



THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUSING INSTITUTE

Building on the work of Eugene T. Gendlin since 1979

Board of Trustees

MINUTES

August 9, 2019

Documents sent via email prior to meeting

- Agenda
- To do list from previous month
- Minutes from previous month
- Executive Director report
- Policy on Sponsorship of International Events document
- 2019 2nd Quarter Budget Against Actuals
- Balance Sheet 2019
- Stepping Up Phase II
- Board Good Will Calls document
- Q2 narrative for board

PRESENT: Paula Nowick, (President), Leslie Ellis (Vice President), Hanspeter Muehlethaler (Treasurer), Susan Rudnick (Secretary), Nancy Falls, Nelle Moffett, Peter Afford

PRIME MOVER: Paula Nowick

I. WELCOME TO PETER AFFORD

The Board introduced themselves and gave a warm welcome to Peter as a new member to the Board.

II. ATTUNEMENT AND CHECK IN LED BY SUSAN

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the July minutes.

IV. REVIEW OF JULY TO-DO LIST

As a follow up to the executive director evaluation research, Paula informed the Board that she has consulted with the executive directors from two other non-profits regarding evaluations. As a result, she will be meeting with Catherine to get her input and they will be working together on the form. Board members are still welcome to send Paula suggested forms.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Catherine submitted a written board report and highlighted sections of it.

VI. PORTFOLIO UPDATES

A. Finances

- Hanspeter and Catherine presented the second quarter actuals. Some detailed explanations were included in a separate document entitled "Q2 narrative for board"
- The Board discussed alternative ways to make the budget more understandable so they can more easily interpret the numbers and respond quickly if necessary. Hanspeter and Catherine agreed to work on adding a column in the budget showing revised projections.

B. Fundraising

Nancy spoke about the Stepping Up Campaign Phase II. The theme is accessibility -- in terms of geography, financial and language. Details were included in the document "Stepping Up Phase II." Board members are asked to make Goodwill calls once again.

C. Membership & Programs

- Susan informed the group that as part of the Programs Portfolio a policy has been drafted on how the Institute will be involved in future Focusing events.

PROPOSED POLICY ON SPONSORSHIP OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

As an international organization, The International Focusing Institute (TIFI) will be limiting its sponsorship of in-person events to those intended for an international audience. (We will continue with any regional conference which is already scheduled, but will not be part of scheduling any future regional conferences.)

The World FOT Conference, the Felt Sense Conference and, of course, the Advanced and Certification Weeklong ("Weeklong") have always been offered under the auspices of TIFI. Other conferences have sometimes had more direct involvement of TIFI, and sometimes less. We intend to turn our attention to being more actively involved in the International Focusing Conferences, International Children Focusing Conferences, and other major international conferences organized by our members and related organizations (including pre- or post-conference events). We invite those seeking to organize such conferences to approach us to agree upon the best way to work cooperatively.

- The policy was discussed at length by the Board.

VOTE: The Board voted to approve the proposal as submitted.

D. WEBSITE AND GENDLIN CENTER

- Leslie updated the Board that only one prize was awarded by the Gendlin Center for \$2,000 to Siebrecht Vanhooren. The committee is very happy with the research work that is being done by the grant recipient. The Steering Committee is addressing the issue of how to recruit really good quality research projects that will give quantitative research that shows the efficacy of Focusing.
- The Committee is also in the process of gathering as many articles as possible that have been written on Focusing in other languages. Their goal is to create a database that has all the Focusing research they can find and have it all in one place. When ready, the database will be on the Institute's website in the Gendlin Center section.

- Due to many obligations, Leslie told the group that she has not been able to get involved with the website as much as she would like and is discussing with Catherine the possibility of being replaced.

E. Affiliated Organizations

Due to Dana's departure from the Board, this portfolio will be reassigned.

F. Governance

- Paula presented the following proposal:

Every August, the board will elect its officers. Every term is one year, with no limit on the number of times a board member can be re-elected to an office.

The proposal was amended to replace the word "elect" with the word "select:"
Every August, the board will select its officers. Every term is one year, with no limit on the number of times a board member can be re-selected to an office.

VOTE: The Board voted to approve the proposal as amended.

- The following officers were selected for the new term: Paula Nowick as President; Leslie Ellis as Vice President; Hanspeter Muehlethaler as Treasurer.

V. THANK YOU TO SUSAN RUDNICK

The Board concluded the meeting with each member expressing their thoughts with Susan and much gratitude for all her service. She will be missed.

VI. MEETING CLOSED

The next Board Meeting will be Friday, September 13, at 12noon (U.S. Eastern time)