

MINUTES FOR TAMPA BAY MENSA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - AUGUST 14, 2005

EXCOMM MEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Loewe (hostess), Maxine Kushner, Thomas Thomas, Dan Chesnut, Dana Groulx, Kathy Crum, Richard Manno, Ronan Heffernan, Sylvia Zadorozny (scribe)

The meeting was called to order at 3:52 pm.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Sylvia's printer being out of commission, Thomas passed out copies of the previous ExComm meetings' minutes. Dan proposed an amendment to the minutes clarifying the Proctor report; the minutes were accepted as amended.

REPORTS: Dan wanted to shorten reports in order to shorten the meetings.

NEW/PROSPECTIVE MEMBER MEETING: Dana reported that the lodge at her place was not available in the immediate future. We might combine a new/prospective member meeting with a Holiday party at Dana's in December.

TREASURER: Kathy passed out copies of the Treasurer's report and told us everything is pretty much in line. Refreshment reimbursements are up a bit, but we're doing fine.

EDITOR: Thomas had received 48 Crewe List Questionnaires so far, and was still waiting for the PDQ (personal data questionnaire) list from National in order to post interest listings. We may have to delay FSM (fold, staple, and mutilate) for a week so that he can incorporate the PDQ information.

PRINTING COST: The Sounding is now being printed at Office Depot for less than what Kinko's had been charging us, so Thomas didn't bother contacting other local Mensa groups about negotiating a Kinko's discount. Dana looked into the cost of buying a printer to print the Sounding ourselves. While this looked promising from a cost standpoint, logistically it is not easily feasible. We will stick with Office Depot for now, but keep the option of buying our own equipment in mind for the future.

CALENDAR: Ronan is looking at printing two months (1/2 page each) of the calendar grid in the Sounding.

WEBSPINNER: Ellen is setting up a PayPal account for RG (Regional Gathering) registration via the website; it will cost us 3% of the registration fee to use. Thomas said Ellen now has past Soundings to put on line and has been provided with a contact person (Howard Prince) to use Secure Access to the website.

CIRCULATION: FSM will be delayed a week (see Editor's report).

PROCTOR: Dan told us Barbara Counts has been really busy. We still need more proctors, especially in North Tampa, but we have several people in the pipeline.

MEMBERSHIP: Dan talked to Frank; Frank is ready to train a new Membership Officer. Richard tried calling 21 new members listed in the last two months Soundings, but only was able to reach one, as most of the phone numbers on the list from National were no good.

MEMBER HANDBOOK: Ronan typed up the member handbook and is creating a WIKI (and some other computer talk). Kathy, Thomas, and Maxine offered to edit it.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH: Richard thanked Maxine mentioning this in her LocSec report. He followed up by contacting Mensa National to see if they'll accept the test we purchased; he is waiting to hear back. The schools are looking at high achievers; Richard told them screening could find different gifted students. It still needs to be cleared with higher-ups in the school system. Richard moved (Thomas seconded) that "the group empower him and Maxine to apply for grants from National for our Educational Outreach programs". Motion carried.

AUDIT: Sylvia and Kathy haven't yet had a chance to get together for this, but expect to before the next ExComm meeting.

GIFTED CHILDREN'S MEMBER HANDBOOK: Richard read the first few pages and is concerned about our liability. Maxine suggested Richard check with National.

RG IN MAY: We need to start looking for a honcho and hotel. We're considering the Best Western in Tampa and the Oktoberfest hotel, the Holiday Inn Select in Clearwater.

OKTOBERFEST: The programs are pretty set, but we still need a tournament list. Kathy reported 38 registrations to date. Dana and Sylvia might get together to rent a U-Haul for Hospitality and games.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Richard wanted to suggest to National that for an additional fee National might hunt for previous evidence for people.
- Dana suggested using an agenda to avoid ill-advised last minute additions.
- **PAYPAL:** Richard was concerned that we get less money from PayPal than for cash; Dana pointed out that every company deals with this. Barbara thought we'd pick up extra registrations with PayPal. Sylvia suggested we could offer a discount for cash.

NEXT EXCOMM MEETING: 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, at Sylvia's.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.