

Minutes for the March Board Meeting, 29.03.09

Present: Dan, Peter P, Sarah, Charlie, Ansel,
Apologies: Bud, Brian, Robert, Adam,

Communications Committee (Charlie)

Update on the website: The new web site is up and I have received many favorable (and no unfavorable) comments. My thanks to the Phil Brownell, the AAGT Communications Committee and the Board for the editorial expertise and, in Phil's case, technological acumen! Steve Logan has provided quality service at a fair price (under \$1,000 USD) which will include minor edits/posting this year. We have a positive working relationship with him and appreciate his work.

Other matters (advertising in Newsletter by OMs – did we discuss this?). Not covered. Please carry forward.

Conference Feedback in Newsletter (Ansel and Charlie): We decided to post conference evaluations in pdf form on the website (Changed the page from "Past Conferences" to "Past Conferences & Evaluations". I will announce new evaluations in the Newsletter as they are available. Next up to be posted will be Manchester Conference Evaluations.

Members Directory on Website**** I shared that we have blocked the Directory until we have a satisfactory solution. Several members did not want their personal information openly shared on the website so we blocked the Member Directory page. The Board will discuss alternatives via e-mail and reach a conclusion on the next call. Possibilities include receiving a password for a "Member's Only" section of the web site with your paid membership.

Treasurer's Report

Peter C sent the following ahead of the meeting:

Balance Sheet As of March 1, 2009	03/14/2009 Accrual Basis <u>Mar 1, 09</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1001 · US Bank	16,294.58
1003 · Cooperative Bank UK	3,671.75
1004 · PayPal UK	5.33
1005 · PayPal US	4,194.28
Total Checking/Savings	<u>24,165.94</u>
Other Current Assets	
12000 · Undeposited Funds	150.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>150.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>24,315.94</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>24,315.94</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2001 · Scholarship Fund	6,277.46
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>6,277.46</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>6,277.46</u>
Total Liabilities	6,277.46
Equity	
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	18,163.81
3600 · Retained Earnings	5,333.95
3940 · Suspense	-1,633.62
Net Income	2,415.73
Total Equity	<u>24,279.87</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>30,557.33</u></u>

Peter C talked us through the figures. He also reported that we haven't been able to access the Manchester account due to the password changing. He needs to speak to Sharon about that. He wondered when we would be ready to take money for Philadelphia. Cathy said not for at least a month as conference fees were still being negotiated.

Conference Calls: what are our service options?

Adam is looking into this and will make a report in due course.

2010 Conference (Cathy and Burt)

Conference Sponsors

Cathy said the call for proposals is out for the conference presentations and the pre-conference workshops.

On the website, they are asking for organisations to be sponsors to the conference for \$250. Does this need board approval? Peter C thought it sounds like a good idea. There was some discussion about an appropriate fee to ask for. Charlie suggested an alternative of \$200 for OMs as a discounted rate. Peter P pointed out that OM membership is already \$150 so this would offer a real incentive. Some suggestions were made regarding who might be open to being approached directly. Charlie also wondered if the CPC should be given the authority to make all these decisions for themselves. Peter C felt it is a good idea to bring this to the board as there could be some issues from it. Cathy asked about getting sponsorship from drug companies. There was a general opposition to our involvement with any drug companies. Also to our offering them advertising space in the programme. It was agreed that issues like this were important to bring to the board. Cathy agreed to run any questionable interested parties by Dan before making any agreements.

Charlie suggested Bud might be helpful in getting discounts from airlines for delegates.

RCP report (Brian)

No RCP report available at the time of the meeting.

The NE Regional is happening (Dan)

Manchester DVDs:

What to do with them? For example:

1. We can offer them as incentives for early registration for 2010.
2. The RCPs can use them as additional incentives to the members in their regions to local members (in good standing) a souvenir of the conference they did not attend.
3. We can sell them on our website.
4. We can sell them at other conferences (Madrid, for example) and at our regional conferences.

Copyright label on DVDs

Charlie is wondering re asking Steve Logan to put them on the web under a password protected portal. Peter P wondered about sending the file to Australia, so Australia could then transfer them to DVDs (in a format that works in Australia) from file. Cathy asked if we have a master copy. Peter P said the quality would be the same as it is a digital

recording. He also wondered about selling them at a reduced rate to new members, with their subscription as an incentive to join. Charlie wondered if Adam could advertise the ones we have for sale -or maybe announce that the first 100 new members get a free DVD? Ansel suggested we could offer 2 free DVDs for new OMs. This was agreed by the board.

Brian left the meeting at this point.

Nominations Committee (Charlie)

Charlie asked that we remove his name from this item and that we remove the item if we are not going to address it. From our Bylaws: "If an **Elections Committee** is to be utilized, it shall be the responsibility of the Vice President to organize such a committee as an ad hoc group for the purposes of recruiting and nominating members who meet the requirements of the office as stated herein and who are willing and able to serve **AAGT** as leaders on the Board of Directors. Fair notice of open positions on the Board and the terms of office shall be announced in the *AAGT Newsletter* prior to the Annual Meeting; such announcement being the responsibility of the Vice President. Members interested in running for office should notify the Vice President or a Board member and shall be invited submit a position paper in the *AAGT Newsletter* and/or at the Annual Meeting." We do not now need an Elections Committee. Since we are currently asking our VP to Co-Chair the Conference it seems to me (Charlie) an unnecessary burden to also ask her to Chair an Elections Committee. We will need an Elections Committee Chair for the 2010 Annual Meeting. I would like to propose this for the agenda for the next Board call and that we consider temporarily assigning the role to another position to keep the current Vice President unincumbered in her efforts at creating a spectacular conference.

AAGT and gestalt therapy literature

Stümpfe translation and

OMs: Dierdre Winter is investigating translation and possibility of purchase by OMs.
Can AAGT sponsor this?

Dan has a published who is interestes in translating this into English and publsihing it. Should AAGT be involved? Peter P spoke to the implications of AAGT supporting onely one such translation when there are other similar projects being done. Peter C out that it would align with our mission to advance gestalt therapy. Dan says the book is well regarded. Cathy spoke to the favouritism. Charlie spoke to the exclusivity of translating this book into English. Peter P cautioned against selecting a single publication without paying attention to the wider picture. Charlie felt this could be raised at an annual meeting so the membership could engage with this issue too and be part of making any decision about how the community changes. Some of our membership publish books - they might have feelings about AAGT sponsoring a work from a publishing house that hasn't, to date, been supportive of AAGT. Charlie wondered if it could be disussed on the members list as an alternative. Peter P suggested someone writing about this book - either a Newsletter article, or a thread on the list - and asking members to take it to their regions to see if their local gestalt institutes would publish it. Charlie suggested any discussion at this stage, with the membership, should be about AAGT publishing as a general idea - not yet with regard to this specific book. Cathy supported this. Peter P reiterated Charlie's earlier point re our translating into English. He also spoke to the legal issues of translation and publication rights and our needing to be careful about those.

Date of next meeting:

The AGM, May 2009, Madrid.

Sarah Fallon,
AAGT Secretary