

OFFICIAL MINUTES
of the
GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA MENSA
BOARD of DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting – August 22, 2009

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I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 11:02 a.m. at Pilgrim Towers, 440 North Madison Avenue, Pasadena, with members HANNE, LINDENBLATT, ROBINETT, SAGRAY, TALKOV, VENOLA, and guest Sandra Smith in attendance. ELLIOTT, TAYLOR, WONG, and YU arrived during the meeting.

B. Approval of Agenda

It was requested under add to New Business (SAGRAY/VENOLA): IV(A) Open House Discussion and Reimbursement of Danielle Hanne for Open House Food Expenses, and IV(B) Reimbursement of Noelle Finger for Open House Recreational Equipment Expenses.

Motion to approve as indicated: passed 6-0-0.

C. Approval of Previous Minutes

Postponed until following meeting.

II. Reports

A. Executive Officers

Chair – We received confirmation of participation in the MERF scholarship program, and five dollar coupons for National Testing Day. These will be distributed at the Open House. Both members and non-members have shown interest in the Open House. People will be able to pay for testing through the AML website.

B. Area Reports

Mid-City – LINDENBLATT asked whether a reimbursement check was sent to Danila Oder.

Hi-Desert – The First-Thursdays event, Thursday Night Live, is failing, and might not continue. Petroglyphs Tour's coupons did not make it into Desert Area Mensa News, and it needs to be checked whether it made it into L.A. Mentary.

[SUBMITTED] Secretary: Hi-Desert has been quiet in July. Two of us, Gene Schneider and Linda Robinett, did attend the Whootie awards but First of the Month had no attendees due to the regular attendees being out of town. The Petroglyph event is still planned for October. For information <http://www1.iwvisp.com/martian/HDTUI/>

Publicity at SF conventions

I checked with two local science fiction conventions. The one scheduled for July 4th weekend in 2010 responded. It is called Westercon and located in Pasadena. Mensa could use what is called a "fan table" where various fannish interests are displayed. The table is free. It would need to be manned during the day usually from about 10 am to 5 pm or so. Anyone sitting at the table needs to have a membership in the convention. One day memberships will be available every day of the convention. I will be there all the days of the convention and already have a membership. I would not want to man the table all the time but I could organize the manning of the table and take care of any flyers, giveaways or other material we would have at the table. There is good information on what the convention is and what happens at it on this page <http://www.westercon63.org>. The second one, Loscon, happens every year on the weekend after Thanksgiving and I usually arrive moderately late on the first day of the convention so I would not want to be the main organizer for that convention. I have a membership for all the days of that convention also and suspect that their fan table rules are the same as the Westercon. Both conventions are moderately sized having between 500 and 1500 people at them. Westercon may be larger next year due to its location.

ELAC – [SUBMITTED] Delegate: Regarding replacing our current Mensaphone service provider with Google Voice – it turns out Google is not omnipotent after all (don't know about omnipresent and omniscient).

I've gotten some "All lines are busy now" messages when calling in, and Linda and Madeline have as well. Madeline said she got that three times, and at one point I was getting them about half the time. I have not tested it much since then, but today the service seems to be working fine. I don't know if this is something that will improve as the service matures, or if the service will always be a little buggy. However, I do want to point out that the caller is instructed to try again later, and with some persistence you do get through. That is, it is not that the service is down for a long stretch of time – it actually does seem like there are not enough lines to go around.

On the plus side, it's free, it's accessible from the Internet, messages are downloadable as audio files so you could send them to somebody's e-mail, and having a number like (213) 25-GLAAM is cool (we could port the number out to another service – that is a possibility as well). They will be adding more features in the future.

I'm hoping reliability improves over the next few months, but I'm hesitant to put this forward as a replacement for our current service until I know it's actually a better service.

C. Standing Committees

Membership Outreach – New Members Meet-n-Greet piggy-backed onto Singles Mingle worked great, and new members got their yellow postcard invites.

Proctored Testing – The UCLA venue had a sound issue, so it is moving back to a student union room.

RG – Planning is going well, with many speakers confirmed and a publicity plan in place. No new registrations since last month, but about 30 have registered.

Awards – November still looks like around when the committee will be active.

E. Coordinators

Singles – The Singles event held on Saturday, August 1, had 15 attendees of roughly even male-female split. On request of the attendees it evolved into a speed-dating thing.

MensaPhone – The new system put in place by our provider is working fine.

SIGHT – There were two inquiries but no response from GLAAM members.

Calendar Editor [SUBMITTED] - Kai-An is moving the newsletter mailing from his home in August, and in subsequent months as well. I need someone to let me know when that situation changes. Until then, the location for that event is listed as "to be determined". I also need to know where the August newsletter mailing will be held so I can update the online web calendar.

