



## Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 25, 2017 Time: 1:00PM EST Venue: Online Video Conference

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	The Board Administrator called to the order the Board meeting for the AAGT at about 1:42PM (EST) on February 25, 2017 via RingCentral online video conferencing.
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Ryan Tolman, Mark Reck, Nives Vrecic, Mari McGilton, Robert “Bob” Witchel, Deirdre Winter, Dina Miller, Patricia Tucker, Brad Larsen-Sanchez, Talia Bar Yoseph Levine, Jon Blend, Marlene Blumenthal, Gail Feinstein, Daniel Bak, Billy Desmond, Maryanne Nicholls, Toni Gilligan, Ansel Woldt.
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Jim Battaglia (tendered resignation), Emily Meyer Stewart, Burt Lazarin, Dominique “Domi” Chabre
<b>CHAIR PERSON</b>	Toni Gilligan
<b>MINUTES PERSON(S)</b>	Ryan Tolman

### Resignation

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The Board notes the resignation of Jim Battaglia. While recognizing the difficulties we and he have experienced recently, and without wishing to minimize the painful feelings on all sides, the Board also wanted to fully acknowledge the contribution that Jim has made to the Board and to the work of AAGT. His energy and creativity have been very valuable, and we want to thank him for all his work.		
<b>DECISION</b>	N/A		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

**Treasurers Report**

**Brad**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Excerpted from Brad’s e-mail report from the treasury. All figures are in U.S. Dollar (USD):		
	The Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY February 2017		
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		
	4140 Individual Membership		200.00
	4150 Organizational Membership		300.00
	<b>Total 4130 Membership Dues</b>		<b>500.00</b>
	<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$500.00</b>
	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
	6090 Bank Charges		153.17
	6230 Legal Fees		175.00
	<b>Total 6210 Legal &amp; Professional Fees</b>		<b>175.00</b>
	6280 Office Expenses		7.00
	6300 Other General and Admin Expenses		271.60
	Video Conferencing		85.43
	<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$692.20</b>
	<b>NET REVENUE</b>		<b>\$ -192.20</b>
	The Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As of February 28, 2017		
	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		
	Conference Fund (1123)		22,247.22
	General Fund Checking (4302)		3,181.69
Money Market Account (6311)		18,208.74	
Regional Development Fund (8160)		6,598.81	
Research Fund (9986)		50.00	
Scholarship Fund Checking (2506)		7,745.38	
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>		<b>\$58,031.84</b>	
The Treasurer notes that some of the bank charges on this statement will be removed.			
The Treasurer is still waiting for the deposit of about 5000€, revenue from the Taormina Conference. The Board asks how long this is expected to take. The Treasurer states the provisions for wire transfer have been made and the deposit is expected within the week (by March 5, 2017).			
<b>DECISION</b>	N/A		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

**Proposed Changes to Organizational Membership Fee Structure**

**Toni**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>This is a deferred proposal from the 2016 Annual General Meeting (AGM), made by an AAGT Member.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Reduce the Organizational Member fee from \$150 to \$50.</li> <li>(ii) Discontinue free individual memberships for the member/representative of the Organization</li> </ul> <p>Toni asks for feedback from the Board regarding the above proposed changes. Toni requests Board members to reply with any objections by the end of the week via e-mail.</p>		
<b>DECISION</b>	Board members to provide feedback via e-mail by the end of the week.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Board members plan to provide feedback via e-mail by the end of the week with any objections to the proposed Organizational Membership Fee changes.	Board	March 5, 2017	

**2017 AGM**

**Toni, Board**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>The 2017 AAGT Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to coincide with the UKAGP National Conference celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the British Gestalt Journal.</p> <p>UKAGP will process registration for the AGM. The Board plans further discussion with the UKAGP liaison about the proposed administrative fee of £500, and ask for a breakdown of the services provided for the fee. More information should be available about the UKAGP National Conference in 7-10 days.</p> <p>The 2017 AGM is scheduled to start at 6.30 on Sunday 2nd July, following the conclusion of the Conference. There will be an evening session, and the AGM will continue on Monday 3rd July from 9.30am to 5.30 pm.</p> <p>A discounted lodging rate of £99.00 will be offered for people staying at the hotel for the AGM. The discounted rate includes Sunday dinner and Monday breakfast and lunch. There is no obligation to stay or eat at the hotel while attending.</p> <p>The Board discusses AGM/Conference advertising to encourage attendance. Is the UKAGP Conference on the AAGT website? The Board would like to encourage the Membership to attend the 2017AGM. The Board proposes</p>		
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	something to grab the interest of the Membership explaining what the AGM meeting/conference has to offer. Toni and Bob will come up with something to send to Mari for an e-mail “blast.” Attending the 2017 AGM is likely expensive for many Members and it is important to promote reasons for members make an effort. Advertisement should answer the questions “Why is the AGM important?” and “Why should I come?”		
<b>DECISION</b>	Promote the 2017 AGM to encourage Member participation		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Toni and Bob will come up with something to send Mari for an e-mail “blast” promoting the 2017 AGM	Toni/Bob	March 25, 2017 (prior to the next scheduled Board Meeting)	

**How to understand recent events: including Board/membership**

**Toni, Board**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Toni invites the Board to reflect upon current circumstances surrounding e-mail conversations. Recently, Board e-mail communications were forwarded to Members and the Membership without the e-mail’s authors’ permission.</p> <p>Discussion includes topics surrounding process and expectations for the Board and AAGT as a community, including conflict dialogue and process. How are we (the Board and Membership) able to hold and support disagreement and differences in order to support the overall function of AAGT?</p> <p>The Board discusses slowing down the process. There are differences in the nature of the sequential dialogue via e-mail versus other interactions. To what extent does e-mail change contact and leave room for misinterpretation? As an organization, what agreement do we have for communication?</p> <p>There are different styles of communication, to express one’s self quickly or slowly. The Board notes that many Board Members do not know each-other well, and some not at all.</p> <p>We do have a covenant of community to come to the table and stay in dialogue. Do we need rules of transparency, dialogue, and confidentiality? The Board needs to be able to create a safe place for Board Members to share thoughts and ideas freely towards creativity and openness.</p> <p>The Board discusses how to structure the meetings to manage the need for dialogue, supporting differences and dealing with unfinished business, alongside the need to get the work of the Board done Board Members seem to agree that increased communication, being open with one another, feeling</p>
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	<p>safe to share with each-other can be a pro-active approach to avoid frustration and misunderstanding.</p> <p>Board Members resolve to speak more, at least via e-mail for now, with a general feeling that “I want you to know me” that can help move forward from the current conflict.</p> <p>Meeting Ends at 2:48PM, EST, USA</p>	
<b>DECISION</b>	<p>Increase communication between Board Members and explore new possibilities and opportunities for communication.</p>	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A