

Governing Board of Contemplative Outreach
Zoom Meeting Minutes February 23 - March 1, 2022
APPROVED

Governing Board Members Present: Jenny Adamson, Phil Jackson, Pat Johnson, Jim McElroy, Diane Ryan, Julie Saad, and Carol Quest

Also Present: Mary Jane Yates, Administrator

1. Retreat February 23 Evening through February 26 Noon.
2. Business meeting February 26 at 1:00 PM opened with a prayerful reading of the Vision of Contemplative Outreach with Theological Principles and Guidelines for Service with Commentaries.
3. Approval of the 2/1/2022 Minutes: Pat Johnson moved that we accept the February 1, 2022, minutes; Phil Jackson seconded the motion. All approved.
4. Selection of Officers for 2022: The following officers were selected through prayerful discernment to serve for 2022
 1. Facilitator: Julie Saad
 2. Co-facilitator and Secretary: Carol Quest
 3. Treasurer: Pat Johnson
 4. Assistant Treasurer: Diane Ryan
5. The continued discussion of the board's role identified three priorities for 2022.
 1. Invest in the Divine Economy to support the International Contemplative Outreach community and opportunities that emerge with under-represented populations.
 2. Support volunteers as they continue to serve the Contemplative Outreach community.
 3. Support efforts to serve specific communities as opportunities emerge including global relationships, outreach to youth and pilot programs to reach under-represented populations.
 - Hold the intention to search for potential board members from the global community and minority members
 - Consider relationship and history with ECI for guidance into the future
 4. (See attached Priority Summary document for details)
6. A board member is needed to represent the governing board on the Gift Committee. Any interested board member is invited let Julie know if available to serve in this capacity.
7. 2022 Intentions: Diane, Phil, Jim and Carol agreed to review past intentions and draft 2022 intentions for the Board to consider at the April meeting.
8. 2023 Board Selection committee: Pat Johnson, Phil Jackson and Jim McElroy agreed to form the 2023 Board Selection committee.
 1. They will invite representatives from the broader Contemplative Outreach community including past board members, Global team members, staff, service team members and chapter representatives to join the selection committee.
 2. The board affirmed the importance of having recommendations for potential candidates from those in a centering prayer relationship with the candidate.
 3. Since the process takes time, it is appropriate to begin the selection process now.

4. The board asked the selection committee to collect information about where or how candidates became aware of the invitation to submit their interest in joining the board. This information can guide the board in future selection efforts.
 5. The board holds the intention to seek new members from ECI, International, youth and minority populations in order to best represent the full Contemplative Outreach community.
 6. The board clarified that the full board will interview candidates recommended by the selection committee to make the final selection.
 7. The board will consider options for the term of any members of the board who join to complete the term of a member who resigns. An important factor will be adjusting term dates so that only two or three members complete their terms at the same time.
9. 2023 Global Conference: the board will work with staff to determine options for the next conference.
1. New and creative recommendations are sought for an event or events accessible to the worldwide membership including individuals who speak various languages, represent various cultures and live in various time zones.
 2. Explore new technology and successful events like United in Prayer, service team gatherings, etc. for inspiration for a community-wide event that recognizes service, nourishes volunteers and connects community members.
 3. Appoint a member of the board to participate in the planning committee as has been done for past conferences (2017, 2019, 2021).
 4. Carefully consider the value of in-person gatherings and search for accessible sites.
10. Board intentions for meeting with Extension Contemplativa Internacional
1. The history ECI can inform Contemplative Outreach's relationships as we expand internationally.
 2. Read CONSENTING TO GOD AS GOD IS
 3. Read the 2014 ECI letter and the CO response to understand how the meeting in Orlando opened the door to restoring the relationship.
 4. Continue building a relationship of openness and respect
 5. Possible times for meeting with ECI representatives include March 15 or April 5 at noon or 6:00 PM Eastern time.
11. Administrator's review: the board supports a "360 Survey" which could include the board and staff from which Mary Jane will offer her reflections for the board's response.
12. Financial investments: The board requests the following communication process
1. Report at year end
 2. Update quarterly from the treasurer
 3. Report any significant change in investment accounts
 4. Maintain a six month reserve
 5. Make financial support available to chapters and outreach as needed
13. Circle of Friends recommendations
1. Half of the current Circle of Friends members responded to a recent survey indicating which events and communications they valued most. Jenny, Mary Jane, and Jan Kellogg (the Circle of Friends planning team) met to discuss the survey results and future options. Mary Jane also met with staff members Kathleen Gilgannon and Donna Cole-Struck to develop an alternate approach for recruiting donors which was shared in hard copy for review and discussion.

2. While some Board members agreed in principle with changing our donation structure, further discussion and discernment is needed. It was suggested that the topic be added to the agenda for our next meeting.

14. Future meetings: The board

1. Intends to schedule another face to face meeting in September (totaling two face to face meetings for 2022) and three face to face meetings in 2023.
2. Proposes that the staff join the board for part of the September meeting
3. Consider locations in St. Louis (Jim checked with Marianist Center and it is not available for our September dates), Chicago (Phil will explore two area retreat centers), Seattle (Pat will explore if we choose that location).
4. Dates: five days between Sunday, September 11 and Tuesday, September 20.

15. Next Board Zoom Call – March 15, 2022 at noon Eastern time

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Quest, Secretary