

Minutes for Board Retreat in Taormina, Tuesday, Sep 20/16

Present: Deirdre, Janneke, Daniel, Marlene, Burt, Toni, Patricia, Adam, Dina , Mark, Domi, Jim, Ansel, Robert, Maryanne, Gail

Absent: Brad, Mari, Ryan, Alex

1. Check-in
2. Agenda:
 - a. Next conference Venue
 - b. Organizational Membership Proposal
 - c. Conflict Process Report
 - d. Board Position Nominations
 - e. Regional Task Force, with the caveat that this discussion be started at least by noon.
 - f. AGM Venue
 - g. Peer Review Process
3. Next Conference Venue:
 - a. Patricia: Proposals on offer: Asheville Group (well researched and complete), Ottawa proposal (incomplete).
 - i. General conversation: There are some issues over the legislation happening in North Carolina that is anti LGBT, although the many in the LGBT community has generally said they support the Asheville proposal.
 - ii. General conversation: The Board recognises that the Ottawa proposal is incomplete and in addition the owner of that proposal is not at the conference, and that therefore it will not be proposed.
 - b. Patricia: If an alternate proposal emerges during the AGM, there needs to be completed prior to the next Board meeting; in this instance the Board will decide on the 2018 venue.
4. Organization Membership Proposal: (Marlene). It is about getting rid of a Board position and combining the Organizational and Individual membership. Her concern was the additional work this may mean for the Membership Chair. There was a discussion over the usefulness of having an Organizational chair. Janneke: this position has required almost no work. Adam: has an interest in the Chair of Organizations support in getting scholarships. Maryanne: has an interest in the Chair supporting liaising with the Organizations regarding student exposure to and possible membership in AAGT. (Adam) believes there is a big marketing opportunity in terms of

organizational exposure to other AAGT members. Ansel: feels that all of us are here because of our association with training organizations, and feels strongly that these institutes need a representation on the Board.

- a. Jim: proposal to make an ad-hoc committee to review board positions, to see if what's working and may be changed. Marlene: proposal already on the AGM agenda, and invites him to bring this proposal up there.
 - b. Marlene: suggests "organization" be changed to on "training institutes". Burt: suggests a position that has to do with the development of relationships with the training institutes; so that the next person in this position has a challenge that is articulated during the AGM: **the board re-evaluated the om proposal and outlined new roles, descriptions, opportunities to change and expand the position. Namely actively develop relationships with training institutes in order to increase membership, support the school fund, and otherwise actively support the training organizations in relationship with AAGT.**
5. Regional Task Force:
- a. Background: RTF emerged from Asilomar retreat as a way to look at the relationship between AAGT and regions. There was an issue that came up during the Puebla conference, and another issue that came up regarding a proposed regional conference in the US; there were also questions around what a region was and if this should be updated. This was further discussed at the AGM following Asilomar, and the RTF was formed.
 - b. Discussion and recommendation: Members of the Board collectively discussed the RTF recommendations, suggesting they be posted on the website directly after this meeting in order to be available to the members before the conference begins. Marlene read out the recommendations; Burt moved the Board accept the recommendations; Maryanne seconded it. The Board approved. Marlene will present the Board recommendation at the AGM. Maryanne will type up the recommendations for the AGM, forwarding a copy to Mari in order to send out to the membership.
6. Board Position Nominations:
- a. For next president: Talia, Jim, Gianni, Carol Swanson, Billy Desmond
 - b. For treasurer: Brad
 - c. Organizational Chair (s)
 - d. Communications director: proposal is to eliminate this position, and merge it into the administrator role. Toni: suggested the role be modified to be more about marketing (e.g., social media, actively involved in communicating on behalf of AAGT) than the technical aspects of communicating. She would recommend Bob for that position. This would include the newsletter. Mention and appreciation of Alex in her role of Newsletter chair, and wonderful work.

- e. Associate of CE;s - Dina: Managing CE's is a time-intensive job, and would like Marlene to be associate of CE;s; it would be a one-year appointment, to be renewed annually. Marlene accepted the position. Ansel will transition from this position, concentrating solely on being the Archivist.
 - f. RCP Coordinator - Adam: will be stepping down from the Board as RCP Coordinator; and will stay on the RDF committee, and sill also stay on as co-chair as scholarships.
7. Not covered due to time constraints: AGM venue, Conflict Process Report, Peer review.