

GLAAM Board of Directors

Official Minutes

March 2, 2019

Pilgrim Towers, 440 N. Madison Av., Pasadena

	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Delegate</i>	<i>Members-at-Large</i>
Mid-City	[/] Vesper Burnett (11:13)	[/] Jordan Albert (11:13)	[X] Desiree Elliott
Coastal	[O] Alma Munro	[X] Madeline Walker	[O] Billie Lee
SFV	[X] Jerilyn Phippeny	[X] Charlie Mahoney	[O] Andrea Nolan
ELAC	[O] Michael Wong	<i>vacant</i>	[O] Gene Schneider
Hi-Desert	[O] Lindsay Ross	[/] Bruce Smith (11:06)	[X] Sandra Smith
Inland Empire	[X] Wilbert Woo	<i>vacant</i>	[O] Lee Stillman

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

Guest: Jonathan Elliott, Vickey Kalambakal, Brian Madsen, Jay Friedlander

I. Opening

- A. **Call to Order** -- by Chairman Elliott at 11:01am.
- B. **Approval of Agenda** –Addition of Special Order C, Proposed RG contract 2020. Moved (S Smith/Mahoney) to approve; carried 6/0/0.
- C. **Approval of Previous Minutes** – Moved (S Smith/Woo) to approve; carried 6/0/1.

II. Reports

- A. Executive Officers
 1. **Chair:**
 - Elliott: We are still the second largest group in the United States. We continue to be ahead of Metro Washington Mensa by 5 members, and trail Greater New York Mensa by 79.
 - Billie Lee, our new Webmaster, will give a tech manual on Mensa Connect to all who might make use of the service. She has been too busy to do so as yet, but we can expect to go live with Mensa Connect after we receive it.
 - Elections are coming up, but we have not received a lot of petitions.
 2. **Treasurer:**
 - B Smith: General account is now \$24,056.62 and RG is \$3298.12 with 2 checks outstanding
 - Financials anticipated to be in the April newsletter.
- B. Area Reports
 1. **Mid-City:**
 - Burnett: “Everything is going well.”

2. **Coastal:**

- Walker: Kalambakal hosted Sunday Salon.
- Kalambakal: We met at Paul Martin's restaurant, with 6 people in attendance; one from OCM was a former FBI analyst who had interesting stories about Comey and other prominent figures.

3. **SFV:**

- Phippeny: Sizzler on Laurel Canyon and Victory will be the new permanent location for 2nd Saturday Valley parties, at 1pm. Thursday Dinner! will still rotate. Had a good Thursday Dinner! on 28th with 5 people in attendance.
- Phippeny: Contacted about half the people on the list of lapsed members that was handed out at last month's board meeting. Got about 5 responses, most with the general sentiment that "I wasn't seeing any benefit to my membership." One lengthy response left me feeling "emotionally raped."

4. **Inland Empire:**

- Woo: Poor attendance at 2nd Sunday event—3 people. May need to advertise better.

C. **Members-at-Large**

1. **Elliott:**

- RG a "heckuva good time."
- Have received calls from people willing to rejoin and excited about new events

2. **B. Smith:**

- High Desert was well-repped at RG, "which was fabulous."

3. **S. Smith:**

- Has a handbook for new board member Billie Lee but didn't bring it because she knew she wouldn't be here this month.
- Had a good time at the RG.

D. **Committees and Coordinators**

1. **Awards:**

- J. Elliott: We have provided the new Webmaster with the updates needed for the previous award year, and with a new Certificate of Appreciation which had been unearthed by our intrepid Bylaws Committee. The content was all uploaded within less than two hours after our submission, and we are rather happy with that level of service.

2. **Bylaws:**

- J. Elliott: We found out during the RG that the Election Committee had not received a copy of the newly-combined Election Procedures, with the new note that whoever is supervising the election of Executive Officers should encourage all new officers to read the

Guidelines for their positions, so we arranged to send out a fresh copy.

