

BLIND LGBT PRIDE INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEETING

SUNDAY, November 11, 2012

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Guillermo Robles, Mark Hanahana, Don brown, Gabriel Lopez, George Ashiotis, Connie Torrisi, Mikey Wiseman

Approval of minutes for October 14

Don Brown moved to table the October minutes due to issues with dropbox and recordings. MSC (Brown, Torrisi)

President's Remarks

Guillermo said that he appreciates all of the input that he has been getting from members. Some have expressed concern about the public comment and not having enough time to give there comments. Also, there have been some problems with receiving emails at his personal email address.

Public Comment

Don Brown stated that world blindness day is currently taking place. Mitch Pomerantz, ACB President, is representing ACB. In the meeting, a lady named Emily from the UK admonished the group for not addressing GLBT issues.

New Parliamentarian Appointment

Guillermo announced the new parliamentarian, Connie Torrisi. George asked Guillermo to explain the rules for public comment.

Treasurer's Report

Account Balances

Checking: \$1534.46 - \$1308.33

Balance \$226.13 after paying ACB for convention related expenses.

Savings: \$1309.08

Endowment: \$449.76

Pay Pal: \$218.74

Review Of October 27th Closed Board Finance Meeting

Gabriel gave a overview of the October finance meeting. We discussed members paying dues, how to generate more income, incorporating membership in to fundraising. It was decided that we would stay away from grants for the time being. Mikey asked if we got an answer from George Abbott on the need for the 2 savings accounts. Gabriel said that we have not gotten an answer yet. Mikey asked if there has been a discussion with constitution and bi-laws committee about changing the verbiage to allow the amount for lifetime memberships to be changed in an effort to attract more members.

Approved as read MSC (Ashiotis, Brown)

Membership Committee Report

Update on member revitalization project

George reported that the scouring of the membership list is complete. The 30 days has past, and we are left with 75, possibly 72 members. George asked Don about 2 members. Don said that he would contact 1 of the ladies, and ask if she is still interested. Don will contact John Tems. Don asked about the status of the letter informing members of the benefits their entitled to as a member. Kevin asked if letters were sent to lifetime members, and if any were scratched off the list. George asked Connie when she suggested that the appeal letter go out. Connie said that the letter should go out no later than the 1st of December. George said that he questions that wisdom. Guillermo and others suggested sending out the letter in mid December.

Don congratulated George in the outreach committee on their accomplishment.

Communications Committee Report

Inside Out Submission Deadline: Board members, 12/07/2012 others, 12/1/2012.

Conference Telephone System

Connie said that she has issues with the new conference system. It seems like you get muted out when people come and go. Guillermo said that it could be changed, but they set it up the way it is so that they would know if board members left early.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report

Don Brown reported that the committee is going through the constitution line by line. The committee is recommending \$200 lifetime memberships, and associate memberships. They are also recommending establishing standing committees. He gave a brief overview of some of the other recommendations regarding committees and duties. Don Brown made a motion to accept the recommendations. MSC (Brown, Ashiotis)

Outreach Committee Report

Feedback on telephonic mixer

Mikey reported that there have been 2 telephonic mixers. They were very well attended and very well utilized. There will be another 1 this month. He encourages board members to participate if they have even just a few minutes. Connie asked if there have been any women on the calls. Mikey said that there haven't been any women on the calls, and he would like to speak to Connie about some options for attracting more women. Connie said that she is considering putting something in the newsletter.

Convention Committee Report

Mark reported that the committee discussed possible programming ideas during the conference call. The convention committee plans to work more closely with more ACB affiliates to host more informative seminars. The convention committee plans to reach out to affiliates like the Blind Lawyers Association, ACB Students, Friends in Art, and GDUI to come up with possible ways to work together during convention. The convention committee will also be coordinating with the fundraising committee and the public relations committee on ways to fund raise for convention and get material together about sponsoring convention programming. Currently many things are still in the early stages of planning but they did discuss a possible draft of the upcoming convention. To accommodate the new schedule and work around the ACB programming, the committee came up with a rough draft convention program week.

Proposed Convention Program

Wednesday, July 3rd -

3:00 PM - Check into BPI Suite & Setup

5:00 PM - Pre-Convention Committee Meeting (in BPI Suite)

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet in BPI Suite)

Thursday, July 4th -

8:00 AM to 9:00 AM - BPI Suite Officially Opens

1:00 PM - Leisure Lunch Get-together

4:30 PM - BPI Welcome Party / Mixer

Friday, July 5th -

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM - BPI Suite Open

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM - BPI Table @ ACB General Session

1:00 PM to 2:30 PM - BPI Seminar - TBA

3:00 PM to 4:30 PM - BPI Seminar - TBA

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet in BPI Suite)

Saturday, July 6th -

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM - BPI Suite Open

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM - BPI Audio Described GLBTQ Movie - TBA

ACB Opening to General Sessions (in the evening)

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet @ BPI Suite)

Sunday, July 7th -

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM - BPI Suite Open

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM - BPI Table @ ACB General Session

12:00 PM - BPI Brunch (GLBTQ Restaurant)

7:00 PM to 10:00 PM - BPI Fundraiser Opportunity

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet @ BPI Suite)

Monday, July 8th -

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM - BPI Suite Open

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM - BPI Table @ ACB General Session

1:00 PM to 2:30 PM - BPI Seminar - TBA

3:00 PM to 4:30 PM - BPI Seminar - TBA

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM - BPI Business Meeting

9:00 PM - BPI Discussion Group Meeting

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet @ BPI Suite)

Tuesday, July 9th -

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM - BPI Suite Open

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM - BPI Table in ACB General Session

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - BPI Event @ OSU

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM - Tea with BPI Board of Directors

9:00 PM - BPI Discussion Group Meeting

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet @ BPI Suite)

Wednesday, July 10th -

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM - BPI Suite Open

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM - BPI Table in ACB General Session

5:30 PM - BPI Farewell Party (Light dinner & Recognition of Volunteers and Sponsors)

9:00 PM - BPI Discussion Group Meeting

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet @ BPI Suite)

Thursday, July 11th -

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM - BPI Suite Open

ACB General Session All Day

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM - Leisure lunch & Shopping in the area

5:00 PM - BPI Board Meeting (Transitional Board Meeting)

ACB Banquet & Dinner

9:45 PM - BPI Nightly Activity (Meet @ BPI Suite)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 PM CST.