

# GLAAM Board of Directors

## Official Minutes

May 7, 2016

Pilgrim Towers, 440 N. Madison Av., Pasadena

	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Delegate</i>	<i>Members-at-Large</i>
Mid-City	[X] J. Hobart	[X] Liz Cheney	[/] Desiree Elliott (ar 12)
Coastal	<i>vacant</i>	[X] Madeline Walker	[O] Andrea Nolan
SFV	[X] Joyce Hamilton	[O] Jerilyn Phippeny	[/] G. Schneider
ELAC	[O] Jonathan Elliott	[/] Michael Wong *	[X] Sandra Smith
Hi-Desert	[X] Lindsay Ross	[X] Bruce Smith	[X] Lee Stillman
Inland Empire	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>	[X] Ron Talkov

[X] = present for entire meeting, [/] = present for portion, [O] = absent with leave, [#] = consecutive unexcused absence(s)

*Guests:* Brian Madsen, Andrew Merenbach, Dave Felt, Jonathan Cole, Charles Lindenblatt, Vickey Kalambakal (late), Jay Friedlander (late), Douglas Walker (late);

\* Michael Wong left the meeting, 11:30-12:00 approx., to pick up Desiree Elliott

### I. Opening

- A. **Call to Order** -- by Chairman Smith at 10:31am.
- B. **Approval of Agenda** -- Moved to approve the Agenda as submitted; carried with one abstention.
- C. **Approval of Previous Minutes** -- Moved to approve the Minutes as written; carried with two abstentions.

### II. Reports

#### A. Executive Officers

##### 1. Chairman:

- This year has gone pretty well, with the following:
- Addition of Strategic Goals, which Schneider has worked on.
- Excellent reporting on Strategic Goals by Hamilton.
- Mid-City has had a great start.
- Finances are in good shape. We can afford to do more for our members. Area secretaries/ reps can use funds.
- Special Events are doing well.

##### 2. Executive Vice Chair:

- S Smith has stayed on top of correcting notebooks. New covers are available.

##### 3. Administrative Vice Chair:

- Schneider says that counting people at activities is a beginning. We need to look at how we advertise. How do we get people out? B

Smith says “Consistency works.” S Smith asked if we can add how we advertise to any reports we submit.

- Someone said we must give better instructions how to find and park at events. A particular section of drive for the picnic should say 1.1 mile. If they don’t find us, they might never come back. B Smith said: “Finding the event should not be a retest moment.”

4. **Secretary:**

- Sec’y J Elliott is absent, resting after surgery. Walker volunteered to take minutes today.

5. **Treasurer (From J Elliott’s Emailed Report):**

- Assuming no strenuous objection, we are ledgering all admission charges for the recent multi-Area movie night out of the Area Funds, and not out of Special Events or any other account in the General Fund, because it was less of a chapter event and more of a multi-Area event, and because it was up to the Area Secretaries to decide their own locations and show times and comping protocols.
- Budget for recent picnic was \$338.20, and Michael Wong spent \$330.63, so that’s very good. With the remainder, spent \$4.76 on a hand-pump and set of needles for the volleyball.
- Completed the conversion of our financial records into the national fiscal year ending March 31, and reported to national as required by their deadline of April 30, so there will be no interruption of our monthly subsidy.

B. **Area Reports**

1. **Mid-City:**

- Cheney is standing down from her position as Mid-City Delegate.
- Cheney said their 6-Area movie night was successful, with 10 attendees. They did happy hour before the movie. They had a good location with good parking, and would like to do it again.
- Their Korean Movie Night had 5 GLAAM members and a couple prospective guests. They ate at Clifton’s in downtown LA.
- J has seen Gene give out bookmarks or brochures. Can be ordered from National Mensa for free on the website. J will look into it.

2. **Coastal:**

- Even though Tomich is standing down from his position on the board, he will continue his monthly Beach Bike Ride.
- Kalambakal continues the monthly South Bay Sunday Salon, getting an average of 12-15 people.
- The 6-Area movie night had low turnout in Coastal – theater is in a new community, far from both ends of the area. Not a good movie.

3. **SFV:**

- Did not have their regular party because of the picnic.
- The Thursday Dinner had 15 people, including 3 brand new ones.
- Phippeny is doing activities for younger members, including a Happy Hour and a Gaming Party.