Data Officer [SUBMITTED] - Our experiment to distribute electronically the Aug/Sep/Oct newsletters continues. The August issue was distributed without incident. So far, only one person has expressed a desire not to receive the attachment, but only to receive a pointer to the newsletter online. A few others have written to express approval with the process as is.

One person manually signed himself off of the newsletter distribution list. I asked why, and never got a response. (I need to follow up on that.) It occurs to me that if people do this, and if we decide not to send paper newsletters to people who are supposedly asking to receive them electronically, we might not be sending newsletters to people like this in any form if we're not careful to watch for this situation.

Roster Coordinator [SUBMITTED] - I've submitted a penultimate copy of the roster to GLAAM_CCs for review. At the time of this writing, no feedback has been received. Unless I hear otherwise, that will be my contribution to September's printed copy of the Roster.

Someone (other than me) still needs to dress it up with a front and back cover and whatnot. I'm assuming that Russ will take care of that, although that assignment hasn't really been clarified.

SIG Coordinator [SUBMITTED] - Ira Wallis has asked if there is "any interest to organize a group in the South Bay area for those who would like to share computer help and knowledge."

Webmaster [SUBMITTED] - I need finalized minutes from Oct 2008, Mar 2009, and June 2009 to the present.

F. Newsletter

L.A. Mentary Editor – Our bindery was moving, and it was not until the last minute that we knew if the newsletter would be received in time. Articles submissions have been low.

III. Special Orders

A. 2009-2010 Proposed Budget Discussion

ELLIOTT presented a budget revision proposal using three-year averages for income.

Motion (ELLIOTT) to adopt proposed budget using three-year projections as submitted by ELLIOTT.

TAYLOR stated that using three-year averages is unnecessary and will not avoid the discussion next year that the numbers did not match projections. SAGRAY replied that we don't want the membership to think we are preparing to lose \$9000.

The following changes to the proposed budget were proposed:

1. Eliminate practice tests expense, which is an item that no longer exists

2. Adjust New Members' Receptions budget to \$250.00, which is mostly mailing expenses, and change the name of the line item to New Members Expenses

Miscellaneous Expenses was looked at. SAGRAY noted that it included the Hollywood Bowl event. It was also noted that newsletter expenses was adjusted up in prior years to accommodate anticipated postage increases that were not realized.

3. Adjust Tax Preparation, Accounting Services budget to \$1000.00, based on the amount spent two years ago

4. Adjust Area Funds as follows:
- a. Hi-Desert - \$300.00, it was noted that DAMN expenses are included under Newsletter
 - b. Coastal - \$100.00
 - c. San Fernando Valley - \$300.00
 - d. Mid-City - \$400.00
 - e. ELAC - \$500.00

5. Change Miscellaneous Expenses line item to Special Events. Change Special Events budget to \$1000.00

It was stated that asset purchases should be separate line items, not listed as expenses.

- 6. Use last year's National Subsidy income as projection for current year
- 7. Add Miscellaneous line item with a budget of \$200.00

Motion to adopt budget as indicated: passed 8-0-2.

IV. New Business

A. Open House Discussion and Reimbursement of Danielle Hanne for Open House Food Expenses

Recreational equipment purchases will include a croquet set.

Motion (SAGRAY/ELLIOTT) to approve up to \$200.00 for purchase of food for the GLAAM Open House and picnic: passed 9-0-1.

B. Reimbursement of Noelle Finger for Open House Recreational Equipment Expenses

Motion (SAGRAY/VENOLA) to reimburse Noelle Finger up to \$70.00 for purchase of recreational equipment for the GLAAM Open House and picnic.

V. Closing

A. Good of the Order

SAGRAY announced that Gannon Hawk Sagray was born on July 27, 2009 to Keith and Serena Sagray, and 840 people have registered for the 2010 AG which looks set to become an attendance record-breaker.

B. Adjournment

Motion (TALKOV/ROBINETT) to adjourn: passed 10-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kai-An Yu
Secretary

