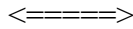


OFFICIAL MINUTES
of the
GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA MENSA
BOARD of DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting – October 2, 2010



I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 11:04am by SAGRAY at Pilgrim Towers, 440 North Madison Avenue, Pasadena, with members ELLIOTT, LINDENBLATT, WALKER, and WILSON present. Members BURNETT, FLEMING, and WONG arrived during the meeting, along with guests Brian Madsen, Doug Walker, and International SIGHT Coordinator Rich Kingston. The Chair noted that ELLIOTT would be taking notes for the Minutes, given the absence of Secretary ROBINETT. The Chair also noted that ROBINETT, SMITH, and VENOLA have excused absences for this day.

B. Approval of Agenda

ELLIOTT asked that “Approval of Budget for 2010/2011” be retitled as “Budget Amendments”, and moved to be item III-A. ELLIOTT also asked to add item III-B, “Presentation by International SIGHT Coordinator”. Motion (ELLIOTT/ LINDENBLATT) for approval of the Agenda as adjusted; carried 5-0.

C. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Chair noted that draft Minutes for August and September had not yet been circulated to the full Board, and that this item therefore needs to be carried forward to the November meeting.

II. Reports

A. Executive Officers

CHAIRMAN – Still having problems getting bills paid, so went to the bank and obtained cashier’s checks to pay \$1000 for postage and \$1739.54 to News Publisher’s Press. Available/present bank balance after these withdrawals was \$34,874.48. Has updated known office of publication to be Russell Ham’s address; no monetary cost. There has been a variety of press releases drafted by national for National Testing Day; these will be forwarded to PR Coordinator Burnett. September 30 was the 50th anniversary of American Mensa; a nice missive was sent out by AMC Chair Elissa Rudolph. September 2012 will be GLAAM’s 50th anniversary; we may want to assemble a committee to commemorate the event. The October newsletter was mailed on October 1; the electronic copy has already been posted on the national website. The Atlanta chapter is separately incorporated, and they were surprised to learn that they are

supposed to pay their own D&O premium; question came up on the LocSecs list of whether national should pay the D&O premiums for all separately incorporated chapters; there has also been renewed discussion on the general topic of incorporation of certain chapters. Members may put the Mensa logo on clothing for personal use, but may not make money from it; any questions should be referred to the national Name & Logo Committee. Taxes were not filed by the extension date of September 15.

B. Area Reports

MID-CITY – Moved event to Big Wang’s, but there was not very much advance publication, so only LINDENBLATT and FLEMING were present.

SFV – BURNETT’s event is on October 7.

ELAC – The Chair noted that this is YU’s third consecutive missed meeting without an excuse.

C. Members-at-Large

WALKER – Still working on “Hair”.

ELLIOTT – Still missing a Board Members Handbook.

D. Standing Committees

FINANCE – Question came up on whether we are a “public benefit” non-profit corporation, or a “mutual benefit” non-profit corporation, or even a non-profit corporation at all, notwithstanding that non-profit status is alleged in our Bylaws; still open, though “mutual benefit” seems most likely. Determined that we apparently are not required under California corporate law to have an annual independent audit, but if we don’t then we need to include a statement with our reports to the effect that they have not been reviewed by an independent accountant. Question also came up of whether Sam Moses or any other GLAAM member can be considered an independent accountant for this purpose, but legal research was inconclusive, so we are presuming that it’s legally OK, but not necessarily recommended, and we do not have any current plans to remove that responsibility from Moses or whoever else does our taxes. Bill Taylor made Elliott a moderator on Taylor’s previous FinCom list, but he still shows himself as member and owner, so we will continue to use the list that we set up for the 2010-11 term. Treasurer SMITH has reported that she does not yet have online access to our general bank account, but that she has found the paper bank statements which we need to complete a balance sheet for 4/30/2010; she did not have time to get those physical materials to Elliott before she left on vacation, so now aiming to have the balance sheet ready for publication in the November *L.A. Mentary*.

