SICA-USA Board Meeting

**Meeting Minutes**

01.23.22

* Call to order at 1:16 PST, after latihan

Attending: Board Members: Paul E Nelson, Chair, Ralph Davila, Acting Treasurer, Lawrence Pevec, Sanderson Morgan, Lauren Stanley, and Susannah Rosenthal. National Helper Liaisons: Michal Brownell & Jim Dehner and guest, Kristiana Kalab.

Lauren is acting secretary today, taking notes.

Motion to approve December 19, 2021 meeting minutes made by Ralph; seconded by Sanderson; approved unanimously. Paul: request for snappy reports of one minute each.

* Financial report

Ralph: gave current balances in savings $9,965.82 and checking $3,261.61 accounts.

Ralph has been working all on getting an end of year report together. He decided to rewrite the whole year’s statements and finished this morning. He can use these numbers and chart of accounts for the year-end; coming soon. He is re-entering into Quicken.

Need to put in a 990 ahead of the curve during tax season. (Due May 15.)

Subud Greater Seattle center voted in December to contribute $500 to SICA-USA.

* Art Barn activity

Ralph: Amelia answered all questions and all agreed to send out the grant money ($500); problems with bank getting it out but it’s underway.

* Annual report

Paul will be producing a draft for the next board meeting and will be sent to board for their comments. This will be put out as a post on the website when ready.

* Blog posts on website

Need more content on a weekly basis - there have been a few lapses. Members will need to step up. Kristiana: what are criteria for good content? Paul: paragraph or two about some kind of cultural item ideally Subud or a perspective on something else related to culture from a Subud member. Kristiana suggested something from the Suncatcher Players? (Hadrian Pollard’s group).

Lawrence: Hamilton would like to post another episode of Mycrofiles. Includes an ad for his son’s product line. Paul noted this is acceptable.

* Update on Interviews project

Lawrence: Been in touch with Matthew Clark; waiting for Covid interruption to pass so he can go and begin interviewing elderly people standing by. Possibility of going to three centers in PNW to pick up interviews; also, NY, DC, North Carolina, and maybe Florida; plan is being developed. He’s doing another project on the side; meeting with Sonya Owens on Friday.

Going smoothly and waiting for the process to pick up the pace more.

Running under the auspices of Archives project.

Rachman Cantrell had a dream about giving some interviews; Paul connected him with Matthew Clark about that possibility.

* Update on the Cultural Conversation and board retreat in LA

Sanderson: Subud LA decides on a monthly basis if they will be open the following month. Latest from Haryanti: still a little hesitant about committing due to pandemic. Group not feeling like they can be very responsive to us. Average age of CA members: 76. Current policy at the center: they are masked. Non-vaxed people have their own separate latihan. They are not coming to latihan now. There has been a shuffle with the men helpers.

Program: planned to be masked. Dinner at the café … clearly not masked while eating. Café can accommodate 35-40 people and has windows.

Currently hard to rehearse C.C. at home centers to get a feel for what this activity will be like.

Sees this as a portable, continuing event.

The California congress is to happen in Santa Barbara in August. SICA participation was discussed.

Comments:

Lauren: virus becoming endemic - good. Ralph would like to keep moving as if we are going to do it. Wants to keep momentum. Lawrence is moving full steam ahead in terms of his project and will continue as if things are going to happen; do a report.

Michal: This is something we’re offering the LA group so we need a good read from them.

Sanderson: for our sake and not to pressure LA, let’s decide by February meeting. We just continue to do what we’re doing. Maybe even do it in another CA location like Marin.

Susannah: wait a month; could be good to do in August though. Wants younger people to participate. Felix Prieto could connect us to younger members and projects they’re involved in.

Lauren: maybe March thing is a dry run, with focus on bringing in younger folks (folding in ideas mentioned)? Sanderson: someone on location as a liaison is important. We don’t have that now in LA. Jim: important to maintain momentum on this. Where and what we do is driven by what we want to accomplish. National Congress probably not happening this year, but emphasize importance of regional congresses. Piggybacking on CA congress might be a good idea (8/4-8/8).

* Poems for Peace

Sharon Thesen presented last week. Video will be linked on SICA site this coming week. Paul will be the SICA Zoomuse Poems for Peace feature next month.

* Board candidacy of Kristiana Kalab

Kristiana about herself: her testing was joyous and a mutually good thing (for her and board). She shared a bit of CV. She sees herself as cultural catalyst - likes bring people together to do things. Teamwork. Sort of Pied Piper - she does a lot of things to pull off events. Hadrian’s project - inspirational (Susannah) - maybe his work could be scalable. She’s in tri-city area in NC (Durham).

Lawrence made a motion to nominate K. as a new board member; Susannah seconded. Approved unanimously. She may be able to act as secretary but wants to familiarize a little more.

* Board testing

Some discussion about roles. Paul is seeking exploration about active engagement, since attending monthly meetings is just the basics, a minimum. Jim: wondered about a nuanced wording of the question. Michal: testing for her is a means to understand the inner content rather than a literal physical board role. Susannah: there may be other questions that come about.

(break for testing)

Women share their questions and receivings (Lauren took notes and will share this in a doc); Men receiving is recorded and Paul will do some light editing before sharing. Susannah emphasized that gathering should focus on board itself so that we know what we’re about.

* Misc.

February meeting was to be a dry run of the Cultural Conversation. Kristiana is questioning how we’re going to come up with content based on development as a board before that. More to be explored on this; running short of time.

* Sanderson motioned for end to meeting; Kristiana seconded

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM PST.