

Governing Board of Contemplative Outreach
Conference Call/Zoom Minutes
March 17th, 2020
1:00-2:30 pm EDT
Final

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenny Adamson, Nick Cole, Kathy Di Fede, Adal Henriquez, Pat Johnson, Julie Saad, and Tom Smith.

ABSENT: Maru Ladron de Guevara

OTHER PARTICIPANTS: Mary Jane Yates, Administrator

1. Opening reflection by Tom. “God is the light which illumines all the world.”
2. Approval of minutes. Nick motioned that the minutes of 2/4/2020 be approved. Pat seconded, all approved. Jenny motioned that the minutes of 2/18/2020 be approved. Nick seconded, all approved. Pat motioned that the minutes of the special (for the purposes of opening a bank account) GB meeting on 3/5/2020 be approved. Jenny seconded, all approved.
3. Administrator’s report: 1. Staff call: Mary Jane said that she would only need Claire for about another two weeks. (Claire has continued to work part time). Claire could end her employment most likely on March 20th. A recognition of Claire’s long commitment to COL and her retirement will be posted in the Voice e-newsletter. The online Lenten retreat is going well. More people are joining. Marie reported that prayer groups cannot meet at this time during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. United in Prayer Day (physical locations) is being cancelled with people being encouraged to connect online. Mary Anne reported that the Spring DMA (Direct Mail Appeal) is to go out in two weeks. The letter will be redesigned to tailor it to current circumstances. There was discussion on the staff call about Mary Anne’s grant proposal which had an emphasis on technology. It was suggested that it needed to be broadened to highlight the work of the chapters and volunteers.
---Going forward---the 2020 intentions and the planning process. Mary Jane would ask each staff member to create a report on what they do. The Board starts the planning process. The staff as a team creates a plan. Mary Jane shared the 2020 Intentions and asked questions about some items. She also suggested putting a survey on the CO Facebook page and finding volunteers who could do that.

Mary Jane also had a call with Martha Johnson about Ilia Delio and the Omega Center. The GB had considered giving a donation to the Omega Center from CO but had not voted on it yet. Mary Jane and Martha also talked about collaboration between CO and the Omega Center, i.e., posting each other's events on their respective websites.

4. A motion was made by Jenny to give \$5,000 to the Omega Center. Nick seconded. Before voting, Kathy asked if we have the money. Pat (GB Treasurer) said yes. Mary Jane checked the budget and also said yes. Everyone approved the \$5000 donation to the Omega Center.
5. Discussion followed regarding allowing other contemplative communities to post events on our website or in our e-bulletin. We agreed that we needed to renew our dialogue with other contemplative groups. Mary Jane is willing to begin again to establish relationships with other Directors/Administrators. More research is needed on other contemplative groups and what they allow on their website. Jenny agreed to do this research. This discussion will be continued at the next GB meeting.
6. Pat made a motion and Jenny seconded that the budget for 2020 be approved. All agreed. The budget is approved.
7. Since there were some agenda items not covered in this call, it was decided to have another meeting/Zoom call on Tuesday March 31 rather than wait until the next scheduled meeting on April 5th.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Di Fede, Secretary