

GLAAM Board of Directors

Official Minutes

February 3, 2018

Pilgrim Towers, 440 N. Madison Av., Pasadena

	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Delegate</i>	<i>Members-at-Large</i>
Mid-City	[/] Vesper Burnett (11:10)	[/] Jordan Albert (11:10)	[X] Jonathan Elliott
Coastal	<i>vacant</i>	[O] Madeline Walker	[X] Andrea Nolan
SFV (11:15)	[O] Jerilyn Phippeny	[/] Charlie Mahoney (11:05)	[/] Gene Schneider
ELAC	[/] Michael Wong (11:20)	<i>vacant</i>	[X] Sandra Smith
Hi-Desert	[X] Lindsay Ross	[X] 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, Desiree Elliott (12:00)

I. Opening

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

II. Reports

A. Executive Officers

1. Chairman:

- B Smith: Thanks to Sandra for covering last month's meeting.
- As there are a few conflicts coming up on the first Saturday of the month, I think this should be my last term of office. [Elliott inquired as to whether B Smith would be willing to take up the Treasurer's position. B Smith said he'd think about it.]

2. Treasurer:

- Elliott: Notified Brian and Jay by e-mail of our new RG bank account number, so that they could arrange with their local branches to make new signature cards as applicable. However, it turns that we notified them too late, because their 30-day requirement means that we would need to go into a branch again to re-authorize them. However again, Jay informs us that he no longer needs to be a signatory in that he has now taken on more of an advisory role. We will decide whether to make a trip to re-add Brian.

- Each set of 3 checkbooks for the new RG account is fused together, making our pretty checkbook sleeve completely useless. Kinda sad.
- We seem to be getting a lot of OC traffic for the RG due to its relatively favorable location.
- Attempted to download the Hi-Desert bank statement covering 12/31, but their system no longer recognizes my computer now that I have had it reformatted following a recent viral infection, and the sign-in screen does not include my e-mail or my phone number as a way to receive a secure access code, so we would need to work with Gene again. Now thinking, however, that it may be better to simply work with the incoming Treasurer, provided that the only transactions hitting that account these days are the 1-cent quarterly dividends.
- Checked the GLAAM mailbox on 2/1. There was one new RG registration.
- Attempted to transfer recent PayPal balances to new RG account, but they wouldn't let me add a new bank account to the profile without submitting an authorization code to their contact phone number of record, which is 323-960-5542, which does not currently belong to Brian or Madeline or the MensaPhone or any other source which I am familiar with, so we will need some help.

B. Area Reports

1. **SFV:**

- Mahoney: We had good attendance at our post-Christmas gift exchange party approx. 20 people.

2. **ELAC:**

- Wong: Had 5 people for the escape room last month.
- The gaming party ran late and was a lot of fun.

3. **Coastal:**

- Walker, via email: Sunday Salon on January 28 was at Ports O Call Restaurant in San Pedro. A dozen people dined together, including Craig Lancaster and Lee Stillman, who were in the area to revisit the RG hotel. Later we were also joined by Alma Munro, our new Webmaster. Other attendees included Merv Meyer, Joyce Francisco and Kendal Copperberg, Mary Hansen, Martin and Mary Hochman, Nina Beck, Madeline and Doug Walker, and host Vickey Kalambakal.
- Vickey Kalambakal, Doug and Madeline Walker, and an old friend who used to go to Jackie Mosher's book club named Winnie went to the funeral for Leo Peterson in Hermosa Beach.

- Kedem Har Shalom continues the International Dinner, but I don't know how many went because we had a conflict.

C. Members-at-Large

1. **Nolan:**

- I've been trying to sign up a couple friends for the tour of the Iowa.
- Talking to some UCLA friends about Gene's tours.