GIFTED YOUTH – Walker sent e-mail to SAGRAY, and “semi-declared” that she is “staging” a “backing out”, but will publicize any events organized by other members; SAGRAY added appreciation for Walker’s long service in this role.

PROCTORED TESTING – SAGRAY reported that we have four testing sessions this weekend in West Los Angeles in conjunction with National Testing Day, and more dates throughout the month; Felt and the proctors are “going great guns”.

RG – Committee met on September 19. Things are moving ahead, more speakers, more scheduling. We want to turn Sunday night into a musical evening; accepting ideas.

SCHOLARSHIP – SAGRAY is not positive that we have paid our scholarship fee yet, but we are getting ready to participate.

E. Coordinators

OPEN FORUM – “Still banging away.”

PR – “Same thing.”

ROSTER – SAGRAY noted that it did run in the September newsletter issue.

SIGHT – Visit with the International SIGHT Coordinator has been going well; appreciation to JK Mueller for letting him stay with her. Working on assembling/ updating information for GLAAM website.

OMBUDSMAN – Nikki Frey contacted Ombudsman Sagray twice regarding tardy newsletters; no action taken to date.

SINGLES – Still looking for a Coordinator. Still meeting on 3rd Saturday.

III. Special Orders

A. Budget Amendments

SAGRAY stated that RG Gross Income and RG Gross Expense should each be \$15,000 even. ELLIOTT stated that we need to include a depreciation expense of \$234.81. Also adding \$550 for storage for the remainder of the fiscal year, based on Madsen’s research. Scholarship funding to be \$617, a/c partial payment from several years ago. SAGRAY suggested adjusting Area funds to reduce deficit; ELLIOTT concurred; discussion of specifics: Mid-City reduced from \$400 to \$100; SFV reduced from \$300 to \$150 for the Christmas party; Hi-Desert reduced from \$200 to \$100; ELAC reduced from \$500 to \$400. SAGRAY suggested that we may need to replace missing Board Members Handbooks; ELLIOTT asked that we first try again to retrieve the missing books; SAGRAY asked ELLIOTT to take on that project as XVC. Motion (WALKER/BURNETT) of the budget as amended; approved 6-1.

II. Reports *(continued)*

E. Coordinators *(continued)*

WEBMASTER – Updates to the RG page are coming along. Still needs some Minutes.

CALENDAR EDITOR – “All is well.”

III. Special Orders *(continued)*

B. Presentation by International SIGHT Coordinator

SAGRAY introduced Rich Kingston, who is traveling to the IBD meeting in New Zealand, after which he will move on to Hong Kong and Shanghai. Mr. Kingston then delivered a PowerPoint presentation from 11:54-12:50, including discussion

of several questions from the audience. Highlights of the presentation included what the SIGHT program is (defined as “Service of Information, Guidance, and Hospitality for Travellers”), what the program is not (e.g., it is not a hotel matching service nor a job placement service), some guidelines for SIGHT guests, and some guidelines for SIGHT hosts. Discussion included ways that we can make more chapter members aware of the existence of SIGHT, and how we can then encourage them to consider registering as prospective SIGHT hosts. Mr. Kingston can be reached at sight@mensa.org for any general questions on the international SIGHT program, but any specific requests for SIGHT services in particular localities should be directed to the applicable national/local SIGHT coordinators.

IV. Unfinished Business

The Chair stated that the two remaining items would be carried forward to the November meeting.

V. New Business

A. Set meeting dates for 2011

Some discussion. Motion (WALKER/WILSON) to accept our 2011 calendar of Board meetings as the 1st Saturday of every month, except that the meetings in January, July, and September are to be held on the 2nd Saturday; approved 7-0-1.

VII. Adjournment

Motion (ELLIOTT/WALKER) to adjourn carried 8-0 at 12:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Elliott
Acting Secretary