

GLAAM Board of Directors

Official Minutes

September 2, 2017

Pilgrim Towers, 440 N. Madison Av., Pasadena

| | <i>Secretary</i> | <i>Delegate</i> | <i>Members-at-Large</i> |
|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mid-City | [/] Vesper Burnett (11:11) | [/] Jordan Albert (11:11) | [X] Jonathan Elliott |
| Coastal | <i>vacant</i> | [O] Madeline Walker | [2] Nikki Frey |
| SFV | [X] Jerilyn Phippeny | [X] Charlie Mahoney | [X] Andrea Nolan |
| ELAC (11:04) | [O] Michael Wong | <i>vacant</i> | [/] Gene Schneider |
| Hi-Desert | [O] Lindsay Ross | [X] Bruce Smith | [X] Sandra Smith |
| Inland Empire | <i>vacant</i> | <i>vacant</i> | [X] Lee Stillman |

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

Guests: Vickey Kalambakal, Brian Madsen (11:07), Alma Munro

I. Opening

- A. **Call to Order** -- by Chairman B Smith at 11:03am.
- B. **Approval of Agenda** – Moved (Elliott/Phippeny) to approve; carried 7/0/0.
- C. **Approval of Previous Minutes** – Moved (Elliott/Phippeny) to approve; carried 6/0/1.

II. Reports

- A. Executive Officers
 1. **Chairman:**
 - B Smith: The Treasurer has funded the scholarship program.
 2. **Administrative Vice-Chair:**
 - Schneider: A gentleman called and texted me a couple of weeks ago, asking about testing. He said he looked at the testing page, and it made no sense, and my phone number was the first one on the website that actually worked!
 - We need to survey the Inland Empire people, and find out what they want to do. There are a couple of people there who want to be active...but don't want to be on the Board. The IE members are spread out geographically even more than those in Hi-Desert but there is a "Victor Valley" population center that is physically closer to the Ridgcrest and Antelope Valley centers in Hi-Desert than those places are to each other!
 3. **Treasurer:**

- Elliott: Chairman Smith having already reported that we issued a check for \$2500 to the Mensa Foundation to cover our annual scholarship funding, 6 items remaining:
- Checked the GLAAM mailbox two days ago, and collected 13 RG registration payments, now showing 33 paid registrations, so we are off to a pretty good start.
- Called Gene Schneider at a certain day and time which we arranged following the last Board meeting, successfully obtained a secure access code in order to access the Hi-Desert account, which code they sent to her other phone so that she could report it to me over the first phone, and registered my laptop as an authorized device so that hopefully I can access the account in the future with no further difficulty, whew.
- Have downloaded all the Hi-Desert bank statements from Sep2015 to Jul2017, and reconciled with our internal ledger, applying to 1-May-2017 any known transactions which hit the bank statements from before that date but which we did not previously report. However, the exercise revealed one unknown deposit and four unknown deductions, so will need to accrue those to subsequent months once they get identified, and in the meantime asked on the CC's list for relevant information, including also on the \$60 listed for a long time in Hi-Desert cash and the \$130.27 of old Hi-Desert outstanding checks. Schneider added that she did not see the previous e-mail, and asked for a fresh copy to be sent to her.
- Have posted the closing financial statements for May, including loading the current budget figures into the Income-Expense Statement for the new fiscal year, planning on getting June completed over the present holiday weekend.
- Noticed that a deduction for \$300 hit the RG bank account on 8/17, as a bill payment for Southern California Edison, but it has nothing to do with the Elliott household. Asked at this time whether anybody in the room knew anything about it, and nobody claimed any such knowledge, so agreed to post an inquiry to the CC's list, and then to contact the bank if that proves unproductive.
- Still have not heard from outside tax accountant Enrique, to confirm receipt of our year-end financial statements and filing of our required tax returns, urgently requesting help from the Finance Committee to follow up with him, because the Treasurer is already overloaded with work, and because one of the key functions of the Finance Committee is to help the Treasurer as needed. In the absence of the Finance Committee Chair, Chairman Smith volunteered at this time to help.

