

Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 1, 2014
8.30 a.m. MDT
Executive Board Room
Hilton Salt Lake City Center
255 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84101, USA

Minutes – Summary

Present:

Marlis Humphrey (President), Ken Bravo (Vice President), Mark Nicholls (Secretary), Paul Silverstone (Treasurer), Deborah Long (Director) (via GoToMeeting), Garri Regev (Director), Quinton Atkinson (Director), Daniel Horowitz (Director), Nolan Altman (Director), Shipley Munson (Director), Michael Goldstein (Immediate Past President)

Guest: Larry Hamilton (IAJGS Legal Advisor)

Introduction

The Board members introduced themselves to each other, giving a brief idea of what they expected to get out of the coming year on the Board.

1. Minutes of last meeting July 26, 2014

The approval of the minutes of July 26, 2014 meeting was deferred to the next meeting as the full minutes were not yet available.

2. Legal Orientation

Larry Hamilton gave a presentation on corporate governance and legal issues. The presentation covered the legal basis of IAJGS explaining that the Board's responsibilities were principally to do with public trust. The arrangements for incorporation in New Jersey were discussed. The arrangements for Board minutes and for voting were explained. Board meetings were not open to the public, only Board members and invited guests could attend. The Board should work cohesively and unify behind any decisions that are made. The presentation also covered many other areas and issues relating to governance. The Board discussed the issue of conflict of interest, which it was explained included indirect benefits. Michael Goldstein thanked Larry Hamilton and May Brown LLP for all their efforts on behalf of IAJGS.

3. Roles & Responsibilities

The President told the Board that she would be talking to each member about their roles and responsibilities.

4. Annual Meeting Assessment

The President asked Board members to provide comments on the running of the Annual Meeting. Ken Bravo agreed to chair an ad hoc committee on the matter.

5. Conference Assessment

The Board considered specific actions arising from the IAJGS Management Sessions, luncheons and BOF meetings. Electronic copies of marketing your society and conference in a box material were to be sent to IAJGS webmaster. Marketing materials specific to IAJGS members would be developed. An ad hoc committee on technology would be set up to further develop IAJGS's offering to members and help members to develop better e-delivery. An infographic for use at exhibitions would be created. Post-conference follow-up surveys would, be carried out, involving someone from SLC conference and from Jerusalem 2015 to ensure lessons get passed on. An ad hoc Committee would be set up to look at long-term planning for IAJGS conferences. Marketing plans would be developed for Jerusalem 2015 and Seattle 2016 conferences. Lists of attendees from previous conferences would be obtained and put into Mail Chimp. It was suggested that each Board member should take responsibility for delivery of people attending conferences. Follow up to the JewishGen dinner was discussed. The Yartzheit Plaque project needed to be followed up and delivered by International Jewish Genealogy Month.

6. Jerusalem Conference Budget

The Board considered where the organization stood on the 2015 conference. It was noted that there had been a good reception for the conference at the current one and ten people had signed up already. The website would launch in about two weeks. MyHeritage and Harvey Kruger were providing strong financial support and Family Search were being talked to about also supporting the conference. Most costs could be covered with additional sponsorship. The Board asked questions about the way that income and expenditure would be accounted for under the contract with Ortra. Delegates would only be able to book reduced room rates if they had registered for the conference. There would be a lower rate for Israelis due to the lower income in Israel. The Board then discussed the issue of risk given the potential for cancellation by individuals or transport problems if there were problems similar to now. It was asked if it might be possible to obtain insurance cover for potential losses and how much it might cost. Some Board members expressed concerns about how the profit and loss would be measured and accounted for. The President thanked Michael Goldstein, Garri Regev and Daniel Horowitz for their hard efforts in preparing the Jerusalem 2015 conference.

7. Date and Time of Next Meetings

It was agreed that a face-to-face meeting would be necessary in early 2015 to allow time to consider issues such as By-law revisions.

Mark Nicholls
Secretary IAJGS