- Regarding 6-Area movie night, it was difficult coordinating 6 areas, plus not knowing the time until a couple days ahead. Hamilton would rather not do it again.
4. **ELAC** (From J Elliott's Emailed Report):
    - Participated in 6-Area movie night, but only 2 people showed up from ELAC and IE combined.
    - Had gaming party on last day of the fiscal year. Remaining budget was \$79.18, and we spent \$78.96, so that's also very good.
    - The Friday dinner was at a Malaysian restaurant that was really good. 2 people showed up.
  5. **Hi-Desert**:
    - Ross and Schneider had no reports about Hi-Desert
    - Schneider thought the 6-Area movie was a good idea. Hi-Desert did four sub-areas, and had some good turnout.
- C. Members-at-Large
1. **Stillman**: No report
  2. **S. Smith**: No report
  3. **Talkov**: No report
- D. Committees and Coordinators
1. **RVC**:
    - GLAAM is a leader in the local area groups. Thanks to all of you for your hard work.
  2. **Awards** (From J Elliott's Emailed Report):
    - Provided info to Special Events Committee on all volunteers earning at least one award point during 2014-15 award year, to form the basis of the invitation list for the upcoming volunteer-appreciation luncheon.
    - Once again, the badges with stars worked exactly as intended at the recent picnic, with people coming up and asking "So, what's the deal with the stars?", "Well, I'm so glad that you asked! Please allow me to tell you...", and then we have openings to tell people about our volunteer opportunities and how eager we are for them to be filled by newcomers.

Note: because of the formatting of the minutes, I am unable to re-label #3 for the next item - MPW
  4. **Bylaws** (From J Elliott's Emailed Report) :
 

We have made extensive progress on our 'laundry list' during the early part of 2016, including within the most recent month, and hope to get the rest of the way through before the end of the calendar year, so that we can be in a better position to hand off the Committee chairmanship to someone who is not already at Gold level or higher.
  5. **Finance**: No report. Though he is standing down from the Board, Ron Talkov will continue as Finance Chair.
  6. **Gifted Youth** (From Walker's Written Report):

April 16 - Spring Picnic had a strong turnout of Mensa Youth, especially with a number of Teens who played a variety of games for hours.

April 24 - Bright Kids Meet-up continued at Derek Uskert's house in Santa Monica. Teodora Chrystie led adults and families to the Getty Villa for a free lecture about recent excavations of the ancient Antikythera shipwreck (akin to the sinking of the Titanic!)

May 7 - as we speak, Michelle Freeman has 15 children, ages 3 to 12, at a private party at California Pizza Kitchen in Canoga Park. The kids are decorating chef's hats, pizza boxes, and their own pizzas, plus getting a tour of the kitchen.

May 28 - will be a Teen game night at the home of Ian Joffe and his family. Yvette says she is getting a good RSVP response.

June 18 - will be a trip to the Wendt Museum in Culver City, featuring Cold War artifacts and discussion of art, culture and history from the Soviet Bloc countries. Teodora Chrystie and Vickey Kalambakal are planning this for both the Teen and Adult Mensa groups.

June 26 - (4th Sunday) repeats the Bright Kids Meet-up in Santa Monica.

June 29-July 3 - The Mensa AG will have a three-day Spark! program for ages 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12, and the full AG available for Teens. I do not know how the response is from GLAAM Youth.

Derek Uskert knows a mathematician at UCLA who wants to teach a Math class this summer from a book they wrote for 5-6 year olds. 10 families responded positively.

7. **Regional Gathering** (From Walker's Written Report):

Committee members and others have added to a list of hotels to check for RG '17. Walker will call to find any that will meet requirements, and arrange tours of any possibilities.

8. **Social Media:** Phippeny will continue in this position.

9. **Special Events** (From Walker's Written Report):

\* AG '16 Schedule is almost ready to publish. There are already 1710 people registered, compared to about 1,350 at this time last year - a 25% increase. People are waiting to see the schedule before they register. Volunteers are needed.

\* Hollywood Bowl nights are coming up. Cole: Most payments are by Paypal. Giving two checks to Wong for J Elliott. We have 16 signed up for Saturday, and 6-10 for each weeknight.