GLAAM Revenue Projections 2009-10

<u>Item</u>	<u>2006-07 actual</u>	<u>2007-08 actual</u>	<u>2008-09 actual</u>	<u>3-year average (except italicized)</u>
Newsletter	364.05	398.25	272	345
Advertising	0	130	158	96
Subscriptions	364.05	268.25	114	249
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0
SIG Income	0	0	0	0
Scholarship Fund	188	0	192	127
RG Net Income	2526.05	0	-2318.13	69
Bank Interest and Dividends	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Income	32.19	38	86.55	52
National Subsidy	13100.32	16537.52	16891.37	15510
Full Dues	12532.32	15789.92	15876.02	14733
Family Members	76	0	0	25
New Members	174	159	159	164
Reinstating Members	115	157	168	147
Corp Subscriptions	0	0	104	35 0
Misc. (CultureQuest, etc.)	203	431.6	584.35	406
Testing	2534	2238	2040	2271 2177 96
Fees	2390	2100	2040	2177
Practice Tests	144	138	0	0
Area Funds	0	200	1221	474
Mid-City	0	0	0	0
Coastal	0	0	0	0
SFV	0	200	200	133
ELAC	0	0	0	0
Hi-Desert	0	0	1021	340
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 18,744.61	\$ 19,411.77	\$ 18,384.79	\$ 18,847.06 18,754 96

difference of total 3-year average over projection in 1st budget draft: \$ ~~4,262.26~~ 4,169.20 96

	<u>2006-07</u>	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
N.O. Revenue Rates			
Full Dues (\$ per member per year)	8.64	8.64	8.64
Family Members (\$ per member per year)	3	3	3
New Members (\$ each, in 1st month)	1	1	1
Reinstating Members (\$ each, in 1st month)	1	1	1

Jonathan C. Elliott
August 21, 2009

Greater Los Angeles Area Mensa
 FY2008-2009 Working Budget
 May 2008 - Apr 2009

Thru Month 12

100% nominal
expended

Item	2008 - 2009 Budget	2008 - 2009 Budget YTD	2008 - 2009 Actual YTD	YTD Actual vs. Budgeted	EOY Projected
INCOME					
Newsletter	100.00	100.00	272.00	272%	272.00
Advertising Income	-	-	158.00		
Subscriptions (incl. Nat'l Sub.)	100.00	100.00	114.00		
Miscellaneous	-	-	-		
SIG Income	-	-	-		-
Scholarship Fund (donations)	-	-	192.00		192.00
RG Income	-	-	5,715.00		5,715.00
Bank Interest and Dividends	-	-	-		-
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	86.55		86.55
National Subsidy	12,484.80	12,484.80	16,891.37	135%	16,891.37
Full Dues (\$8.64/member/yr)	12,484.80	12,484.80	15,876.02		
Family Members (\$3/member/yr)	-	-	-		
New Members (\$1 1st month)	-	-	159.00		
Reinstating Members (\$1 1st month)	-	-	168.00		
Corp Subscriptions	-	-	104.00		
Misc. (CultureQuest, etc.)	-	-	584.35		
Testing	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,040.00	102%	2,040.00
Fees	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,040.00		
Practice Tests	-	-	-		
Area Funds (held by main acct)	-	-	1,221.00		1,221.00
ELAC	-	-	-		
SFV	-	-	200.00		
Coastal	-	-	-		
High Desert	-	-	1,021.00		
Mid-City	-	-	-		
TOTAL INCOME	14,584.80	14,584.80	26,417.92	181%	26,417.92
EXPENSES					
Newsletter	11,280.00	11,280.00	11,167.02	99%	11,167.02
Printing	7,500.00	7,500.00	8,721.16		
Postage	2,880.00	2,880.00	2,000.00		
Misc. (Circ. Exp, HiD NL subsidy, etc.)	900.00	900.00	445.86		
Mensaphone	211.56	211.56	194.15	92%	194.15
SIG Support (incl. CQ)	200.00	200.00	-	0%	-
Scholarship funding	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100%	1,000.00
RG Expenses	-	-	8,033.13		8,033.13
Bank Fees	-	-	-		-
New Members Receptions	750.00	750.00	170.68	23%	170.68
GLAAM BoD Officer Expenses	3,150.00	3,150.00	1,558.42	49%	1,558.42
Tax prep, Acct svcs	2,000.00	2,000.00	-		
D&O Insurance	650.00	650.00	-		
Misc	500.00	500.00	-		
Misc Expenses	1,200.00	1,200.00	3,669.28	306%	3,669.28
Testing	950.00	950.00	1,983.76	209%	1,983.76
Proctor expenses	750.00	750.00	1,983.76		
Practice Test expenses	200.00	200.00	-		
Area Funds (held by main acct)	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,328.25	44%	1,328.25
ELAC	600.00	600.00	221.23		
SFV	600.00	600.00	-		
Coastal	600.00	600.00	289.50		
High Desert	600.00	600.00	817.52		
Mid-City	600.00	600.00	-		
TOTAL EXPENSES	21,741.56	21,741.56	29,104.69	134%	29,104.69
INCOME - EXPENSES	(7,156.76)	(7,156.76)	(2,686.77)	38%	(2,686.77)