- We have also sent fresh copies to our new Webmaster of the Standing Rules, the Editorial Guidelines, the Officer Guidelines, the SIG Policy Rules, the Unclassified ASIE's, and the national Minimum Standard Bylaws, to populate what we envision as a future Bylaws section of the GLAAM website, which section we imagine would not require password access, because in our opinion there is nothing in there that we need to conceal from the public, so recommending in favor of transparency.
- So far, the non-Chair membership of the Bylaws Committee has not indicated any strenuous objection to the suggestions which we assembled for the restored Roster section of our Guidelines, nor for our plan to bring our Bylaws into compliance with the national Minimum Standards. If no strenuous objections are raised within the next couple of weeks, then we will package our proposals for Board consideration at the April meeting.

3. Elections:

- Friedlander: Received two petitions, which were declared elected: Sandra Smith, and Andrea Nolan.
- Received another which was rejected because it was submitted late, without signature. The submitter engaged in commentary asking for tolerance because it's hard enough to get people to volunteer; the election committee only enforces, not makes the rules.
- Encourages board members to circulate petitions early rather than waiting to be appointed at May board meeting, on the grounds that it is difficult enough to get a quorum at May board meeting and it is in the best interest of the chapter for board members to be duly elected.
- D Elliott: Chair notes that we can't change the elections process now, because we're in it; we may want to consider changing our elections process for the future, such as by circulating petitions for offices rather than regions.
- J Elliott: Bylaws committee provides the point of information that pursuant to Article 16.A.4 of our bylaws, only the membership can change the petition deadline, through amendment; the board cannot.
- D. and J. Elliott: We are in the process of updating the bylaws, as they need to be consistent with National's new minimum standards; so we could consider changes to the petition deadline.

4. Gifted Youth:

- Walker: When I went to send out a blast regarding teen game night to the list, I realized that there were 171 new people on the list from the beginning of 2018 to now, and 8 had some complexity: wrote to Jamie Uphold with concerns about the list curation.

- There have been several people who have taken the background check but have not done any activities yet; now that RG is over, Walker will push them to do some

5. Regional Gathering:

- Walker: We had more people this year, with great speakers, activities, and food.

6. Scholarship:

- Elliott: Diane Takenaka has gotten the scholarship essays out on time; she has ideas for promotion of the scholarships, which can be brought up at budgeting time

7. Social Media:

- Mahoney and Albert: Events are up on Facebook. There is an issue with the Twitter account of either the account being hacked, or the password is not working, so trying to resolve. Working to create uniform passwords across all accounts so that anyone can post. Social Media would also be a good way to promote scholarships.

8. Special Events:

- Walker: Hollywood Bowl: Jonathan Cole has moved to Paris, and regular attendee Andrea Winkler has agreed to take over, with Madeline helping. Winkler is currently working on flyers. We have Tchaikovsky with fireworks on Saturday, Aug. 10th; Rachmaninoff on July 18th; Beethoven's 9th on Aug. 27th, and Mozart on Sept. 5. Prices went up for the Saturday tickets from \$15 to \$17, making the cost \$9 a ticket for members. The pricing for individuals on weeknights has stayed the same, at \$1 for a maximum of 4 seats; but the pricing for groups has gone up to \$8 per seat. We have purchased the seats but we can cancel. Andrea W suggests we could still get great turnout by charging as much as \$4 or \$5 per ticket.
- B Smith: Treasurer greatly encourages charging \$5 per ticket to cut down on issues with making change.
- Walker: Spring picnic is on April 28th
- Dodgers game: Got a call from the coordinator at the Dodgers, but she never called back; Walker to follow up with her now that RG is over. Has coordinated with J Elliott for May 11th vs. Washington.
- Volunteer luncheon to be on April 6th.
- San Diego holding an RG on May 24-27.
- Annual Gathering (AG) in Phoenix: July 1st is colloquium, July 2-7th is the AG.
- Pi day is March 14th.
- Pantages: We're going to Cats on March 17th; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory on April 7th. There are 4 more possible shows, but there are not enough people to go to them yet; I will send

blasts. After this year, I will pick a few and not every one of them but will definitely go to Hamilton in March 2020.

