

21<sup>st</sup> September 2008

Present:

Dan, Sarah, Peter P, Cathy, Charlie, Bud, Maryanne, Peter C, Brian, Robert.

Apologies:

Ansel,

Absent:

Jack

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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS:

Dan has starred (\*) those items we about which we ought to reach conclusions on Sunday. The number of stars has meaning. Dan has also indicated brief matters (#).

A: A general welcoming of one another

B: Manchester Conference\*\*\* \* #

i) DVDs and anything that is still to be left to be addressed

ii. Conference Evaluation, etc (Ansel)

C: Treasurer's report (Peter C)\*\*\* #

D:RCP report (Brian)\*\*\*\*#

i. Report on the RCP conference call

E: Communications Committee (Charlie)\*\*\*\*

i. Newsletter/general communications update and discussion of selling space to advertisers on our websites

F: Administrator, Adam Weisz: report on transition (Dan) \*\*\*##

G: Interest groups: deletion of inactive ones from website,addressing new energy (Dan)##

H: Inclusion of board members elect on board calls (Ansel)\*\*\*\*

I: AAGT and regional events (Cathy)\*\*\*

J: AAGT and gestalt therapy literature—AAGT as publisher (Dan)\*\*

K: Scholarship Fund (Bud)\*\*\*#

L: AAGT as information resource regarding regulation of therapists (Maryanne)\*\*#

A: A general welcoming of one another

B: Manchester Conference\*\*\* \* #

i. DVDs and anything that is still to be left to be addressed

Sarah reported that she contacted the company on Friday and they had 50 more DVDs to send out, which they hoped to achieve by the end of the day. Sarah will seek confirmation of this next week. Peter P still has 44 sets in addition to the ones being posted out. We paid for 400 sets. As the company will have posted 250 and Peter P has 44, this means we have 106 to come. Sarah has explained to the company we will, likely, want these to go to one address, and that this will probably be Philadelphia. Sarah asked that this be confirmed tonight, so she could inform the company of the precise address next week.

Cathy confirmed she would be happy to receive the DVDs in Philadelphia for the conference. She will send some on to Dan for some events in New York that are coming up too.

Peter P asked about us selling the DVDs via the website. A brief discussion of the logistics of this. Peter P will check out any copying rights on the contract with the recording company.

Other issues:

Peter P brought in the expansion of the RCP committee as a congratulation to all involved in the conference, as it came out of the large number of countries represented there.

ii. Conference Evaluation, etc (Ansel)

Cathy raised a concern re the parcel, should it not arrive, re the CEUs not being recorded.

Peter P commented it that it is too soon to be concerned that the package is lost.

C: Treasurer's report (Peter C)\*\*\* #

In an email prior to the call, Peter C sent the following:

Balance Sheet: 09/02/2008

As of August 31, 2008 Accrual Basis

Aug 31, 08

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1001 · US Bank 17,005.91

1002 · PayPal 50.81

1003 · Cooperative Bank UK 16,565.43

1004 · PayPal UK 9.51

Total Checking/Savings 33,631.66

Other Current Assets

1021 · Petty Cash - Silvie 88.85

Total Other Current Assets 88.85

Total Current Assets 33,720.51

TOTAL ASSETS 33,720.51

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

2001 · Scholarship Fund 6,462.46

Total Other Current Liabilities 6,462.46

Total Current Liabilities 6,462.46

Total Liabilities 6,462.46

Equity

3000 · Opening Bal Equity 18,163.81

3600 · Retained Earnings 43.42

3940 · Suspense -1,633.62

Net Income 9,373.09

Total Equity 25,946.70

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 32,409.16

Peter C expanded upon the above report.

We made a good profit on the conference, pipping that of Vancouver, and Peter C congratulated everyone involved in the conference planning for all their hard work in bringing this about.

Conference calls are currently a big cost.

Charlie spoke about various options via the internet that are free, if people have the technology. He will look into an alternative.

D:RCP report (Brian)\*\*\*\*#

*Report on the RCP conference call:*

Brian spoke of the great energy around the call, and the excitement there was among people around meeting that way for the first time. Dan and Cathy added their positive experiences of the call.

The google-group interface is proving adequate.

Brian spoke of his commitment to being on the communications committee, as a means to linking this to the RCPs.

E: Communications Committee (Charlie)\*\*\*\*

Charlie gave an update on his getting together of the communications committee.

