



THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUSING INSTITUTE

Building on the work of Eugene T. Gendlin since 1979

Board of Directors

MINUTES

November 8, 2019

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

ABSENT: Catherine Torpey.

PRIME MOVER: Paula Nowick

1. PORTFOLIO REPORTS

1. (Hanspeter) FINANCIAL

The 2019 budget deficient may be even larger than originally estimated. The Board expressed its deep concern over the news and decided to organize a special one-hour meeting before the next scheduled monthly meeting in order to better understand the factors leading to the deficit, to clarify what steps need to be immediately taken to balance the books, and to provide guidance to the Executive Director to ensure the upcoming 2020 budget will be more conservative in its projections. Hanspeter will conduct a Doodle Poll to find a mutually convenient time for our special meeting.

2. (Paula) GOVERNANCE

There remain some minor modifications to the by-laws, but there is not much else pressing.

3. (Hanspeter) MEMBERSHIP AND PROGRAMS

There was no important news reported to Hanspeter. After some discussion, the Board agreed to have Paula assume this portfolio.

4. (Peter) WEBSITE AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Peter explained that he was about to carefully analyze the present status of the website's operations, but was hampered somewhat by having little information on the history and technical problems of the past three years. He was investigating TIFI's past procedures and policies regarding translations of Gendlin's writings that could guide future questions about the legality of certain requests.

5. (Leslie) GENLIN CENTER

The GC committee is moving forward in its mission to compile empirical research on the effectiveness of Focusing. It is continuing to seek out potential research projects that it might encourage with an award grant.

6. (Nancy) FUNDRAISING

A fundraising consultant has launched new initiatives soliciting donations which, it is anticipated, will strengthen the Stepping Up Campaign.

7. (Nelle) AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

The recent joint ILC/Board meeting generated a deeper understanding of the intricacies of TIFI/local organizations and individuals by presenting two specific case studies of actual requests. Some participants requested a followup meeting of a similar format.

II. REVISION OF TIFI POLICY CLARIFICATION FOR COORDINATORS

The Board approved the joint document as presented.

III. GOODWILL CALLS

Board members reported positively on the warm responsiveness of those to whom they made a goodwill call. One member has yet to hear back from his email invitation to speak to his designated person.

IV. EVALUATION OF ED

The three Board members who have been on the Board for over one year are asked to complete the evaluation form asap and email it to Hanspeter who will compile the responses.

V. DONATA SCHOELLER REQUEST FOR TIFI'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT

While the Board agreed that translating Gendlin's writings is a most positive activity that TIFI should encourage and warmly supported Donata and Christiane's dedication to the enormous task of translating, there was no agreement in advance of the work for TIFI to pay for this translation. Nor is TIFI in a financial position to consider this.

IV. MEETING CLOSED

The next Board meeting will be Friday, December 13, 2019