

Board of Governor's Meeting – Feb. 20, 2018

Present: *Derek Wallbank, Andrea Edney, Erik Meltzer, Mike Freedman, Kimberley Adams, Ferdous Al-Faruque, Pat Host, Molly McCluskey, Peter Urban, Ed Barks, Andrew Fisher, Lindsay Murphy*

Present on Phone: *Alison Kodjak*

Wallbank called meeting to order.

Al-Faruque called for approving the minutes, Edney seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Brian Taylor gave a Business Development Update and explained how the club focuses on increasing revenue. He talked about how the Club uses Salesforce to track potential events clients, data used to keep relationships and acquire new ones. He also explained how clients find us to book events.

Taylor outlined how 2017 fared and the goals the administration has set for 2018 sales.

Edney notified the Board that Michelle Salcedo has resigned from her role as Membership Secretary and the Board by making her wish known to the president.

Edney nominated Pat Host to be the new Membership Secretary and was seconded by Freedman. Host was unanimously elected to the position and resigned his governor position.

Edney nominated Lisa Matthews to Host's vacated governor position for one year of his two-year term. Kimberly seconded. Matthews was unanimously elected to the position.

Edney presented list of new members for approval. Urban noted there was an updated list of members to consider and called a motion for those members to be voted online before the next BOG meeting. Al-Faruque seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-2.

Edney listed the members being considered for approval and concerns around several members was noted by BOG members. Nine members of the list was held for further review and 18 members were approved unanimously.

Freedman noted six young members have resigned over the past month because of dues increase. It was proposed that we may consider notifying young members six months ahead of time they may be phasing out to help prepare for the dues increase.

Edney called for approving members moving to retiree status and Meltzer seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

Freedman presented the treasurer's report. The unaudited profit for 2017 was \$977,000. December made a profit \$44,000 exceeding a projected loss of \$127,000.

Overall the loss in January was \$127,367 which was \$50,000 better than projection.

McCarren provided executive director's report. We've made a little over \$1 million from our Rockwell painting investment over 10 months.

Barks asked about communications expert update. McCarren said the Club is still looking for a solution to the communications position.

Edney gave the president's report. She noted her official first business was to demand release of Emilio Gutierrez. She asked all members to sign his petition on Change.org. She commended McCarren for his work on the matter.

Edney updated members on past and upcoming events at the Club including the fact the George Polk Awards were given at the Club for the first time.

Edney moved to approve a new NPCJI board and was seconded by Wallbank. The Board unanimously voted to approve.

Edney called a vote to give the Aubuchan Award to two Reuters journalist imprisoned by the Burmese government for covering the plight of the Rohingya people. McCluskey seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

Wallbank raised the issue of adding a service fee in the Reliable Source Bar and moved into committee of the whole. McCarren noted occasionally members forget to close out their bill and are charged their expense to their house account but it doesn't include a tip. Urban noted the issue was raised in the House and Bar Team meeting and the general feeling was that a service charge should be applied for members who forget to pay. McCarren noted it can't be called a tip but rather a service fee.

Wallbank called a vote on adding a 15 percent service fee to receipts when members forget to pay before leaving. The committee of the whole voted unanimously.

Barks asked to move to a committee of the whole and was seconded by Edney.

Freedman asked to move to vote on approving the 2017 profit-sharing plan and was seconded by Edney. Board voted unanimously to approve the motion in the committee of the whole.

Wallbank closed the committee of the whole and asked to approve the motion again by the Board and was approved again unanimously.

Wallbank raised the issue of updating the House rules. He formally requested to refer this duty to the House and Bar Team, and Edney seconded. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Barks raised the question of how communicator categories are listed on the Club's website and noted it is currently confusing. Barks made a motion to refer the issue to the Board Membership Committee and come back by April to provide a resolution preferably or at least an update. Edney seconded. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned.