

Monday May 21st, at the Men's Center**Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm.**

Attending Board members: Ted Ranney, Michael Manning, John Carlsen, Miles Fey, John Everingham, Stu Frank, Rich Eide, Steven Flowers, David Dorn, Aris Troncoso, Kevin Browne, Tim Goldich, and Paul Johnson attended over the phone. Center Director Glenn Barker also in attendance.

In addition, many members of the community also joined us to observe the meeting until 20 minutes of questions would be accepted at the end.

Elder Blessing: Rob Johnson (expressing a want for order and caring rather than the chaos of seeking after power).

Stu Frank makes a motion regarding his guest Ms. Debora Underwood (expert parliamentarian). "I move to allow Debora Underwood, parliamentarian, to attend the meeting as a paid consultant (paid by me, Stu Frank). As to her attendance, I own that I did not consult the board ahead of time."

Steven has a question. Myles makes the point that a woman in the room will not change his language.

A vote is taken to allow Underwood to stay. The result: 4 yay, 1 abstention, 8 nays. Even so, Kevin Browne overrides the vote pointing out that Illinois law requires that not-for-profit board meetings must be open to the public. Debora stays, but as an observer only.

At 6:47, we check in until 6:57.

Approval of the minutes: Confusion re dates delays approving the minutes from previous meetings.

Michael Manning asks for quiet from the community members seated outside the inner circle of the Board.

The Board asks the secretary to include both the meeting date and place (including Zoom calls) in his minutes.

Steven corrects data. The official records have "October" in print crossed out and replaced by the handwritten word "November" as the election date. For technical reasons, we want the document to read that the election (for Board members) was held in October.

On another matter, Ted Ranney asks, "Steven how did this discussion get in the notes when it did not happen?" Steven gets his notebook out. Aris moves to strike the questioned point from the minutes. The motion does not require a "roll call" vote. The minutes should note that, on the day in question, Charlie Mattenson was there by proxy to represent Aris Troncoso. The adjusted minutes are approved unanimously.

Second set of minutes (from Monday April 23rd). Motion to strike the "straw vote"(on unification) that did not actually take place at that meeting. The secretary is asked to specify this in the minutes. The minutes as amended are approved unanimously. It is now 7:38 pm.

Motion to approve the agenda. Discussion. Stu Frank wants an additional item, a “compromise offer” of how the community should proceed through the process of unification. The “compromise” contains 11 items. Discussion. The Chairman expresses his want for all agenda items to be presented prior to the meetings. Proposed: add the “compromise offer” to New Business during the following board meeting. Kevin Browne: It will take too much time to address it at this meeting. Vote approving the agenda: 4 yay, 10 opposed (including Paul Johnson on the phone).

The Treasurer’s Report (omitted from the agenda) is added to the agenda. Vote approving the agenda: 2 nay, 1 abstain, 10 yay. Agenda approved.

Center Director’s contract: Discussion begins re the Center Director’s contract. Dates of the contract, already presented and signed by Glenn, are corrected. Paul Johnson makes a motion for a vote to approve the Center Director’s job description as written. David Dorn seconds the motion. Paul Johnson asserts that there is no reason to discuss this as the CD has already agreed and signed the document. John Everingham, speaking on Glenn Barker’s behalf, says the job description was not agreed to as is. It was agreed to only with certain conditions to be met including the hiring of a person to act as Glenn’s assistant. Glenn asserts that there was never any discussion on that point. Stu Frank: Glenn wrote a response but there was never reconciliation between the original contract and Glenn’s addendum. The Chairman asserts that the writing of the job description began in January in order to be proactive. Paul Johnson was chairman of the committee tasked with writing the CD’s job description. Kevin moves to table further discussion until the next meeting because the 10 minutes are up. Motion tabled.

Leader body: Michael Manning: 36 is the maximum number of men we can have in the PIT. At that number, it was very difficult for attendees to move about. Given Camp Lakota’s limitations, 36 should be the cap. Glenn: I have an understanding with Paul Johnson that I may still add a man if that man cannot attend an NWTA on any other date and we will therefore lose that man. Glenn: I want that proviso understood by the leaders in general.

The Chairman addressing everyone in the room: these are sensitive issues. Some accuse the Board of having an “unspoken agenda.” Chairman: I believe that we have a company here—a company with one employee, plus our contracted bookkeeper (Raven). The Chairman asserts that, during a phone conversation, Glenn just kept saying, “Keep talking Ted; I’m just here to listen” over and over again. Is this behavior that we can accept? If so then I will turn over my shield. Discussion. Is there accountability here. Glenn concedes that his behavior wasn’t appropriate. Kevin Browne: I want to take this offline. Stu Frank: moving on with an incomplete discussion is not helpful.

