

# GLAAM Board of Directors

## Official Minutes

January 9, 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	[O] Desiree Elliott
Coastal	[X] Greg Tomich	[O] Madeline Walker	[X] Andrea Nolan
SFV	[X] Joyce Hamilton	<i>vacant</i>	[O] Gene Schneider
ELAC	[X] Jonathan Elliott	[O] Michael Wong	[X] Sandra Smith
Hi-Desert	[O] Lindsay Ross	[X] Bruce Smith	[O] Lee Stillman
Inland Empire	[X] Tammy Somesla	<i>vacant</i>	[X] Ron Talkov

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

*Guest:* Jonathan Cole, Brian Madsen, Andrew Merenbach, William Meyer (ar11:47)

### I. Opening

- A. **Call to Order** -- by Chairman Smith at 11:04am.
- B. **Approval of Agenda** -- Secretary Elliott read the item headings for the draft Agenda, because it was distributed by e-mail only the previous evening. Moved (S. Smith/Nolan) to approve the Agenda as submitted; carried unanimously.
- C. **Approval of Previous Minutes** -- Moved (Hamilton/S. Smith) to accept the Minutes as submitted; carried with one abstention.

### II. Reports

- A. Executive Officers
  1. **Chairman:**
    - Has been working with the Bylaws Committee.
  2. **Secretary:**
    - At the Treasurer's request, looked through our corporate archives for an official nonprofit statement, located it, and posted it on the CC's list.
  3. **Treasurer:**
    - Intended to have the November financials ready for today's meeting, but has been spending too much time with the Bylaws Committee and other challenges in recent weeks, so will get to it at earliest practical opportunity.
- B. Area Reports
  1. **Mid-City:**
    - No official activities in December, but one friend from the earlier party has applied for membership. In addition to the fun event, the

applicant was motivated by being able to submit prior evidence, so suggesting that we focus on that option in our publicity.

- Movie night is on tonight's calendar. New "bring-a-friend-meet-a-friend" party in March.

2. **Coastal:**

- Advance report from Delegate Walker appeared in Agenda.
- Secretary Tomich added that he got 4 people to call and cancel for the bike ride, but did yet get a new participant.

3. **SFV:**

- No activities in December, closed for holidays, but full selection of activities for the next 3 months, so should be in good shape.

4. **ELAC:**

- Had no guests at December gaming party.
- Brian Madsen has suggested doing post-Board lunch and movie in Burbank instead of Arcadia, which would be SFV instead of ELAC, so whatever the group prefers.

5. **Inland Empire:**

- Reminding everyone that we are invited to the Super Bowl party.

D. Committees and Coordinators

1. **RVC:**

- J. Elliott reported for D. Elliott that a special issue will be created to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Mensa Bulletin*. In order to be eligible to receive a copy, you must renew your membership by 3/31.

2. **Awards:**

- Still behind schedule on the annual tabulation process, but plans to get it done within the next few weeks.

3. **Bylaws:**

- Committee has been operating with 5 members, appointed a 6<sup>th</sup> today, and hoping to appoint a 7<sup>th</sup> after the meeting, to give us a broader sampling for debating and voting on the tougher topics.
- We have activated on our 'laundry list' of 24 topics needing to be evaluated, including trying again to assemble as many of the missing Minutes as we can. Offered congrats at this time to the Webmasters for clearly establishing within the Minutes section which months did not have any meetings at all, and which had meetings but no available Minutes; made our job a lot easier.
- Some list items are ready for reporting to the Board and have been added to the Agenda, some are in the process of being debated so will get offered to the Board in the coming months, and some are awaiting certain actions by the national organization before we can determine what if anything we need to do.

4. **Gifted Youth:**

- Advance report appeared in Agenda.

5. **Regional Gathering:**

- Advance report appeared in Agenda.

**6. Special Events:**

- Advance report from Comm. Chair Walker appeared in Agenda.
- Madsen introduced Jonathan Cole, who has agreed to help with the Hollywood Bowl. He reports having attended a number of times in the past, that he is looking forward to resurrecting it, and that he hopes to at least come close to Madsen's performance. He will be at next month's meeting, hopefully with specifics on events. Madsen asked for Agenda item to decide on events if possible and authorize payments.

**7. Circulation:**

- We were on time, hooray!
- Got one request to send out newsletter to a member who didn't receive it.
- Has submitted receipts for recent expenses.

**8. MensaPhone:**

- J. Elliott reported for D. Elliott that we have been getting calls.

