

## California Men's Gathering Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, October 26, 2009

Meeting started at 6:00 PM

- I. Attendance: Joe Wagenhofer President, Ben-Andy Hein VP, Dave Clark Treasurer, Lee Usher Secretary, Michael Varnen ECSD, Mohabee, Barry Schoenfeld Communications, Eric Anderson, Richard Farshler ECBA, Robert Burnham, Drew Blanchar-ECBA, Jim Ruyboyianes Webmaster, Jamie ECDC  
  
Missing: Ed Wahl, Michael Bell
- II. Approval of the September 4 Board Meeting Minutes. (Lee)  
Mohabee requested that this be added: If one of the Board Members is unable to attend meetings, they should attempt to have an alternate attendee. Meeting Minutes accepted with corrections.
- III. Treasurer Report and Fall Gathering Budget update (Dave)  
Dave presented the budget as emailed out by Joe. We are doing well with expenses to date compared to our budget. Barry asked for clarifications on certain line items.  
Joe Moved to accept the budget  
13y,0n,0a
- IV. Fall Gathering budget. Dave reported that they are projecting \$24,000 in revenue from registration this year. The budget is conservative but the hope that more registration money comes in. Michael Varnen reported that the budget is now showing a profit. Ben~Andy believes that we should not have a problem reaching 125 registrations.  
Ben~Andy moved to accept the budget.  
13y,0n,0a
- V. Report on the Executive Committee Meeting of October 17. (Joe)
  - a. Gathering Registration Process Update \*  
Initial documents was for Lee to build a new system. After discussions with Barry and Ben~Andy we have decided that we will experiment with the Constant Contact Events module which is \$180 or less. The question is will it work for us? We would like to hire CC and start using it for JBM and Harbin. Joe suggests that because we should be nervous about hoisting another untried system onto spring. Barry suggests that we test Constant Contact and at the same time be open to other solutions. At the JBM we will decide at the Board if we will go with Constant Contact or our own in house system.

- b. JBM Structure, Clarifications, Rich reported that the JBM will be held at Lambda Players building and that sleeping will occur at the Clarion Hotel.
  - c. CMG Scholarship Policy/Fund – recommendation that we start a centralized scholarship fund rather than being split among the PCs.
- VI. Web Update \* (Barry, Jim) – Barry reported that the committee will need 15 to 20 minutes for a full presentation to the Board at the JBM. The committee slipped on the initial date but as a result they have been exposed to many more design concepts. A prototype will be presented. The projected go-live date is after the JBM.
- VII. EC Congress Report (Drew) - Drew reported that 14 attendees met and shared a lot of ideas. Ideas were exchanged and supported and the ECs are taking back control of the ENotify situation for on-going communications. Barry encouraged EC reps to send him emails to be entered into the ENotify system. Training for someone from each EC should occur.
- VIII. Key Findings/Learning from CMG66 Survey (Barry) – Barry reported that five surveys have occurred online with 750 surveys with up to 80% responses. These are quantitative numbers being reported by our members. We are continuing to be about 30% first timers (newcomers). We have a large component of new comers in the last few years about 2/3 are between 40 and 60 and more statistics are highlighted in Barry's report.
- IX. Old business: Mentor Men Committee Presentation and next steps. (Ben~Andy) – Ben~Andy has nothing to report.
- X. Discussion/approval of BOD to allow to proceed with ECLA plan to discuss/produce a "Spirituality Gathering" over President's Weekend 2010 (Barry) – an attendee had suggested that we are losing some of our Spirituality so he proposed a Gathering about spirituality. The meeting will take place on November 10, 2009. The event will present a spiritual smorgasbord.
- XI. EC training for eNotify system (Barry) – Barry wants to cover at the Fall Gathering.
- XII. BOD consensus on next steps for "The Future of CMG" discussions (Barry)  
Barry ask the question of what can we do on the Board? Further

discussions will occur at the Fall Gathering.

- XIII. Barry motions that the CMG adapt the following policy:  
That all leaders or facilitators of EC events to be volunteers (and not profit from the event beyond expenses), and promote all other events (e.g., "50/50 net splits") on Binky's List (and not as an eNotify email blast)?

ECLA voted to not allow anyone to profit on ECLA events. If someone wanted to profit and let our members know that that would be ok. Barry would like the Board to consider that we don't use our members for presenters making a profit. Joe asked everyone to chime in on this as a potential policy.

Mohabee motioned to approve, Jim seconded  
12y, 1a, 0b

- XIV. Further Discussion:

#### **JBM 2009 Issue Updates**

1. Job Description Update \*. Descriptions to be sent out prior to 2010 JBM (Joe)
2. Logo Registration/Trademark Update \* next steps to register logo and trademark "Building community one man at a time." (Barry) – Barry will proceed with this item.
3. Vision Statement revision Update \* next steps (Barry)
4. Visibility Update: It is strongly suggested that the CMG EC and PCs are encouraged to annually select a cause or issue to do fundraising and to create brand recognition. Committee updates\* (Joe)

#### **Fall Gathering Items (Meeting time 1-4 PM)**

1. Board Retreat/"Five Bold Moves" Report Review/Determine Next Steps
2. Board member understanding that a Gathering is a time we all need make the time to further the agenda of the CMG as well as participate in all the great things that happen at a Gathering.
3. "A More Activist Board" Should the Board be taking a more active role in building the organization? What role(s) can Board members take? What could we do tomorrow, without waiting for the JBM?
4. CMG VP Role: Should the CMG VP job description be revised to include oversight of all EC's? Fall Gathering Board Meeting.
5. Action steps for "Five Bold Moves" developed at 10/26 BOD Retreat/Invite Geri Lopker to Idyllwild?/Discuss timing for 2010 retreat
6. Leadership Training Update

7. "CMG Best Practices" discussion and update.

**JBM 2010 Items**

1. From May circle of concerns: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Accessibility (for the JBM)

2. Proposal: Any member of CMG may not hold more than one of the following CMG Leadership Positions concurrently: Board Officer, Appointed Director, Events Committee Chair/Co-Chair/Head, etc. Planning Committee Chair/Co-Chair/Head, etc. May need to go to JBM for final approval. (Dave) For the JBM

3. Policy on Alcohol at CMG Events re: insurance (Ben~Andy and Joe)

Check outs occurred.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39PM