8:24 Break

Treasurer’s report: Rich Eide:

Rich talks about late scholarship funds and the financial write-off of “bad debt.” He is working with Stu Frank. The use of Quick Books is mentioned. Rich Eide: We have money enough to provide \$1,000 per month to pay off a loan. We also have 3K for a professional building assessment. We should start shopping for a real mortgage not another “balloon” (i.e., short-

term loan). Motion: To approve expenditure of up to 3K on a commercial building assessment. Dorn seconds. Question: Do we have insurance that covers cost or value? Objection: Will the 3K be well spent if the insurance company is going to do its own appraisal in any case? We submit an IL990 every year along with audited books and the IRS 990. This information is available on a URL provided by USA. An audit is not a onetime deal; it must be repeated. USA just wants to know that we can afford the building and the employee. Though unification with USA includes bookkeeping, we still need to have our own audited books kept independently—because they (USA) do not own a building, and we do.

We have to have audited books; the State of Illinois requires it. MKP-USA was sent a concern on the part of the auditors because Chicago is independent. The auditor has informed USA that, given Chicago-MKP's independent status, the auditor will not submit a "clean opinion" after 12/31/18. The cost for an audit is between 2K and 3K. To stay a 501c3 we will *have* to have audited books, period.

Heads up: We are planning a 21st of July celebration of the progress MKP-Chicago has made recently. It will be a social gathering and a cook out.

There will be a community clean up of Camp Lakota (including the kitchen) commencing Saturday June 2nd from 10am to 3pm.

At 9:05, the Board invites the attending community to ask questions.

1. The tax on the building is 15K per annum. It would cost 20K to go through the process of attaining tax exempt status. Jim has made the offer to do it for us for free. Who is the point person in this matter? We will need a separate meeting to discuss this matter.
2. Can there be a talking stick centered around unification?
3. Charley Mattenson asks: is Jim a tax lawyer? No, he is not. We need more than a 501c3, to rent the building to ourselves is nonsensical. My want is for Charlie, Andreas, and Jim plus Stu Frank, to get together and work this out.
4. Francis asks about confidentiality. Does what's said here stay here?
5. Irwin: Glenn has done a great job. I want you two, Ted and Glenn, to have a clearing. I don't want some volunteer running things. Glenn fills weekends!
6. Steve Miller asks: 1) was the board ready to vote on Unification? No. We wanted to get an appraisal done first. 2) If we merge with USA and we raise extra money, will they have a claim to that money unless we set ourselves up to prevent that? 3) I want to know if those credits (monies) come back to us if we do more weekends. 4) How do we serve the men in the community? 5) How many communities are there under the umbrella of USA? 6) Do we have the data re I-group support under USA? 7) USA says they will improve retention, how? 8) USA says it will improve mentorship, do we have the data that supports that claim? 9) USA says it can improve the number of multi-cultural meetings and attendees, do we have data? 10) USA claims to provide more after trainings (following the Nwta), do we have the data re what they offer and the attendee numbers they've been getting? We're making a commitment of 1K per month, if the funds go to USA, I would pull out as a stake holder.

7. David Lindgren: this is painful for me. When I was center director I was paid much less, but I had an assistant so I could focus on retention. Somebody has to be the leader around here. I walk into the building and wonder, who's in charge? Glenn does his best to fulfill that leadership. The organization can't all be volunteer. We need someone to hold the position and we need to pay him and hold him accountable. How do we work together on all this?
8. Alberto Minzer: I'm concerned about the relationship between Glenn and board. We are here to save lives and Glenn saves lives! Am I going to see this man a year from now? What's the vision?
9. Alex Adams: I'm asking for information sessions that would keep the community informed. What happens if we do not unify? We need experienced dedicated man to create enrolment. Stu Frank volunteers to attend and help out with Alex Adams' information sessions.
10. David Jansen: Glenn has mentored me for years. His value goes beyond what we can see. I want a way to keep the Center Director. I want to see published minutes available to the community. I want more transparency. I want to see a list of the pros and cons re unification. I'm for spreading the wealth. If Chicago is in the black, help out Wisconsin.
11. Drew Penden: if Glenn goes on Monday I will withdraw my stake-hold on Tuesday. He works for the community, not just the board.

Aris Troncoso moves to adjourn.

9:45 - Adjourn