



## Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 8, 2017 Time: 1:00PM EST Venue: Online Video Conference

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Toni Gilligan called to the order the Board meeting for the AAGT at about 1:46PM (EST) on January 8, 2017 via RingCentral online video conferencing.
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Ryan Tolman, Mark Reck, Mari McGilton, Robert “Bob” Witchel, Toni Gilligan, Dina Miller, Patricia Tucker, Brad Larsen-Sanchez, Ansel Woldt, Billy Desmond, Talia Bar Yoseph Levine, Jon Blend, Maryanne Nicholls, Jim Battaglia, Daniel Bak, Burt Lazarin.
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Dominique “Domi” Chabre, Gail Feinstein, Nives Vrecic, Marlene Blumenthal, Deirdre Winter, Emily Meyer Stewart
<b>CHAIR PERSON</b>	Toni Gilligan
<b>MINUTES PERSON(S)</b>	Ryan Tolman

### Treasurers Report

**Brad**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Excerpted from Brad’s e-mail report from the treasury:	
	The Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As of January 6, 2017 TOTAL ASSETS	
	Conference Fund	22,247.22
	General Fund Checking	2,820.68
	Money Market Account	18,208.05
	Regional Development Fund	9,648.81
	Research Fund	50.00
	Scholarship Fund Checking	8,345.38
	Total Bank Accounts	\$61,320.14
	TOTAL ASSETS	\$61,320.14

	<p>Since about 2012 there has been conference surplus. So, now there is an account with seed money for future conferences. Seed money is money that is used to loan to start a conference and financially successful conferences return the money to the account. The Taormina conference has a financial surplus, and the AAGT share is about 5300€.</p> <p>The Taormina Conveners suggested donating conference surplus entirely to a refugee organization or split between the three organizations for scholarship funds.</p> <p>The Board concluded that the Board wants to make a decision on the use of AAGT’s share of the Taormina surplus on behalf of the Membership. If there is to be a distribution between the scholarship fund and a refugee organization, the Board wants to make the decision on behalf of AAGT.</p> <p>The Board moves for Toni to inform the conveners that AAGT requests their share of the conference surplus, and the Board plans to use the funds for the AAGT Scholarship Fund.</p>		
<b>DECISION</b>	Inform the Taormina Conveners that AAGT would like to receive the AAGT share of conference surplus.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Inform the conveners of the decision	Toni	ASAP	

**Asheville**

**Toni, Board**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>The Board hears the voice of the Membership through the Member listserv and deliberates the decision to hold the 2018 AAGT Conference in Asheville, North Carolina, USA.</p> <p>Board Members report following listserv posts. Members post reservations about going to Asheville North Carolina, USA (herein “Asheville”) and Members post support for the 2018 AAGT Conference and AGM in Asheville.</p> <p>The paramount concern is that some Members will not attend. Asheville is a small city with a reputation of embracing gender and sexual diversity, and people in Asheville are subject to the law “HB2.” “HB2” strips LGBTQI+ people of legal rights if discriminated against, and regulates bathroom use by some LGBTQI+ community members. Many organizations have called for a boycott barring travel to North Carolina, USA.</p> <p>Board Members bring up many different concerns surrounding support of a boycott of North Carolina versus holding a conference in North Carolina (Asheville) and using the conference as a venue to promote diversity and tolerance in support of the local LGBTQI+ community.</p>		
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	<p>Personal views are shared during individual Board Member check-in. Following the check-in, the Board would like to frame today’s conversation towards a decision.</p> <p>Possible framing includes: Does the Board move to postpone the decision, postpone the conference, or decide to: (1) uphold the decision to hold the conference in Asheville, or (2) reverse the decision to hold the conference in Asheville?</p> <p>The Board moves to decide to: (1) uphold the decision to hold the conference in Asheville, or (2) reverse the decision to hold the conference in Asheville.</p> <p>Toni invites each Board Member Present to share their opinion.</p> <p>Some Board Members cannot imagine themselves going to Asheville and violating a boycott of North Carolina due to factors of discrimination towards LGBTQI+ people. At least one Board Member feels AAGT should absolutely not hold a conference in Asheville. Other Board Members do not plan to go to Asheville due to the law “HB2” but are unsure if the conference should go forward in Asheville. Some Board Members are undecided. Most Board members support upholding the decision to hold the conference in Asheville to support those who have offered the venue and the greater Asheville community despite the boycott.</p> <p>It was a very difficult meeting, and difficult to reflect the emotional state of the meeting the struggle and deep feelings. The Boards consensus process revealed heart-felt ambiguity among Board Members. Consensus means that all can live with the decision rather than all agree.</p> <p>Toni checked with those who were against if they can live with the decision and if so what might they need. The process ended with many in favor and others not in favor stating they would be able to live with the reaffirmation. Dissenting board members were invited to state what support they may need as part of the consensual process. It was also noted that this invitation is extended to all members on the listserv.</p> <p>Moving forward, the Board wonders what support Asheville conveners will need. If AAGT is supporting LGBTQI+ community members in Asheville, what will that support look like? There was one clear action oriented request that we aim to have the conference during Gay Pride Week in Asheville.</p> <p>Following the decision, Toni asks “What do people need from the Board to feel supported?” The Board takes time for each Member present to provide some process feedback.</p> <p>A Board member suggests a check out following Board meetings rather than</p>
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AAGT: Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy – An International Community

	a check in. Other Board Members agree.	
	Meeting ends on or about 2:42PM EST	
<b>DECISION</b>	Inform the Membership of the decision to continue plans to hold the 2018 AAGT	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Send an e-mail to the Member listserv	Toni	ASAP