

Board of Directors MINUTES

Friday, 11th December 2020

Online



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Documents sent via email prior to meeting

- Agenda
- Minutes from previous month (from Nelle)
- TIFI "About the Board" final (from Peter)
- TIFI Board Issues and Concerns Nov2020 (from Nelle)
- Board Issues from 2019 - evaluation sheet (from Nelle)
- TAE proficiency award proposal (from Catherine and Evelyn)
- Proposed changes to Diversity of Approaches statement (from Catherine and Evelyn)
- TIFI ED report to BoD 2020.12 (from Catherine)

PRESENT: Nelle Moffett, Catherine Torpey, Paula Nowick, Evelyn Fendler-Lee, Peter Afford, Leslie Ellis

ABSENT: no absences

PRIME MOVER: Nelle

1. Attunement led by Evelyn

2. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the November meeting were approved without any changes.

3. DECISION: The "About the Board" document (which was compiled by Peter and discussed in the November meeting) was approved by the board as presented. It is seen as a working document, especially useful for new board members.

4. DECISION: Revision of the Diversity of Approaches Statement

The term "frozen structures of any kind" was discussed, and it was decided to leave out the whole sentence which contained that phrase. **With that revision, the Board approved the Diversity of Approaches Statement.** The statement will be distributed by Catherine to all members asking for feedback, which will include Zoom meetings led by Catherine and Evelyn.

The proposal to craft a statement expressing the importance of racial / ethnic diversity was also confirmed.

The importance of having a diverse team to formulate a diversity statement was emphasized as well as the

importance of the language used, so that it can be translated in different languages without any misunderstandings.

5. Vision and Strategic Planning (documents: TIFI Board Issues and Concerns Nov2020 & Board Issues from 2019 - evaluation sheet)

In order to identify the topics which should be focused on next year, each board member shared their sense of the top priorities.

Next steps: The results will be compiled by Nelle.

Nelle informed the board of what will happen next with these priorities and the process for conducting the ED's evaluation:

- In January: Discussion of ED report and start of evaluation. Nelle will conduct individual meetings with each board member regarding the evaluation.
- In February: discussion of draft evaluation letter.

6. Executive Director Report

Catherine submitted a written report and highlighted two items:

- Update on TAE Proficiency Award (Document: TAE Proficiency Award Proposal)

The board gave its assent to Catherine with the TAE Advisory Group (Nada Lou, Evelyn Fendler-Lee and Hanspeter Muehlethaler) to move forward with the next step, which is to talk to a wider group of TAE teachers about the proposal for a TAE Proficiency Award. Catherine noted that such an award would not be created until it has achieved board approval.

- Matching Grant

Catherine highlighted the matching grant of up to \$10,000 to be met in December and asked Board members to donate during this time to help meet the goal.

7. Reports on Portfolios

- a. Gendlin Center (Leslie): Working on Online Gendlin Symposium in April 2021. Call for proposals is out.
- b. Finance (Catherine): Catherine reported that as of December 8, TIFI was in the black by over \$10,000
- c. Website (Peter/Catherine): Giant Rabbit has assigned TIFI a new Project Manager, which has been a substantial improvement. Getting the store operational is a priority (for selling streaming of videos and sales of books/DVD).
- d. Governance (Paula):

Bylaws and minutes need to be uploaded on website. Paula will check with Sherrie and Catherine on status of these items.

Nominating Committee (Paula): Interviews with candidates for board member vacancy are going on. A new treasurer is needed which could be someone from outside the Focusing community. Board members were encouraged to think of people whom they know who might be willing to serve. There might also be organizations that match people who want to serve on boards with organizations that need people.

The next Board Meeting will be Friday, 8th January 2021 at 12noon (U.S. Eastern time)

Minutes taken by Evelyn Fendler-Lee