

BLIND LGBT PRIDE INTERNATIONAL

Call to Order

Guillermo Robles called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM CST.

Roll Call

Present: Guillermo Robles, Mark Hanohano, Kevin Ratliff, Gabriel Lopez, Connie Torrisi, Mikey Wiseman, George Ashiotis
Absent: Don Brown

Approval of minutes

Minutes were postponed due to technical issues with the recordings.
Mikey made a motion to approve minutes for October and December. MSC (Wiseman, Torrisi)

President's Remarks

Guillermo asked the board members to bear with him. He is getting over a really bad flu. He has moved some of the reports up, because some board members left the call early last month.

Treasurer's Report

Paypal

Previous balance: \$871.03
Transfer to Savings 3640 in the amount of: \$500.00
Plus Lifetime Membership due in the amount of: \$30.00
Current balance: \$390.12

Savings 3640

Previous balance: \$449.77
Transfer from Paypal in the amount of: \$500.00
Transfer from this account, to Checking Account 1413 in the amount of: \$450.00
(To make Membership payment in favor of ACB and keep the balance over \$300.00)
Current balance: \$499.78

Checking 1413

Previous balance: \$168.13

After transfer from Savings 3640, and after payment to ACB in the amount of:
\$340.00

Current balance: \$302.13

Savings 8456

Previous balance:

\$300.09

Current balance:

\$300.10

Total of combined accounts:

\$1,492.13

Gabriel reported that he will be meeting with the Constitution and Bylaws committee regarding the proposed language for the change to the constitution for the endowment fund. Gabriel will move \$103 from the Savings account to the Checking account to cover the initial deposit for the BPI Suite.

The treasurer's report was accepted as read. MSC (Ashiotis, Wiseman)

Membership Committee Report

George reported that he submitted the membership report to ACB via the online database. We had 74 members going in. We lost 1, and we're down to 73 members.

Affiliate update from Blind Pride of Texas

Will reported that 5 BPITX members went to the LGBT Lobby day in Austin TX. The affiliate is in the beginning stages of becoming a special interest affiliate of ACBT. They are facing some opposition, because they are a gay organization.

I.T Committee Report

Follow up on discussion regarding transitioning to BPI's own listserv

Will reported on the ACB list-serve. Guillermo will receive all requests on the old system and move them to the new list. Guillermo will move all existing members to the new list-serve. A motion to move to the new list-serve was made and approved. MSC (Ashiotis, Wiseman)

Mikey asked if the passwords to the website have been changed since Don Wilson resigned and is no longer the web master. Will said that the passwords will be changed.

Communications Committee Report

Discuss finishing touches on election ballot

Connie asked whether a write-in option should be added to the electronic ballot. Will said that he will get with the elections committee regarding the issue, and he will get back to her.

Discuss concerns regarding authorized postings on social media

Will said that our agenda and minutes are posted on the website, and that reaches more people than social media does. So, if we remove the meeting information from social media, then it should be remove from the website also.

Convention Committee Report

Convention planning update and program Schedule

Mark gave an overview of BPI's Convention Programming.

George asked if given our current budget problems, is it irresponsible to book the suite for 9 nights, which has never been done. Mark said that they have to shop for the suite on the 3rd, because stores will be closed on the 4th of July. The cost of the suite is covered with the donations from board members, and there will be fundraising. There was further discussion on the amount of days for the suite. George asked about the prices for suite access. Kevin asked what will be used to determine or verify the level of access. Mark said that there will be a bracelet or something that will show which level of access the person has.

Public Q&A

None

Deadline for board members and committee chairs

May 3rd

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM CST. MSC, (Ashiotis, Torrisi)