

## **Minutes BOD Meeting January 2023**

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Jacki called the meeting to order at 11:00

Board members attending: David Myler, Phil Schlak, Doug Long, Dottie Bellinger, Jacki Gordon, Peter McCallion, John Burch, Abe Torres Federoso, Marirose Lescher. Mary Phillips, Lina Negrete, David Shallenberger, Jose Luis Zarate

Staff: Adriana

Visitors: Paulette, Ian Hawley, Carlos Landa, Bliss Wilson, Gail Ahment, David Brown

### **Approval – Agenda**

David Myler moved to accept the agenda; Peter seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval - December Minutes**

Neither the Grand Opening, nor the budget were discussed during the December meeting. Rather than amend the December minutes, the January Minutes will be reflecting this and the discussion that ensued. This is because the discussion did not happen at the December meeting, as far as could be determined. At the February meeting we can underscore policies so that this kind of thing doesn't happen again. Once a budget request is approved, Board approval is needed to exceed that budget.

### **Announcements**

The childrens' program will begin in February. It's a free program and will be advertised.

### **President's Report**

Jacki noted that the event was fantastic. There are many people to thank, but most particularly Peter, David, Marirose, Mary, Adriana. Many people pitched in to help. It was what we wanted it to be... a celebration.

She also mentioned that there were several problems with people being rude to each other. She went on to describe several incidents where people were in

conflict. All she wanted to say was that we are not going to allow bad behavior. We just can't treat each other that way. We are better than that.

Dottie added that we need to keep in mind that the staff are not our servants.

Phil Schlak recommended that Jacki put something in the newsletter about the event.

Doug suggested that she write a president's message for each month.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Jacki was asked to speak on the budget. The budget put together by the finance committee was much larger than we expected. The board will need to take a good look at it and vote on it at the next meeting.

There are some things, like salaries that are fixed. We have done a lot of things to support the event we just had. We did have a 20,000 peso donation. If we went with the proposed budget we would be in hole by quite a bit and that is not sustainable in the long term. The budget will go back to the EC and then back to the board. David suggested that Doug Long, who has an interest in finances, be added to the committee. Doug is willing to join the committee.

Marirose presented the current treasurer's report: Net Income for Dec. was 132,283.15. She noted that December was the best month so far and added January and February should be good, as well.

Doug suggested to the board that we revisit the cost of membership. It was the sense of the board that we should do that.

To counter the idea that the library is in financial trouble, Marirose pointed out that we have 41,000 US and are doing fine.

## **Old Business**

### Nominations Committee

Ian Hawley was at the meeting to present a courtesy report.

After considering and vetting some 23 potential candidates and conducting many interviews, the committee is recommending the following people to fill pending board vacancies:

Jacki Gordon, President (continuing)

Gail Ament, Vice President

Marirose Lescher, Treasurer (continuing)

Mary Phillips, Secretary (continuing)

Viviana Ruiz, Director at large

Jose Luis Zarate, Director at large (continuing)

The board thanked Ian and other committee members, Bliss Wilson and Ralph Gault, for a job well done.

Dottie volunteered to update the board member manual.

### Facilities and Tech update

David Myler reported that we're making progress on a second mural. An artist has been identified.

Doug apologized for the mics at this meeting. He wants to get his computer licensed to help with better sound. The computer he is using now is not licensed. A licensed computer would give more options for better sound. David Brown was present to help with the audio. The tech committee is trying to make do with a limited budget to get better mics. The internet has been switched from IZZI to Telmex Inifinitum. That will allow faster and more downloads and uploads in the OLL. We're paying less now. It's fiber optic so that any number of people using it should not degrade the system.

Doug requested funds that could cover the cost of one phone. A tablet is needed for events. The total cost for two phones and a tablet that could be 23,000. A tablet will be donated. That will reduce the amount of money needed.

Doug requested a new cell phone for the front desk and that stays at the front desk. Adriana uses her personal phone for web access so a second phone is needed for her. She uses the phone for doing banking business for the OLL.

Other requests were a monitor that faces out at the front desk. There are times that the people at the circulation desk are typing and they want to validate the information and it's difficult for that to happen. Doug's idea is to take one of the public computers and use it at the front desk and get a new computer for public use.

The book processors are in need of a new printer.

Low lighting is a problem at events but can be put off until next year.

Getting the tablet and postponing the lights could lower the request for funds to 20,000.

Activating the windows prescription for Doug's computer was the last request.

There was a short discussion about recording events so that they could be put in an archive and then streamed later. That may happen in the next season.

Jacki had contacted "Tech Soup" to see if we would be able to get tech needs at a cheaper price. The reply was "no" with the suggestion that we apply to Cluni. Jacki will forward to board members for further study.

David Myler moved that we give 20,000 to tech. Dottie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Excursions: Hoofing It and Out & about

#### Legal & Constitution/bylaws

#### Jan 14 Grand Reopening event

All agreed that the event was a great success which created a lot of good will. However, it turned out to be well over budget. Dottie sent almost 1100 invitations. Two hundred thirty people said they were coming. One hundred sixty five came. The hotel (supplying the food) was informed to plan for 200. Rentals for dishes and table cloths added to the costs. The musicians donated their services and the OLL received a 20,000 peso donation to help with the costs.

The landlords were present but not readily recognizable. It is hoped that they had a good time. No one realized who they were. It was suggested that perhaps we could invite them to lunch sometime after the new board is seated.

#### Committee/groups cooperation

#### Boutique

Bliss reported that things are going well. So far they have 19 tables. Donations are coming in. The silent auction will be set up on a part of the terrace. Dottie suggested letting the public know and that the art be publicized.

#### Outreach

Crear y Compartir group reported on their presents to the kids. All were appreciated. There were some left over. It would be good to somehow support this group. A NGO fair may be held some time later this year.

## **New Business**

### Cafe reopening

Cathy Pikel has asked to reopen the cafe. Some discussion included that the cafe usually loses money. Jacki will have another conversation with Cathy and it will be on the next meeting's agenda. David Shallenberger suggested that we need to negotiate this idea with the hotel. David Myler will approach the hotel about opening the cafe.

Doug moved to update the mask policy to strongly recommend but not require. Dottie seconded. The motion carried with 11 for and 1 against

Pros and Cons and lots of backs and forths. Signage will be changed. Jacki will be putting an announcement in the President's message in the newsletter.

### Committee Reports

#### Kids Programs

Jacki has heard of a wonderful kids program that is given in Puerto Escondido. Peter suggested we wait and see how the OLL's program goes. There is a cost included in the Puerto Escondido program.

Dottie moved to adjourn the meeting, Peter seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:44.