9. Testing:

- Elliott: We have lots of testing scheduled in March. We are still looking for more testing locations.
- We had 3 people test at the RG
- We generally test fewer people than other groups of our size. We are not publicizing as much. I am not posting to the national website, so some people who could test here go to other areas.
- We will be updating the testing portion of our local group website.

10. Circulation:

- Madsen: All is well, newsletter got out on time. There is money in the USPS account.

11. Data:

- Madsen: Facebook group is up to date, and reports have been delivered on the 28th.

12. L.A. Mentary:

- Kalambakal: I look forward to your reports; election information will run in April.

13. Young M's:

- Elliott: There are 2-3 people interested in hosting Young M's events. We may update the name in the newsletter. National defines Young M's as 21-40 years old.

III. Special Orders

- A. No candidates present for ELAC Delegate
- B. No candidates present for IE Delegate
- C. Elliott: We have a proposed contract with the San Pedro Doubletree for the 2020 RG. It is the same as last year, but \$165 more for meeting space. The room cost has risen \$1 from \$159 to \$160 per night. We need to sign on Monday to lock in our weekend, as there is another group that is interested in President's Day Weekend. We had budgeted a \$1000 deficit, but we had \$2417.76 additional expenses: \$1589.84 for meeting space, and the RG paid for more hotel nights (2 rooms for 4 days). This leaves about a \$4400 deficit, of which \$2800 is hotel expenses. There were also some lessons learned regarding entertainment, and increasing advertising, which will decrease the deficit for next year. We had 136 registrants, which met the budget; and had 114 pickups on room nights, which was 80% of those contracted. The new contract allows for 125 room nights. We expect \$2000 more in registrations and expect to cut \$1000 of expenses, leaving us expecting a \$1400 deficit. Committee requests that we accept the contract.
 - Move to accept the contract (Woo/Walker; 8/0/1).

IV. Unfinished Business

- A. Review Status of Mensa Connect Preparation
Carrying over to next month, pending the receipt of the handbooks to be prepared by Billie Lee. Elliott: We will not close down the announcement

lists until we are sure that Connect can provide geographical subsets, as we currently have set up with Mailman.

- B. Hollywood Bowl
Walker: We are now in the “W” section. Move to approve Saturday night charge of \$9 and weeknight charge of \$5 (Walker/S. Smith, 9/0/0)
- C. Hi-Desert Bank Account
Carrying over to next month; Schneider not present. Lee Stillman has agreed to be signatory.

V. New Business

- A. Volunteer Luncheon
D. Elliott: Normally scheduled for April meeting; we need to get the list of those who qualify to come within a week, so that we can give them plenty of advance notice to attend. If we can’t notify them soon, we may need to move the luncheon to the May meeting.
J. Elliott: April is much preferred date for the luncheon. Will re-prioritize tasks to get D. Elliott this list by March 8th.
D. Elliott: I like Buca di Beppo because we’ve dealt with them in the past and it’s easy; also, we get a discount with the Costco gift cards. Does anyone have any other suggestions?
Walker: I volunteer to check out what other restaurants have Costco gift card discounts.

VI. Closing

- A. **Good of the Order**
B Smith: Thanks to Jerilyn for keeping the minutes
Elliott: I am serving as Region 9 scholarship chair. I am also running for AMC chair and have a website available; please check it out.
- B. **Adjournment** -- Motion (Phippeny/B Smith, 9/0/0) to adjourn approved at 12:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerilyn Phippeny
San Fernando Valley Area Secretary

Edited by Lee Stillman, Board Secretary