

BLIND PRIDE INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Call to Order

Guillermo Robles called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM CST

Roll Call

Present: Guillermo Robles, Mark hanohano, Don Brown, George Ashiotis, Mikey Wiseman

Absent: Kevin Ratliff, Connie Torrisi, Gabriel Lopez

May, 2013 Minutes

Minutes were accepted as submitted. MSC, (Ashiotis, Brown)

President's Remarks

Guillermo said that as we are nearing convention and we are in the last few weeks of preparation, he has been reflecting over some of the events of the last few months. Around this time last year, he had no idea he would become this involved in BPI, certainly not president. He thanked Don and George for the guidance. He said that there is so much talent in this organization, and it has been a pleasure to work with everyone. He encouraged the board and all members to venture outside of there comfort zone to see all that is possible. George thanked Guillermo for all that he has done as president.

I.T Committee Report

Guillermo reported that we will not be streaming the events at convention, due to the unresponsiveness of ACB Radio. Both he and Will send correspondence to ACB Radio numerous time with not response. George asked how ACB radio was supposed to be involved in streaming. Guillermo said that they were looking for guidance and advice on what was needed to stream a convention. The conference call will be available again this year, and we are also looking into having a Skype Feed. Guillermo also stated that the BPI Website outage last week

was do to a database issue on the server side of things. The news items were being treated as blog posts, which generated a lot of traffic and spam. Guillermo thanked Will for working on the problem. Guillermo talked about the renewal of the web domain. Don made a motion for the treasurer and social media person to present a report at the next meeting with recommendations, and we can vote it up or down. MSC (Brown, Wiseman)

Treasurer's Report

Balances

Paypal: \$1020.37; Savings: \$499.78; Checking: \$302.13; Endowment Fund: \$300.10

Total: \$2128.22

George asked if moneys from the Paypal account will be transferred to the Checking Account to pay for convention expenses. Gabriel stated that once all the donations and contributions come in, he will make the transfer.

The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Membership Report

George reported we now have 87 members.

Robb Hill asked how many international members we have. George said we have 3 in Canada and a possible in Africa.

Blind Pride of Texas

Guillermo reported that Will and Kevin have been in close contact with him and Don. Don has been handling the constitution and Bylaws.

BPI TX has applied for affiliate status with ACB of Texas. The 60 review process ends on Tuesday, June 11. There have been some questions about the dates and days of the 60 review

period. Don gave a report on the meeting with The ACBT Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Will and Kevin from BPI TX along with Don and Guillermo from BPI National. The meeting went well, but there was some definite resistance. ACBT requested some minor changes to BPI TX's constitution and bylaws, and the questioned the language that deals with chapters. Guillermo stated the Kevin Ratliff is on the ACBT Board, and he was going to request that the 60 day review be suspended and a vote be taken while the board is convened at convention.

BPI Delegate Appointments

Guillermo announced that Robb Hill is BPI's Delegate. Don Brown is going to the nominating committee meeting, and Guillermo Robles is the alternant delegate.

Convention Committee Report

Mark reported there have been no changes to the program. Other affiliates made some last minute changes, so there may be some conflicts with regard to programming. George asked about volunteers. Mark reported that we have 4 volunteers.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report

Don reported that the candidate's forum will take place on Saturday, June 15. Announcements will go out on the list on electronic voting and on the Candidate's Forum. Don also stated that members present who have previously voted electronically will not be able to vote at the business meeting. A discussion was had about voting electronically and then attending convention and not being able to vote. Can members vote electronically, because they want to attend another event instead of the business meeting?

Guillermo offered to talk to Mark and/or Janet about moving the business meeting.

Communications Committee Report

Connie reported that the newsletter is on time, despite some problems with formatting. Connie recommended moving the public comments to the end of agenda items. It will be voted on at convention.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 PM CST. MSC (Brown, Ashiotis)

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Ratliff

Secretary