\* Dodger baseball game only got 10 responses. A group needs 30. Change date? change price? drop altogether?

\* 6-Area Movie: There are a lot of bugs to work out, but this could be workable in the future. Better movie – Star Wars or Star Trek or other new blockbuster? Later in the month instead of beginning of month? After more weeks so the times get set? Better location? We might try again.

10. **Circulation:** Madsen – It's on schedule

11. **Calendar Editor:** Madsen – We need to know when the next picnic will be. (It will be decided at the June meeting).

12. **Data Officer:** Madsen – No change

13. **Historian:** Ross – 1970's are done. Scanning 1980's and 90's. Not worth sending materials to scanning company because of the preparation needed.
14. **LA Mentary Editor:** Kalabakal – No report
15. **Ombudsman:** Friedlander – No report.
16. **Webmaster:** Merenbach – No report.
17. **MensaPhone:** Schneider – We had three calls: One from National, one from a member who does not want a paper newsletter, and one from a school that she forwarded to Walker
18. **Membership Outreach:** D Elliott sent an invitation to members to come to the Volunteer Lunch
19. **Open Forum:** Ross – Open Forums are getting good audiences, from both in and outside of Mensa. He has speakers booked through August. He has been posting flyers at UCLA.
20. **PR:** Ross – No report.
21. **Roster:** Madsen – No report.
22. **SIGHT:** Arlette Chew reported there are no new visitors soon.
23. **SIG's:** Madsen – Disneyland is now a national SIG.
24. **Young M's:** Carter – No report.
25. **Scholarship:** Carter – No report.
26. **Mensa Testing:** Dave Felt will continue as Testing Coordinator until a new person volunteers. New Testing Coordinator and new Proctors are welcome. Hobart and Felt will discuss the situation after the meeting. Douglas Aberg is a possibility.

CalTech has room for 11 test-takers at a time. It takes about 2 hours. The testing room needs uninterrupted Internet service, good light and nice tables to write on. We use the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month so the test can be sent to National for grading “within the week”.

### III. Special Orders

#### A. Requirements of Bylaws Section XIII-B:

##### 1. Installation of the new Board by the Election Chairman or designee:

- B Smith yielded the Chair to Election Chairman Friedlander.
- Outgoing Board members were thanked for their service: Talkov, Isaac, and Cheney had resigned, and Hobart, S Smith, Wong and Walker were excused.

##### 2. Election of the Chairman by the members of the newly seated Board of Directors, under the supervision of the Election Chairman or designee:

- B. Smith nominated (by Schneider); elected (4-0-1).

##### 3. Election of the other Executive Officers by the members of the newly seated Board of Directors, under the supervision of the Election Chairman or designee:

- For Executive Vice-Chair, the position is vacant
- For Administrative Vice-Chair, Schneider nominated (by Stillman); elected (4-0-1).
- For Secretary, Stillman self-nominated; elected (4-0-1).
- For Treasurer, J. Elliott, nominated (by B. Smith); elected without objection.

##### 4. Installation of the new Chairman of the Board:

- B Smith resumed the Chair.