**9. Open Forum:**

- Advance report appeared in Agenda.

**10. Webmaster:**

- Work has been progressing with the RG pages.
- Has been taking a look at the older RG pages, to possibly convert them to the new look.
- No updates from national on API, hesitant to bug them because seems as though they've got a lot on their plate. Thinking of reaching out to see if they can use our domain name, instead of just forwarding as current to [glaam.us.mensa.org](http://glaam.us.mensa.org); would be nice if we could just use [glaam.org](http://glaam.org) without a redirect.

**11. Calendar Editor:**

- All's well.

**12. SIGHT:**

- Advance report appeared in Agenda.

**13. Data Officer:**

- Got e-distribution late last night. In process of doing so, noticed that Michael Wong's postal address has changed from ELAC to SFV; asked at this time if anyone knows what his intentions are. J. Elliott responded that he still is out of the country, but is coming back this month; the SFV address appears to be his sister's house, where he has been spending some time occasionally, but he has been staying primarily with the Elliotts in the city of Sierra Madre in ELAC, including that's where his clothes and car and most other possessions are located, so that is his current actual residence; D. Elliott has speculated that the change may have been effected involuntarily at the national office because maybe a piece of mail got returned to them showing the SFV address; we will check with him when he returns to town as to how he wishes to proceed.

#### **IV. Unfinished Business**

##### **A. Progress on strategic goal of increasing member participation:**

J. Elliott reported for D. Elliott that we need to receive more current data from Schneider before we can proceed with the discussion.

##### **B. 2016 AG Party Bus for GLAAM Members:**

J. Elliott reported for D. Elliott that she had hoped to advance this project during the preceding month, but did not have the time.

##### **C. Community Service Project:**

J. Elliott reported for D. Elliott that the next steps are awaiting some further actions by national.

#### **V. New Business**

##### **A. Errors in newsletter reports:**

J. Elliott opened by reading the notes appearing in the Agenda, for those who had not yet seen it, and offered the listed motion on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, so not requiring a second. Discussion, including Madsen asking for an example of how someone other than the submitting officer and the Editor could see a report prior to publication; J. Elliott replied that one example is when a Treasurer may post a financial report to the CC's list before it appears in the newsletter. Madsen also asked whether we are sure that we want to use passive voice in the proposed new rule, because it does not specify whether it is a member or a non-member who is asserting the error; J. Elliott replied that advance citation by a non-member is very unlikely, but still does not matter for the purpose of this rule. Talkov asked how adoption of this rule would change current policy; J. Elliott replied that this is creating a new policy, because we did not have any clear guidance the last time that this situation occurred. S. Smith and Hobart suggested that the Editor should include a flag noticing whenever they amend a report without the officer's consent. Amendment offered (Hobart/Elliott) to add a provision requiring that the Editor must print "Revised by Editor" if printing an amended report; approved without objection. Main motion as amended approved unanimously.

##### **B. Receipt options for local newsletters:**

J. Elliott opened by reading the notes appearing in the Agenda, for those who had not yet seen it, and offered the listed motion on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, so not requiring a second. Agreed in brief discussion that the measure being considered for removal is too detailed for a Bylaws document, because we want to be able to respond to evolving technologies without having to change the Bylaws each time. Motion approved unanimously.

##### **C. Removal of previous newsletter title:**

J. Elliott opened by reading the notes appearing in the Agenda, for those who had not yet seen it. No action offered, and Chairman Smith declared agreement with the Committee recommendation.

##### **D. Arbitration function of Ombudsman role:**

J. Elliott opened by reading the notes appearing in the Agenda, for those who had not yet seen it. No action offered, and Chairman Smith declared agreement with the Committee recommendation.

**VI. Closing**

**A. Good of the Order**

- Elliott introduced guest William Meyer, a 25-year Mensa member who recently relocated from Washington state; not only did he attend a recent meeting of the Answers to Everything SIG, but he actually seemed to like it; he has expressed an active interest in any kind of volunteering with our chapter. Meyer described that he lives in Carson and works in Torrance, and that he also is a member of a society for other quality-control professionals.
- Madsen reported that Jennifer Carter is on the TV show “Child Geniuses” on the Lifetime network; show recently began airing its second season, and its first with Jennifer; finds that it is worth watching even if not just for Jennifer, who is the Mensa representative on the show, and who wears a t-shirt with the Mensa logo.

**B. Adjournment** -- Motion (S. Smith/Tomich) to adjourn approved at 12:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Elliott  
Secretary