Dan asked about the website. Charlie is prioritising tasks at the moment. One issue is whether we want advertising on the website. Discussion of this. Charlie's recommendation was that we don't have outside advertising, and the board agreed. A question still remains as to whether we want to advertise on behalf of AAGT community members. Discussion included guidelines for space for different categories of members. Also cost issues. Listings would be an option too.

Cathy suggested that this was a fitting issue to be discussed by the communications committee. Charlie agreed to facilitate this, and to feed back to the board.

Brian pointed out that News & Notes advertises listings for free.

Peter P clarified that he felt we should do listings for free, but that we charge for display advertising.

Charlie spoke to the technical considerations of such an arrangement.

In the course of the discussion, Bud spoke to needing to be clear about which events are AAGT regional events, and which are not.

Peter P stressed the importance that our policies in this area, whatever they end up being, fit together. Cathy added that we currently don't have a clear set of guidelines around sponsoring or endorsing AAGT events in terms of advertising etc. This is an issue separate from advertising, but affects issues in advertising. Charlie is glad to take this to the communications committee to look at.

- i. Newsletter/general communications update and discussion of selling space to advertisers on our websites

These questions were covered in the above discussion.

Brian left the meeting at this point.

F: Administrator, Adam Weisz: report on transition (Dan) \*\*\*##

Dan reported that Adam seems to be settling in no problem.

Cathy asked for clarity on whether Adam would be involved in the finances of the conference.

Peter C clarified that NO, and that there would need to be a local treasurer for the conference in place instead.

G: Interest groups: deletion of inactive ones from website,addressing new energy (Dan)##

Dan raised issue of the above, and also the issue of Jack not coming to any meetings. Peter C asked whether Morgan Goodlander was still a board member.

H: Inclusion of board members elect on board calls (Ansel)\*\*\*\*

Dan summarised the issues.

Sarah shared her concern re Peter P being Sharon's Training Consultant, and her concern that care be taken with the boundaries of those roles.

Peter P felt that elect members should be on the leaders discussion list but that they don't need to be on the board calls. For example, Michael could be invited to the board calls when required, due to Jack's absence.

Dan will call Jack.

I: AAGT and regional events (Cathy)\*\*\*

This was covered in item E.

J: AAGT and gestalt therapy literature—AAGT as publisher (Dan)\*\*

Dan would like us to explore making books available that aren't otherwise available – such as translations. He will bring this to the board when he has more specific information.

K: Scholarship Fund (Bud)\*\*\*#

Bud would like the board to consider his proposal that the people who do pre-conference workshops donate a minimum of 10% of their proceeds to the scholarship fund.

Bud had to leave at this point, but left the board with this question for discussion at a future date. In an email he sent to the board following the meeting he wrote:

*"This past year [prior to the auction], the fund raised about \$12,000 US. Most of this was the result of dedicated workshops by Peter P [June 2007 in NYC, Jack and I pre-conference in Manchester,workshops in England by me in June 2007 plus \$500 from Lynne Jacob's from her pre-conference workshop. About \$3000 was raised by donations made by conference registrants at the time of their registering.*

*As we get more worldwide we can anticipate a continual, if not greater, flow of requests from all over. So no matter where we hold a conference we will have applicants from far away, which means expensive travel in addition to the other expenses.*

*At the same time pre-conference workshops have become increasingly popular. I remember the first couple we had, in St Pete Beach I think, when we were very tentative and skeptical about their filling. Now they are a major part of the whole experience [in fact we might want to stop calling them pre-conference, though I can't at the moment find a better term].*

*My suggestion is that we build into the terms of agreement with the workshop leaders that a minimum of 10% of the proceeds goes to the fund, with the option of the leaders agreeing to more if they choose to.*

*Additionally I will make an effort to enlist people during 2009 to run special events with all or part of the proceeds going to the fund. I am doing a very small such event in the San Francisco area next month. I may also have Fritz Perls films on DVD's to sell for this purpose...I'll know next week."*

A discussion took place re pre-conference workshops – in terms of the money they raise – began. Charlie and Dan offered to look at this issue together.

Peter C would like to be on this committee and also stressed that we do need to be considering the “general coffers” of AAGT.

Cathy agreed to chair this committee.

L: AAGT as information resource regarding regulation of therapists (Maryanne)\*\*#

Maryanne has been asked to talk to the Board of the Gestalt Institute of Toronto re regulation and how it is happening in different countries.. She gave an example of gestalt therapists in Germany no longer being able practise as gestaltists.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 2008.  
PLEASE CHECK TIMES FOR THIS MEETING WHEN POSTED.

Sarah Fallon,  
AAGT Secretary

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