profit oriented'. As this suggested speaker originated from a Board member, more input will be requested. Renee had sent an email on August 23 to a Leader who had spoken at numerous Area conferences on this topic to ask for her input. A response has yet to be received. Renee' will attempt to reach her by phone. See Addendum #1 attached to Minutes of 8/8/21
- Update 10/10/21 Further attempts to reach this Leader have been unsuccessful. It was decided that Elise will compose a letter of interest summarizing our needs and specific La Leche League speaker guidelines. Hedi has offered to assist in composing this letter.
- Update 11/14/21 Elise has not yet written to the speaker
- Update 12/12/21 Hedi will assist Elise in the wording to be sent to the proposed speaker.
- No update of of 1/9/22
- The date of March 6, 2022 has been chosen for the next Leader Social. Hedi, Sharon and Ty plan an informal discussion on 'language'. Another focus would be on virtual meetings. (From 10/10/21 meeting: It is also thought that finding a way to improve the virtual experience might reveal parents interested in leadership). Update 12/12/21 A Save The Date will go out in the next News & Notes in January, with the official invitation to be sent out 6 weeks prior (approximately the end of January)
- Update 1/9/22 Save The Date will go out this week in News & Notes.
- Special Speaker(s) event for 2022. It is planned to ask Leaders at the Social for their preferences of topics/speakers.
- The tentative plan for Leader Enrichment Day is the end of May - It is intended to be EDI focused as well as the Hark ceremony and Milestone Recognition observance.

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Communications and Social Media continued

Communications and Social Media

- To be posted in News & Notes:

-LLL USA Delegate Opening Announcement and Search Letter

-Save The Date for March 6 Leader Social

-Next period Stats Report- 'coming soon'

-CS special workshop for 'Communicating With Children' and planned full CS Workshop for spring

- prep to send out ballot for LLLI Board of Directors LLL USA candidate

-Texting Network Leaders. Earlier this year we began texting our Network Leaders to alert them to read their email for important announcements. The free trial period for the software used has expired and the REMIND app will now be used. A message to join was sent to BOD members and inadvertently sent to Leaders in one our Areas....without an explanation or source. An explanation of this service will go out in the next News & Notes. The AR of that Area will reach out personally to the Leaders to explain the error and encourage response to join. No update as of 1/9/22

Events- see PL Report

Agreements

Next workgroup scheduled for January 23rd at 8:00 PM.

Order of review after completion: to be sent to the USA Council for review and to be distributed for review to other Area Networks, revisions if necessary. Then once approved, we would send them to our Areas as a template to create and update their agreements.

LLL USA Delegate Report

- Announcement and search letter will be sent in News & Notes.

- The EDI topic webinar by Nikki Killings is scheduled for next month and expected to fulfill training specifically suited to the role of a Leader. Every Leader should be encouraged to view it as part of required EDI training. It is understood that the platform used will track attendance.

- Council Meeting held 12/16/21. On-going discussion on resuming in-person meetings...though new variant might further delay reaching a consensus. One DCE is now holding indoor in-person meetings.

New Business

-LLLI Board of Directors ballot to be sent to all active Leaders. A certain percentage response will be required to have votes considered.

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New Business continued

-A reminder that the February Board Meeting is designated as the date to elect a new Board President and renew Corporate Treasurer.

Team position available for extension:

- Liz Krey, AR for Nevada No CA Deserts..end of 3rd year expires 2//2//0/22...2 - 1 year extensions available

Teams position:

- 2nd seat of LLL USA Delegate to represent our Network, open in March 2022

Future term completion:

- Romy Rapaport, AR for Central L.A. Beaches 5th year term ends 4/7/22

In the near future:

- Elise Hamel, Comm & Social Media Director...4/20/22 is the end of 3rd year - 2 - 1 year extensions available

- Emily Niemeyer, AR for Orange Co Inland Empire...6/20/22 is end of 3rd year - 2 - 1 year extension available

- Karima Khatib, NCL 9/18/22 is end of 5th year

AR for NCCLAV remains open

Agreements Chair remains open

- 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. A direct 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 February 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted

Renee' DiGregorio - Executive Council Facilitator

