

December 3, 2006 Board Meeting

AAGT Board Meeting

Present: Ann Bowman, Peter Philippon, Ansel Woldt, Brian O'Neill, Tine van Wijk

Absent: Jack Aylward, Phil Brownell, Marilyn Myles, Bud Feder, Peter Cole, Dan Bloom, Jenny Edwards, Robert DeVos, Marcy Stern, Sylvie Falschlunger

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

A. Conference Vancouver (Peter P)

B. Finances (Peter C)

C. Manchester Conference (Jenny)

D. 2007 Annual Meeting (Peter P)

E. RCP (Tine)

F. e-Newsletter (Marcy)

G. Committee on our Process – Task Force on Decision Making (Dan)

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING TIME – January 7, 2007 same time as this call.

Welcome

There was a quick check in from all the members present on the call.

Vancouver Conference

Peter P – DVD's seemed to work well all around the world. They will be distributed soon.

Brian – could we send a complementary copy to Irv?

Ansel – would also like one for the archives.

Board agreed to send all the presenters (Anne, Irv, Judith and Richard) a complimentary copy as well as sending one for the archives.

Manchester Conference

In an email prior to the conference call, Jenny Edwards sent the following information:

- 1) The planning committee has recently reduced from 10 to 8 persons. Both Ronnie & Mae have chosen to withdraw for various personal reasons.*
- 2) Discussions are taking place regarding a second convener - how we go about recruiting someone - no one within the team has so far offered. I (jenny) have said I am willing to stand alone with the team alongside if no one else comes forward.*
- 3) Reprinting of more advertising postcards is pending, waiting for the*

results of this decision.

4) We have now begun to look at designing the LOGO for the conference to fit in with the title 'Borders & Bridges'. We have two volunteer design artists working on this for us.

5) we now have 2 possible VENUE's which we are interested in - we are comparing & contrasting them with prices, sole occupancy, room size, comfort etc. we have 2 people about to do a second physical visit to the THISLE - the second venue and they will report back. Our thanks to Peter C & Bud who are assisting us with this.

Finances

Peter C sent a financial report to the board prior to the call. This is available upon request.

2007 Annual Meeting

Peter P – the meeting will be on Sunday October 6, 2007 from 2PM to 7PM in Berkeley, California. There is also a discussion about adding a conference call option for those who cannot come to the meeting. Dan Bloom is discussing this with the process committee he chairs.

Ann – noted that some discussion on email has also involved the question that if the AM was done as a conference call, could the meeting actually be held at anytime in 2007?

Discussion from the board regarding honoring what was voted upon at the Vancouver AM – that the 2007 AM will be held in conjunction with the 2007 SWAAGT Conference.

Ann – should the board be obliged to be there in person? She thinks this would be important for the board to decide for itself and felt that the board should make all efforts to attend the meeting in person.

The board agreed that adding members in via a conference call would have benefits for the organization and there was a brief discussion re: how this might be done using a moderator to assist with the calls or emails. Dan Bloom is looking at this extensively with the committee he is chairing on AAGT process. We will wait and see what they recommend.

The board did agree that board members should try to attend the 2007 meeting in person if at all possible.

Peter P also suggested that the meeting be booked as a package with the SWAAGT conference. He stated he thinks this was also agreed upon earlier in a board meeting.

Committee on our Process – Task Force on Decision Making (Dan)

*In an email sent prior to the conference call, Dan Bloom wrote:
It seems to me that we are in agreement about most things.*

We are acknowledging the diversity of our membership, the need for communication among all of us that can be independent of our ability to travel to annual meetings, or to be connected on the internet.

We are wrestling with the possible meanings of consensus and our wish to be able to act in the furtherance of organizational purposes while honoring the community values implied by consensus. We are recognizing that different matters for decision may require different decision-making processes and that a one-size-fits-all, or ad hoc, process has led to contentious conflict. We are concerned that minority voices shall never be silenced, ignored, or suppressed. Democracy can tyrannize, “consensus” can paralyze.

We are thinking about how to use new technologies to strengthen our ties to one another. We are even considering ways to invent new research methods to further our gestalt therapy community.

The committee is now taking a new direction and looking into the Articles and By-laws so as to recommend specific changes in these documents to reflect the current realities of our community, its current need for clarity in the variety and manner of decisions that need to be made on an on-going basis.

RCP (Tine)

Tina – the RCP Conference call was on November the 14th (Peter P was included on this). Felt the call was quite productive. Noticed that Norway and Philippines were not on the call but they will be sent the minutes. The next call will be on the 9th of January. Tine will take notes and send the minutes from this.

Peter P encouraged Tine to talk about the 2007 annual meeting and the Manchester Conference on the next call.

Yalta Conference Tine)

Tine received feedback re: the announcement she sent out about this conference as well as her energy and dedication to supporting AAGT in Eastern Europe.

Tine asked about issues which concern how to collect money for the conference from those outside Europe and those who want to pay with credit cards.

Peter suggested she talk with Peter Cole about this as he would have the details re: money transfers, bookkeeping, etc.

Tine also wanted to have some clarity re: how Sylvie would get paid for her services in collecting the money via credit cards. She is particularly concerned about how to do this before any money is collected from the conference attendees (if Sylvie would be involved and payment would be expected for her services).

Peter P stated that Sylvie would only be involved in placing the web page on the Website for credit card collection and with processing credit card payments. Her costs would hopefully not be that large and would eventually be paid by the proceeds from the Yalta conference. Since her costs would not be incurred until the credit card payment are processed there would be no need to pay her in advance until the money is already available.

E-Newsletter (Marcy)

Peter P - Need to ask Marcy and Peter C to come up with cost for advertising in the newsletter.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING January 7, 2007 – same time as this call.