

OFFICIAL MINUTES
of the
GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA MENSA
BOARD of DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting – January 9, 2010

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I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by LINDENBLATT, chair pro tempore, at 11:00 a.m. at Pilgrim Towers, 440 North Madison Avenue, Pasadena, with members ELLIOTT, KAPNICK, LINDENBLATT, ROBINETT, VENOLA, YU and guests Sandra Smith and Brian Madsen in attendance. SAGRAY, WALKER, and WONG arrived during the meeting.

B. Approval of Agenda

It was noted that the date of the meeting was incorrect on the Agenda as submitted. KAPNICK requested the addition of III. Strategic Planning Committee Discussion. It was requested to add IV(C) CultureQuest discussion.

Motion (KAPNICK/ELLIOTT) to approve as indicated: passed 6-0-0.

C. Approval of Previous Minutes

None submitted.

II. Reports

A. Executive Officers

Chair – [Taken out of order.] We received several inquiries from people looking for their L.A. Mentary who were not looking in their e-mails. There was no vacancy notice in the January issue regarding the Member-at-Large seat vacated by Nikki Frey; that will appear in February.

B. Area Reports

San Fernando Valley – KAPNICK reported that the SFV party will be on January 16 in Woodland Hills. Invites were sent out using the mailing list. Time was moved to 6 p.m. from 4 p.m. February's EEAE meeting will be at the RG, the topic will be healthcare reform. There will be no event in July due to the AG. Valley parties are going well.

Hi-Desert – Christmas and New Year's parties went well, and blurbs were submitted to L.A. Mentary. VENOLA reported that she will be doing all the cooking at the Cinco de Mayo party, but no date has been set.

C. Standing Committees

Awards – ELLIOTT is still working on a list to things to do, and expect to have a preliminary report in March.

RG – Brian Madsen asked if the projector has been bought, because it will definitely be needed.

LINDENBLATT yielded chairmanship to SAGRAY.

SAGRAY reported on the speakers' list. The question was asked whether sound amplification was available. Brian Madsen said that has never been an issue but computer speakers may work.

SAGRAY recognized several members of the RG committee for their contributions to the planning of the RG: J.K. Mueller did a great job corralling speakers; Danila Oder for arranging hospitality, DJs, dancers and the Saturday night event; and Karen Starr for the beautiful website with speaker bios.

KAPNICK noted that EEAE was not on the event schedule. SAGRAY replied that the committee needed a write-up of the event. KAPNICK stated that he would provide a write-up if EEAE had a time-slot. SAGRAY replied that many slots were open.

Scholarship – There were forty entries, and the deadline is January 15. SAGRAY called for volunteer readers in late January or early February.

Gifted Youth – There are things for Teens in the Valley, and things today for little kids.

Elections – Election materials are on the website. It was noted that electronic ballots were done for National's election, and National could facilitate with electronic balloting locally. Privacy concerns were noted. SAGRAY asked if anyone objected to leaving this topic indefinitely; no objections were made.

E. Coordinators

Webmaster [Taken out of order] – Numerous minutes are missing from the website, including March 2009. YU stated that the notes from that meeting were lost from his computer. It was suggested that something be cobbled together from the notes and recollections of attendees of that meeting.

III. Special Orders

A. Strategic Planning Committee

KAPNICK reported that the members of the committee met in December and decided to contact other large local groups to find out what they were doing that they found successful in growing their group. The New York group person contacted did not reply.

Madsen noted that he could send out a monthly reminder to area officers about membership changes in their area. SAGRAY noted that there were new members who attended the RG and later complained that they did not meet anyone. It was requested that an agenda item be added in February regarding this issue.

IV. New Business

A. Hollywood Bowl 2010 Discussion

Madsen reminded the Board that it was suggested during the discussion for last year's event that attendees place a deposit for their tickets to minimize no-shows. Also, there are very good, well-defined programs during weeknights, so perhaps two outings should be scheduled.

Motion (SAGRAY/ELLIOTT) to direct Brian Madsen to plan for two Hollywood Bowl events, the members may be asked to contribute up to one-half of the ticket price, with fewer tickets allocated to the weeknight event, the total outlay to be consistent with prior years.

It was noted that \$600 dollars are budgeted for Special Events.

The Board recessed for three minutes at 12:18 p.m. to review event options. On return the Board determined preference for the Bugs Bunny event on Saturday, July 17 and the Beethoven event on Tuesday, July 27.

Motion to amend (SAGRAY/ELLIOTT) main motion such as to read that 80 tickets shall be purchased for the July 17 event, and 15 tickets shall be purchased for the July 27 event, a picnic area to be reserved for July 17: passed 7-0-2.

Madsen asked whether reimbursements should be taken by PayPal. Various issues were noted.

Motion to amend (SAGRAY/ELLIOTT) main motion such as to read that 30 tickets shall be purchased for the July 27 event: passed 9-0-1.

Motion as amended: passed 10-0-0

B. CultureQuest Discussion

Motion (TAYLOR/ELLIOTT) to subsidize the entry fee of up to five CultureQuest 2010 teams.

WALKER noted that there was no youth team this year. It was noted that historically GLAAM has two or three teams.

Passed 9-0-1

V. Closing

A. Good of the Order

The encouragement was voiced for people to attend BITE/LATE. There are lots of things to do in the Pasadena area.

AG attendance this year is set to break records, with more than 1000 registrations already.

VENOLA volunteered to be a scholarship entries reader, but after February 1. ROBINETT also volunteered.

TAYLOR reported that CPA Sam Moses offered his office for use by the Board for meetings from time to time. It is at the end of Wilshire Boulevard on PCH with a great view of the Pacific Ocean.

Motion (ELLIOTT/YU) to extend: failed 3-4-3.

B. Adjournment

Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kai-An Yu
Secretary