

January 7, 2007 Board Meeting

AAGT Board Meeting

Present: Ann Bowman, Peter Philippon, , Dan Bloom, Jenny Edwards, Sylvie Falschlunger, Marcy Stern, Robert DeVos , Bud Feder, Peter Cole, Sarah Fallon, Tine van Wijk, Ansel Woldt, Brian O'Neill.

Absent: Jack Aylward, Phil Brownell, Marilyn Myles, Morgan Goodlander.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

A. Manchester Conference (Jenny and Sarah)

B. Finances (Peter C)

C. RCP (Tine)

D. e-Newsletter (Marcy)

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

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING TIME – February 11, 2007 same time as this call. Robert DeVos will be unable to make this call.

Welcome

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

Vancouver DVD's

All versions are working well in each country.

Silvie – the DVD's are currently sold out so she is ordering more for future requests.

Manchester Conference

Welcome to Sarah Fallon who is now the co-convener with Jenny.

Jenny - Still looking for a venue and deciding between two places. She will have more specific information by the board's next call. There will be a larger financial cost than Vancouver because the cost of living is higher in England than in Canada or the US. They are considering the Thistle Hotel in Manchester. They will be checking costs and speaking with Peter P and Peter C before the next call.

Sarah - They do have a logo for the conference. Judy Robertson has designed this and it seems to fit well.

Peter P – now the conveners have their own bank account and this is making it easier for Peter C to transfer money and for the conveners to pay expenses as they incur.

Peter C – requested that the folks working on the Manchester Conference send expense reports to him.

Jenny and Sarah will contact Sharon who is in charge of the Manchester Conference finances re: sending reports to Peter C.

Thanks to Sarah and Jenny for all they are doing.

Finances

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

Peter C - Still processing Sage bill and have sent some seed money for the Manchester Conference. AAGT will be receiving annual dues too in the next few months.

Bud – we sent out the directory recently with the dues notice. He suggested that a form be sent in a few months with a notice that only paid members will be included in the next directory.

Silvie – Since we are almost out of 2006 directories so we may need to reprint more if more needed.

Peter P – seems that we have enough money to reprint a 2006 directory if needed.

Silvie - Membership rises when we send out new directories so there may be advantages of producing an annual directory.

Peter C – suggested we form a committee re: when to send another directory and how to tie that in with membership dues payment.

Peter P – summarized the directory issue as 1) the possibility of printing every year and 2) whether to reprint one for this year. Suggested that the committee be formed which would consist of Peter C, Bud, Robert and Silvie.

Ansel and Peter C discussed sending fees to the California Nurses Association for Continuing Ed.

2007 Annual Meeting

Peter P – Questioned if we needed to have registration information for Annual Meeting and for SW conference.

Bud – SW conference folks do their own registration. He said that we don't really need financial input for the Annual Meeting as the only expense will be the room use which will cost between \$100-\$150 US. He also noted that any paid member can attend and in the past there has been a small registration fee of around \$30 US.

Brian – reminded the board that the extraordinary expenses for the Annual Meeting should come from the AAGT treasury and not from the registration by members since that might restrict their presence and voting.

Peter P – need to put up on the website information re: the Annual Meeting and also the SW conference.

Bud – Reminder on the website too that the conveners of the SW Conference have requested that those who will be attending their conference plan to attend for the majority of the time – joining no later than Friday or Saturday morning of the conference.

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

Dan – Has contacted the committee members regarding adding new communication technology for the next annual meeting. Needs to know how much the board wants to financially invest in this and what technology would be requested.

Peter P – what are the options?

Dan – Charlie Bowman has made suggestions regarding the options which are available. Dan will follow up with Charlie and the other committee members and give the board a “menu” to consider.

Dan – also wants to continue to look at the by-laws of AAGT and perhaps revise these to be congruent with the organization. He suggested that what the organization does with this input will also reflect how much weight this issue is given.

Peter P – suggested we consider the next Annual Meeting as an experiment with different ways of using technology to include our members.

RCP (Tine)

Tina – the RCP Conference call was on November the 14th (see previous board notes). There is some difficulty with Russian colleagues about paying their dues because they don't have credit cards.

Peter P – suggested pay pal payments which don't require credit cards. The local RCP (Katya) could also look at how to collect the dues and AAGT will support her in this.

Tina – will also talk with Katya about this in Yalta.

Tina – Was having a hard time getting RCPs to connect with her via email but did have a great call on the 14th of November and the members seemed enthusiastic. There will be another call this Tuesday.

There was a suggestion that the RCP minutes be included in the board minutes. Tine will email the last RCP minutes to Ann who will integrate them into the board minutes.

Yalta Conference Tine)

There was a discussion re: how to collect the conference fees between Tine, Silvie and Peter P. Discussion re: currency converting charges and credit card issues.

Tine would like to have an AAGT bank account opened in Amsterdam so that deposits could be made for the conference and Tine could more easily pay the hotel bill in April for Yalta. It's complicated not being able to use credit cards there and the bank account would enable her to withdrawal the cash and pay the bills as needed.

Peter P – would like more information other ways this can be done and a discussion followed. Peter P agreed with Tine's request for an AAGT account to be opened in Amsterdam.

Dan – inquired about making a link from the AAGT website to the EAGT which may also get more folks to Yalta since the conferences are so close together in time.

Board discussed desire for the Yalta conference to be complimentary and not competitive with the EAGT conference.

Dan – could include EAGT announcement with Yalta as a gesture of cooperation between AAGT and EAGT.

Tine – will talk with the Secretary of EAGT re: Yalta and our desire to not be competitive but to work in cooperation.

Tine – would like to put the Yalta information and pictures in the AAGT blog.

E-Newsletter (Marcy)

Marcy – Blog worked well but now having trouble signing on with Google for the past 2 or 3 weeks. She has been unable to edit since then. She will also confer with Phil and with Google re: help with this. She needs all of the board member’s bios sent to her and she will post them when able.

Peter P – suggested Marcy send Phil an email re: technical problems with signing onto the blog.

Marcy and Peter P expressed appreciation for Phil’s help with the technical issues like these.

Marcy – working with Peter C re: charges for advertising. She is also finding it is fairly easy to post advertisements on the blog. She is also wondering about how long to leave up ads.

Peter P – most people tend to visit blogs that have some movements.

Marcy – A “what’s new section” will be added so that there will be one place for folks to look for what has been added to the blog.

Marcy – Stated that the newsletter is now the blog. She will now post information about the Annual Meeting, the board and RCP bios and RCP information to the blog as soon as possible. She also inquired about the Service Exchange program and mentioned this information too could be posted to the blog.

Dan – how are people who are not online able to get the newsletter?

Marcy – The printed newsletter has not been done for a good while now. The newsletter is all online and she is finding that the blog is much easier than the e-newsletter to update and keep current.

Other Business

Peter P has had contact with the president of IGTA who told him they are willing to merge with AAGT. Peter P suggested that he encourage the IGTA members to join AAGT as an international organization. Waiting to hear from him about this.

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