



Board Meeting Minutes

Date: December 30, 2018 Scheduled Time: 1:00-3:00PM EST, USA; 1900-2100 CET
(Central Europe Time) Venue: Zoom

CALL TO ORDER	The Board President, Talia Bar-Yoseph Levine, called the AAGT Meeting to order at 1:06PM (EST, USA) on December 30, 2018 via Zoom video conferencing		
ATTENDEES	Ansel Woldt Billy Desmond Burt Lazarin Catie Beaulieu Deirdre Winter	Dina Miller Jon Blend Katie Mead Marlene Blumenthal Mari McGilton	Maria Oneide Maryanne Nicholls Shareefah Sabur Sinead Kavanagh Talia Bar-Yoseph Levine
APOLOGIES	Laura Carite, Nives Vrečić Lorbek, Toni Gilligan, Brad Larsen Sanchez, Domi Chabre, Mark Reck		
CHAIR PERSON(S)	Talia Bar-Yoseph Levine		
MINUTES PERSON	Shareefah Sabur		

The meeting was opened with a “check-in” from everyone present.

There was a heartfelt welcome given to Maria Oneide, who has accepted the role of Treasurer.

AGENDA ITEM	2020 Conference
DISCUSSION	Sinead Kavanagh delivered the report from the Conference Planning Committee (CPC) for 2020. They have been recruiting the committee chairs by sharing information about the commitment and responsibility involved. There have been some responses; some yes, some no, and some want to think about it, and they were honored to be asked. January 15 is the final date to commit to come on board. People have responded with energy. There will be a more comprehensive update at the next meeting about how the team is

	<p>coming together. Seventy percent of the roles have been accepted. There are people getting involved who are not familiar with AAGT and are now getting interested. There is a strong response from the community in Ireland. The first meeting will be in early February and we will advance from there. We will be looking at our individual talents. They are intentionally moving this process slowly so that they are sure to have a strong team. They are communicating and building relationship and feel the team is coming together. Billy has contacted the Falls hotel and they will manage the relationship with the other hotel. They are going through a renovation now, and there are no photos available yet. Billy will visit as soon as possible and investigate any concerns. We will have the hotels to ourselves. We can announce a save the date now since it is set and certain. Board members will have a retreat and there will be a preconference. It may be beneficial for someone from Ireland to lead the entertainment effort and perhaps someone from USA. Jon offers his support of the entertainment.</p>		
DECISION	N/A		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Sinead will draw up a draft the pertinent facts of the “save the date” for Katie to finalize for board approval.	Sinead, Katie	ASAP	

AGENDA ITEM	Covenants of Community		
DISCUSSION	<p>Ansel presented the Covenants of Community and suggested it would be good to have it in different languages. Ansel drafted a temporary way to use or introduce the Covenants as an introduction to AAGT. The draft contains parts of the constitution as a way to introduce the Covenants. There is some concern that this adds another document but this one seeks to simplify. This document will assist one in conveying to others what AAGT is all about and could be added to the welcome packet for new members. There was a suggestion to add the word “practitioners” or “people whose work is Gestalt based” to expand beyond the therapeutic role, to avoid alienating some; and to add “something about ecology and environment” so it is seen as part of what we give attention to. Ansel was thanked for his work on this effort. Dierdre, Ansel, and Shareefah will form a small group to simplify the language. If we simplify, we need to pay attention to the intent of the original authors. Katie will organize the meeting for the small group.</p>		
DECISION	N/A		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

AAGT: Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy – An International Community

Ansel, Dierdre, Katie and Shareefah to meet to simplify the language and bring it to the board.	Katie	To be determined
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AGENDA ITEM	Human Rights and Social Responsibility		
DISCUSSION	Dierdre reported on the meetings. These meetings have become confusing. Leadership is unclear as well as their status of being a special interest group, or a committee, or responsible to the board. The group wants more clarity about its relationship to the board. There is another meeting scheduled. Burt, Catie, and Deirdre are to take responsibility for bringing something back to the board.		
DECISION	N/A		
	ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
	Clarify leadership and functional role	Burt, Catie, Deirdre	1/27/19

AGENDA ITEM	2019 AGM		
DISCUSSION	Promotional details to be finalized and communicated to the membership. Marlene will stay with the effort providing APA duties do not interfere. Brad, Dierdre, Tali, Burt will oversee the planning of the 2019 AGM.		
DECISION			
	ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
	Plan for the 2019 AGM	Brad, Dierdre, Tali, Burt	Mid-February

AGENDA ITEM	Executive Council Report		
DISCUSSION	<p>Shareefah reported the discussion of the Executive Council regarding donations for the Perls' daughter and granddaughter. The Executive Council voted to offer contributions individually and not have AAGT offer as an organization.</p> <p>There was a question posed as to whether the output of the Executive Council is final or is it a recommendation. This will be discussed in more depth at a later time as the Executive Committee continues to evolve in its functioning.</p> <p>Burt proposed that a contribution be made from AAGT.</p> <p>There was a thoughtful discussion about whether the Board would make a contribution. The following points were made as we reach consensus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This donation would be paying homage to the founders • We would be remiss to not donate as an organization • We should acknowledge Renate's contribution • Perhaps we should give more • We should give as a whole and not individually • Support the donation as an honor to Fritz • Concern about setting a precedence 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about connecting the donation to the mission as a 501c3 • Support the donation but not as an organization • This is an act of human rights and social responsibility • We are reaching back as an act of caring • Symbolism this represents is important to support • Don't know which is the right way to go but respect the opinions of others • It's such a small amount, I have no problem <p>All Board members expressed appreciation for everyone speaking and being heard.</p>		
DECISION	The Board will make a contribution of \$500 to the GoFundMe site and encourage individual donations in addition.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Mention the contribution to membership in the newsletter and invite others	Katie	ASAP	
DECISION	N/A		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Continue to clarify the role of the Executive Council	Executive Council	Ongoing	

The meeting was ended with a “check-out” from everyone present at 3:13PM EST (Eastern Standard Time, USA; 2100 CET (Central Europe Time)).

Process reflection: The meeting ended with board members feeling they had witnessed dialogue in action.

Next Meeting: January 27, 2019 1:00-3:00PM EST (Eastern Standard Time, USA); 1900-2100 CET (Central Europe Time).