5. **Filling of any vacancies on the new Board, in accordance with procedures:**
    - For Mid-City Secretary, Hobart self-nominated; appointed without objection.
    - For Coastal Secretary, the position is vacant.
    - For IE Secretary, the position is vacant.
    - For ELAC Secretary, Wong nominated; appointed without objection.
    - For Mid-City Delegate, Russell C (Rusty) Pottharst wrote that he was interested and available; appointed (7-0-1).
    - For Coastal Delegate, Walker self-nominated; appointed without objection.
    - For Inland Empire Delegate, the position is vacant.
    - For ELAC Delegate, the position is vacant.
    - For Member-at-Large, S Smith nominated (by Hamilton); appointed (9-0-1).
    - For Executive Vice Chair, S Smith nominated (by Stillman); elected (10-0-0).
  6. **Appointment of committee chairmen and other appointees in accordance with procedures:**
    - Chairman B Smith proposed appointment of following candidates: Awards - J. Elliott; Bylaws - J. Elliott; Finance - Talkov; Gifted Youth - Walker; RG - Walker; Scholarship - Jennifer Carter; Special Events - Walker; Circulation - Madsen; Data - Madsen; Historian - Ross; Newsletter Editor - Kalambakal; Open Forum - Ross; Public Relations - Ross; Roster - Madsen; Singles - Wong; SIG's - Madsen; SIGHT – Arlette Chew; Webmaster - Merenbach; Young M's – Carter, Social Media - Phippeny. Motion (B Smith) carried unanimously to approve the aforementioned candidates.
    - Testing Coordinator: Dave Felt agreed to continue in the position until a new person can be appointed.  
Elections Chair: Dave Fenig is out sick; is willing to continue the position of Elections Chair; Jay Friedlander is willing to continue the position of Assistant Elections Chair. Membership Outreach co-coordinators D Elliott and Schneider agree to be co-coordinators without Hanne, who resigned; approved (10-0-0). Mensaphone – Schneider accepts the position; approved (8-0-2).
  7. **Approval of the remaining agenda by the new Board:**
    - D Elliott recommended postponing the following agenda items:
      - B GLAAM AG Party Bus – no new information yet
      - C Community Service was discussed and should be removed from the agenda
      - E Area Review needs more discussion than time currently allows
      - F Scanning documents needs more discussion than time currently allows
    - Walker recommended postponing item D Storage Space
    - Someone recommended postponing item H Goal/Successors until J Elliott can attend
    - All of these were accepted, (9-0-1)
    - Motion carried with one abstention for approval of the agenda as amended.
- IV. Unfinished Business**
- A. **Progress on strategic goal of increasing member participation:**  
Discussion: Schneider and D. Elliott agreed to talk, and present a final report at the June Board Meeting.
  - B. **Non-member attendance at Annual Business Meeting:**  
Discussion: Board members voted (9-0-1) to accept the same change regarding non-member attendance to the Annual Business Meeting that we have recently added to our General Board Meetings, to wit: MOVED, to amend the Standing Rule adopted in

February 2016 by (1) inserting the sentence, (2) inserting the phrase “Board Meeting” after “from attending” in the second sentence, and (3) adding a third sentence reading “Similarly, a simple majority of members present and voting at a Membership Business Meeting shall be sufficient to excuse any non-Mensan from attending.”

**V. New Business**

**A. Preliminary New Budget Items:**

Discussion: The following were approved for discussion as new budget line items for the 2016-17 year:

1. Scholarships – Add at least one more scholarship to the Mensa Scholarships, to total both/all to \$2,000 or more as per discussion.
2. Community Service Project – Add \$500 to support background checks and other costs to allow approximately 20 volunteers for the project.
3. Special Youth Fund – GLAAM has over 200 members under 18yo, representing about \$2,500/year in funds sent to GLAAM by Mensa. Consider making \$1,000-\$1,500 available to subsidize Gifted Youth activities.
4. Support Laemmle movie theater ticket deal: Purchase 100 tickets for \$600, sell them to members for \$5 or \$6 each. GLAAM cost is \$100. The vouchers would be good for all future events and at all Laemmle locations; suggesting a kind of GLAAM-subsidy plan.

**B. Intertel Convention**

Discussion: D. Elliott and Ross did not get any response to their questions from Intertel. S Smith said their convention looks good and costs less, which would not be good for us. Hobart said that Intertel does not include half of our membership, and they have an exclusiveness mind set. Madsen said that promoting things that are unrelated to Mensa starts a slippery slope. Walker said there are tons of other High IQ societies that would love free advertising in our newsletter. Ross said if he gets another call from Intertel, he will say no.

**C. Dodger Game**

Walker will discuss Dodger game with J. Elliott following his recuperation.

**VI. Closing**

**A. Good of the Order**

- Ross: Tom Nehrer, who spoke to our group a couple years ago, has asked to speak again when he finishes with the AG, but it does not fit into the Open Forum schedule. The Board agreed that Ross does not have to accept Nehrer’s self-invitation to speak to our group again.
- D Elliott passed out Current Year Lapsed Member Listings

**B. Adjournment -- Motion (Stillman/S Smith) to adjourn approved at 1:00.**

Respectfully submitted,

Madeline Walker  
Secretary pro tem