

GLAAM Board of Directors

Official Minutes

January 6, 2018

Pilgrim Towers, 440 N. Madison Av., Pasadena

	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Delegate</i>	<i>Members-at-Large</i>
Mid-City (11:05)	[/] Vesper Burnett (11:05)	[/] Jordan Albert (11:05)	[/] Jonathan Elliott
Coastal	<i>vacant</i>	[X] Madeline Walker	[X] Andrea Nolan
SFV	[X] Jerilyn Phippeny	[/] Charlie Mahoney (11:09)	[X] Gene Schneider
ELAC	[/] Michael Wong (11:22)	<i>vacant</i>	[X] Sandra Smith
Hi-Desert	[/] Lindsay Ross (11:22)	[O] Bruce Smith	[X] Lee Stillman
Inland Empire	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>

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

Guest: Brian Madsen

I. Opening

- A. **Call to Order** -- by XVC S Smith at 11:00am.
- B. **Approval of Agenda** – Moved (Schneider/Phippeny) to approve; carried 6/0/0.
- C. **Approval of Previous Minutes** – Moved (Walker/Schneider) to approve; carried 6/0/0.

II. Reports

A. Executive Officers

1. Treasurer:

- Elliott: We did take our meeting at Chase after last month's Board meeting, to set up the new RG bank account, and did eventually get everything taken care of, but behold it took a really long time, much longer I feel than it properly should have, so we are not feeling very good about Chase bank these days as a result.
- We have received our supply of checks for the new RG account.
- Our new debit cards for the RG account show the corporate name of 'Greater Los Angeles Area', entirely leaving out the key word of our name, which I continue to wish we would not keep buried at the end of the expression, and that's one of the reasons why, there are others. Anyway, will get that cleaned up whenever and however we practically can.
- We have now seen newsletter invoices for the December and January issues, but they came late because of a technical problem with Brian's circulation-manager e-mail, which problem I suspect stems from something that National did in the course of their recent 'improvements' to our communication platforms.

- Checked the GLAAM mailbox on 1/4, and found one envelope which contained a return address specifying only the Western U.S. and 120 degrees west longitude, and which did not contain a registration or check but only a note wishing us a Merry Xmas, and exhorting us to read Isaiah 2:2-4 in order to learn something new.

B. Area Reports

1. **Coastal:**

- Walker: We had our Sunday Salon on a Saturday at a place that was kinda spooky, and we had 6 people.

2. **SFV:**

- Phippeny: We had no events in December. We will have a house party at Charlie's in January.

3. **Hi-Desert:**

- Schneider: We had our New Year's Day party and it was a huge success. We even had somebody come up from IE; I tried to get her to run for office but she wouldn't. We had way more food than we could eat, and we signed election petitions for myself and Bruce.

3. **ELAC:**

- Wong: We've restarted all of our usual events. We had a Christmas party right before the usual gaming party. We had 6 people.
- We are doing an escape room again, this time in North Hollywood.

C. Committees and Coordinators

1. **RVC:**

- Wong: I started a new dining event on the first Friday called Supper With RVC9.
- Went to the Phoenix RG. They will be the site for the 2019 AG. The price looks like it will be higher than in the past.
- Phoenix has asked for help with their gifted youth. Will pay for background checks.
- We have a new, "probationary" Executive Director.

2. **Awards:**

- Elliott: It is now on my med-pri list to perform the annual awards update in time to issue invitations to and make reservations for the next Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, which again we are hoping to have on the first Saturday of April.

3. **Gifted Youth:**

- Walker: I have to really get organizing on the gifted youth event at the RG.

4. **Membership Outreach:**

- D Elliott, via text: In experiencing Mensa Connect for the last 6 weeks, I can conclusively assure everyone that it will never replace our email blasts, but it will be a viable replacement for the general chapter Yahoo group. While the opt-in vs opt-out was not really understood, everyone will be assigned, nobody gets any emails or messaged until they authorize their account and sign the user agreement electronically. So we can advertise and recruit moderators to set up the GLAAM community but it will not be the equivalent of the announcement lists. Our options at this point are to transition to an outside service like Mailigen like some other chapters do and go that route, requiring the data officer to keep them updated, or continue to hope that National adds an Area filter to the Email Your Members tool and just use that tool, even if we cannot be Area-specific.
- We currently have 1980 members, although the member count by rank says 1983, with Washington Area Mensa ahead of us at 1996.

5. **Regional Gathering:**

- Walker: RG is coming up quickly. Now that the holidays are over I made a list of things to do.
- RG committee meeting next Saturday.
- Sent out a general announcement that the 16th is the last day to register at the current price level.
- Need to finalize the welcome letter.
- Need to finish up information for the volunteer raffle and get that into the newsletter.
- Need to finish the Kids Track.
- Need to work with Lee and Craig on the setup for the hospitality room.
- Will go on a tour with Nikki Smith to find locations for the pub crawl.

6. **Special Events:**

- Walker: Sent a notice out for people interested in going to see Aladdin. We are well above the minimum requirement for group tickets.

7. **Mensa Testing:**

- D Elliott, via text: Raulette Woods is back and looking for testing locations on the West side.
- We have another Proctor in Training as Michael Wong has submitted his application and has already observed one test.
- We have rooms confirmed at Cal Tech for the testing on the 3rd Sat of the month for EVERY month in 2018 EXCEPT February (RG) and October. October was not available, but the second

Saturday was and we are looking for other locations for the 3rd Saturday as that will be Mensa Testing month.

8. Circulation:

- Madsen: We hit our target, and everything is going fine.

9. L.A. Mentary:

- Kalambakal, via email: All is fine. I welcome your reports and news for the next issue. I also welcome photos.

10. Data:

- Madsen: All of the usual things are up to date. Announcement lists are good to go. Up to date on member data.

11. Historian:

- Ross: Got an email for Carolyn Forbes, daughter of Mary Kimball. She found more stuff and sent it to us.

12. MensaPhone:

- Schneider: The phone is completely dead, but I know how to use my phone to pick up messages.

13. Open Forum:

- Ross: I have not been able to schedule a program since our picnic in July.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Storage Unit

Walker: I spoke to the gal in the office of where we are and she is quite happy to try and find a bigger and better unit for us, so now that the holidays are over Doug and I will go over there and have her take us around to see what is available.

Motion to grant Madeline discretion in negotiating, signing, and approving a new contract for a storage unit (Phippeny/Elliott); carried 10/1/1.

IV. New Business

A. Dodger Tickets

Walker: I paid just \$10 to hold 20 seats and in so doing was guaranteed 2017 prices instead of 2018 prices.

Motion to grant Madeline authority and discretion to purchase Dodgers tickets whether or not the full quorum is met (Phippeny/Schneider); carried 8/1/3.

V. Closing

- A. **Good of the Order** – Elliott: The speaker whom I invited to the RG will be staying at the hotel overnight, in order to hang out with our crowd and talk further about sex as much as our members may wish, to be covered in full by my company because of the outreach which she will thus be performing.
- B. **Adjournment** -- Motion (Phippeny/Stillman, 12/0/0) to adjourn approved at 12:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Stillman
Secretary