D. Committees and Coordinators

1. **Awards:**

- Elliott: Natalie Hampton already had gotten 3 points for her Copper Black award, but we considered giving her some number of extra points (possibly up to the award maximum of 5) for being named one of this year's 25 women changing the world according to People magazine, because we find that to be a pretty big deal. However, we discussed it within the Committee, and because the magazine article does not mention Mensa at all, so her recognition is not reflecting any extra prestige upon our organization, we now feel that she should not get any extra points for it, but of course as with all Committee decisions the Board has authority to override if it collectively wishes.
- Have completed preliminary update of our awards database based on information that we currently know about for the current year. Aiming to finalize the list in very early March based on the RG and the March/April calendar. Aiming to have the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on the first Saturday of April. Desiree was planning to submit a Calendar entry to Brian, and we are aiming for the same location as last year unless anyone cares to suggest an alternative location for the Board's consideration.
- Our Committee's official posture had previously been that we eventually wanted to roll our section of the GLAAM website into the Members Only module, as soon as the Webmaster had sufficient time to do it, the idea being that we did not want to spook potential Mensa members and potential volunteers by allowing them to see all the different jobs which need to be filled, and how much work is required to achieve enrollment in the hall of fame. However, we have discussed it further, and we now have decided that it should be left where it is in the Public Access section, partly because we want prospective employers and other such individuals to see how much work certain individuals have performed over the years, and partly because anyone who is considering joining Mensa in order to generate valuable experience by volunteering in our various roles should have the opportunity to see what jobs are available. Our previous concern of possibly spooking member prospects is ameliorated by the realization that

most individuals who are considering joining Mensa and who are looking at our website in order to find out more information about us are unlikely to visit the Awards section, unless again they are specifically interested in exploring volunteer opportunities, in which case our Hall of Fame listings might provide more of an inducement than a turn-off.

2. RVC:

- Wong: The National Finance Committee came up with a budget. We will vote on it at the AMC meeting next month so I will not be here. It's not as outrageous as in previous years.
- Had the dinner last night.
- The numbers for the free testing were horrible all over.

3. Gifted Youth:

- Walker, via email: I caught up on the membership rolls for Gifted Youth. There are 280 continuing members and 43 new ones, total 323, including children of Mensa parents.
- I sent an email to welcome all of the new members and tell them about the RG and the Spring Picnic, along with other information, and send a general email to all youth members.

4. Regional Gathering:

- Walker, via email: Jerilyn, Alma and I have been getting the schedule and speaker line-up up-to-snuff. We have around 105 registered attendees. The final date to mail-in registrations was January 31, and the last date for using Paypal is February 8. If Vickey is at this meeting, she can talk about Alma's suggestions on taking credit cards at the RG.
- We lost a couple speakers, so I approached the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce to see if they can suggest speakers. They agreed to give us some names, but our emergency is not their marching orders. If anyone has a friend who could be an interesting speaker at the RG, let me know right away.
- We have almost 30 Brunch reservations, which will cover our Food and Beverage obligation. Especially since the wording online switched to it being a Champagne Brunch, so now I have to talk to them about champagne.
- As a special treat, Nina Beck, who was at our Sunday Salon, is a pianist, and will be able to play the piano (we got permission) near the Galletti Gallery for the Brunch.
- Nikki Smith knows San Pedro well and is planning the Pub Crawl route. Nikki also agreed to host a short Gen X/Gen Y Meet and Greet at the hotel before going on the Pub Crawl. We can have people sign up at the front desk to get the hotel van to take them to the first bar until 10:00. After 10:00, Doug will be driving to pick

people up who want to get back to the hotel. She also knows which bars to avoid that have a reputation of getting rowdy late at night.

5. Special Events:

- Walker, via email: The Spring Picnic is Saturday March 24.
- Aladdin on Sunday March 25 will have 12 people.
- We can have a minimum of 20 and up to 30 people at the Dodger game on Tuesday June 26. On the first announcement, we got 12 reservations. The tickets are \$39 each on the shady side of the stadium. I will make more announcements as we get into baseball season.

6. Circulation:

- Madsen: We got everything out on time
- We have enough money in the USPS account to get through March.