B. Area Reports
 1. **Mid-City:**

- Albert: Planning a SurveyMonkey poll of members to determine interests.

2. **Coastal:**

- Walker, via email: David Emery sends pictures on Facebook of him and his son Oliver travelling across the country to meet up with his wife Susan, who got a terrific job offer in Connecticut.
- The Sunday Salon run by Vicky Kalambakal was very nice, near the shore at Mediterraneo in Hermosa Beach. Eight people enjoyed interesting dishes and conversation.

3. **SFV:**

- Phippeny: The restaurant we had chosen for our monthly party was closed, so we moved to a different location.
- September will be the final month for the Happy Hours.
- Mahoney: Thursday dinner was Korean BBQ and had 4 attendees.

4. **ELAC:**

- Wong: Five people came to the escape room last month, and we are having another one tomorrow.
- Had five for the Gaming Party.

C. Members-at-Large

1. **Elliott:**

- Very much enjoyed the all-Mendelssohn concert at the Hollywood Bowl.

D. Committees and Coordinators

1. **Gifted Youth:**

- Walker, via email: Several gifted youth will be at Magic Castle on Sunday with their folks, and at Hollywood Bowl for the Muppets, at the RG in February, and at the play Aladdin in March.

2. **Membership Outreach:**

- D Elliott, via text: We are at 1904 and have closed the gap with Metro Washington Mensa who is only 33 members more than us. We are still ranked 3 in the country.
- We have received the Award from the Foundation for Natalie. We plan on making the presentation around 2:00 pm at the picnic. Please add if Bruce will be there as I think our LocSec will be helpful in being a dignitary at the presentation. I also would like as much info about Copper Black herself that Gene can share since I am doing the presentation and Copper Black was in our chapter.

3. **Regional Gathering:**

- Walker, via email: Our new webmaster, Alma Munro, has been working on our web page, including Paypal. Brian Madsen is helping her. We are extending the Early Bird special to Sept. 16 and adjusting the other price brackets. When we are sure PayPal is up, I will send a blast to the chapter, to a few people outside the chapter, and maybe to all American Mensa. Our RG info will be in the next Bulletin.
- We decided on purchasing the standard brunch from the hotel on Sunday, hoping for 40 people to sign up, which will satisfy the Food and Beverage obligation. The price will be \$39 during the Early Bird special, and then increase to \$49.
- Volunteers will earn raffle tickets for a drawing during the Annual Business Meeting. All volunteers can earn tickets, not just new ones. The drawing will be three tickets for \$50 each (about the amount of an RG registration) and a few other prizes will be drawn for. There will not be a separate “New Volunteer Lunch”.
- Jerilyn has close to all the speakers we need.
- San Pedro Trolley has agreed to bring the trolley to the hotel on the Sunday we are there instead of stopping 1.2 mi. away.
- Battleship Iowa will negotiate entry fees with us that are much lower than regular fees.
- Karen Star has created some beautiful artwork for our flyers, etc.
- We will have a committee meeting on Sunday, Sept 10.

4. Scholarship:

- Stillman: Jennifer Carter sent examples of previous communications she has had with school district representatives.

5. Social Media:

- Phippeny: All September events have been loaded into Facebook.

6. Special Events:

- Walker, via email: Magic Castle this Sunday will have 89 Mensa members and guests. There will be 43 families (adults with children attending) and 46 adults without children attending.
- Fall Picnic is Saturday, Sept 23, in Griffith Park, with a special event. A young Mensa member, Natalie Hampton, will be awarded the Copper Black award. Natalie created “A mobile app designed to fight bullying and promote kindness and inclusion in middle schools and high schools.”
- Note: for the Fall Picnic, we will have our new banner.
- Jonathan Cole, via email: Tuesday: Concert has been overbooked since the middle of May. 9 tickets are currently on the wait list should any cancellations be received prior to, say, 5 minutes before curtain.

- Saturday: 58 paid tickets sold as of today; 3 tickets "reserved" the other day, but I have received no response from the individual regarding payment so I'm not hopeful. So 12 tickets officially remain available for sale. Barring any cancellations today (the last day to be eligible for a refund), this show has outperformed (in terms of sales, if not attendance) the Moody Blues concert, which had 54.
- As always, if I can provide any additional information, please let me know. After next week's shows, I'll follow up with you and Jonathan with the final figures and to make sure the funds are all accounted for.

7. Testing:

- D Elliott, via text: Voucher program is coming in October!! Every member will be given a one time use code to share with someone for prior evidence or testing to submit for free. We have also been told that contrary to expectations, the chapters will NOT get the \$15 per test.... but this is a great opportunity to grow our membership. Vouchers will be good to the end of March. Maybe we can really go all out for something RG related and linked.
- I am also looking for locations for October testing so we can test in more areas. Any suggestions are welcome. Any actual contacts and connections are even more helpful! Especially looking for places outside of Pasadena so we can test in farther out areas.

8. Circulation:

- Madsen: Newsletter went out in time.

9. Data:

- Madsen: National is trying to replace the electronic mail delivery lists with something else that they are planning to roll out on October 1. This will most likely impact how we do announcements.
- Gave Jerilyn new member data for her Area. The offer is open to the other Area reps.

10. L.A Mentary:

- Kalambakal: Karen Star stepped back in for Toni Hanson who was eclipse watching.
- Have enlisted help to get the February newsletter out while the RG is in session.

11. Calendar:

- Madsen: Request that meeting dates for 2018 be discussed at the October meeting.

12. MensaPhone:

- Schneider: We need to fix or replace the MensaPhone. Its battery won't hold a charge. I am totally against abandoning it. There are still many people who might want to contact Mensa, but don't have computers.
- D Elliott, via text: I did go to the AT&T store to try and get a replacement phone for free with a contract extension... they "don't do that anymore" because contracts are apparently not competitive anymore. So we have to *buy* a replacement phone.
- Board would need to approve an amount willing to spend and then I can acquire the replacement with the same number.
- Alternatively. Our number should be portable, so if the Board wants to go with a different carrier we should be able to take the number with us and get it off of my "family plan" account and add it elsewhere.
- (But someone else would need to head that up and I can just help get the number changed from AT&T to whomever)
- [Mahoney suggested using Google Voice. Albert volunteered to investigate.]

13. Webmaster:

- Munro: Still getting familiar with the website, running into obsolete and/or stale data. Using Woofu for event surveys.
- [B Smith noted that would be helpful in doing a questionnaire for the Inland Empire.]
- RG Registration is up.

III. New Business

A. Hollywood Bowl

Stillman: The question came up at last month's meeting about whether to charge a nominal fee for the midweek shows, because people are just not showing up and not cancelling, so that not all seats are getting filled even though there are people on the wait list.

Phippeny noted that the tickets are only costing us a dollar. Elliott suggested taking a deposit that would be refundable if the people show up. He also suggested upgrading our seating from the current back area seating. Madsen noted that most people pay via paypal, and that we would lose money to paypal fees that we would not get back when refunding deposits.

Item carried forward to October meeting.

B. Storage Space

Stillman: The current storage space is ostensibly 5x10, but in reality is neither 5 nor 10. Walker chose it originally based upon price, but more importantly business hours.

Kalambakal noted that this place was a 3rd choice added at the last minute, and that Walker and Jay Friedlander had already investigated 2 other storage places. Elliott expressed the general consensus that we will want to move, considering the previously points and that the floors were wooden and uneven.

Item carried forward to October meeting.

IV. Closing

- A. **Good of the Order** – Phippeny reports that the business cards that anyone can order from Mensa have been effective.
- B. **Adjournment** -- Motion (Phippeny/Stillman, 10/0/0) to adjourn approved at 12:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Stillman
Secretary