7. Data:

- Madsen: Everything is going smoothly. Announcement and Facebook lists are up to date.

8. L.A. Mentary:

- Kalambakal, via email: With the help of Toni Hansen and Brian Madsen, the newsletter goes out each month and looks great.
- I would love to get reports from everyone by the 11th of February, but I'm afraid I must hold fast to the deadline of the 11th at noon, at least for this month, since I'm also RG Registrar. I also accept book and film reviews, etc. In particular, I'd love a great picture for the March LA Mentary cover. Got any ideas?
- If there are any changes in email addresses, phones, etc. please notify me. Also, if there's any decisions made about Remote Attendance at the Board meetings, or about using Mensa Connect, please let me know.

9. Open Forum:

- Ross: I am determined to resume scheduling events.

10. Public Relations:

- Ross: Much of my focus is reaching out to the Hollywood community, and I am in SAG-AFTRA now, so my credibility should be increased.

11. SIGHT:

- Arlette Chew, via email: What an amazing response from last month's report! Madeline Walker connected our young visitor from Australia with a family who will be happy to meet her.

Charlie Mahony (and others, I'm told) responded with housing ideas for our visitor from France. Thanks, everyone!

- Last night I had dinner with a new Mensan, Johannah Warren, from Washington, D.C., who is considering volunteering to coordinate SIGHT for their chapter. She is a delightful young lady and would be a great SIGHT host. One of the things she'd like ideas for is finding ways to enlist other members, in addition to the Coordinator, in hosting or otherwise participating in SIGHT. If anyone has any ideas, I'd love to hear them!

III. Special Orders

A. Filling of Vacant Chairs and Coordinators

1. Social Media Coordinator:

- Jordan Albert and Charlie Mahoney appointed (B Smith/Stillman 11/0/0) co-coordinators.

IV. New Business

A. Membership Outreach and Mensa Connect; Email Your Members tool

D Elliott: Mensa Connect will be a suitable replacement for the Yahoo groups, with the added benefit that, since it is based upon membership, people will automatically be dropped if their membership lapses. The National Office has promised us that they will continue to support our Announce lists until they have added to the Email Your Members tool the ability to send to subgroups. Mensa Connect will require recruitment of moderators prior to activation. Nested communities will correspond to our subgroups, but we will need to maintain outside group messaging for things like the BOD and CCs lists.

B. Bylaws vote on language for remote participation options

B Smith suggested a study group be formed with recommendations. Elliott pointed out that Desiree would not be happy with that. Albert was in favor of allowing remote participation under certain conditions. Schneider was not in favor of allowing RP for regular meetings. S Smith noted the rules on recording of meetings and that on remote those would be subject to violation. Elliott was in favor of disallowing RP. Schneider noted that emailing in of reports was acceptable for those unable to attend.

Schneider moved (S Smith seconded) that the Bylaws state that we do not allow remote participation for regular board meetings. Elliott noted the specific language in the Bylaws in Section XIII-C, Paragraph 2, "The quorum for a regular Board meeting shall be one-third of the entire Board. There shall be no proxy voting, and abstentions and invalid ballots shall not be counted. The Board may continue to conduct business when the members present fall below a quorum. However, no action shall pass without the affirmative vote of the majority of the quorum number for that meeting." He offered the amendment to add the phrase, "or other remote participation" after the phrase, "There shall be no proxy voting" in Paragraph XII-C-2 of the Bylaws;

Schneider seconded. Amendment carried 8/2/1. The amended motion carried 8/2/1.

- C. Confirming volunteer appreciation luncheon plans
The Board had no objection to keeping the volunteer luncheon at Buca di Beppo in Pasadena.

V. Closing

- A. **Good of the Order** – B Smith inquired to the Treasurer about the donation to Pilgrim Towers.
- B. **Adjournment** -- Motion (Schneider/Albert, 11/0/0) to adjourn approved at 12:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Stillman
Secretary