



THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUSING INSTITUTE

Building on the work of Eugene T. Gendlin since 1979

Board of Directors

MINUTES

June 12, 2020

Online

Documents send in advance of the meeting:

ED report

Website Update

Annual Report 2019

- I. Leslie opened the meeting with a 'clearing the space' attunement.
- II. Three coordinators from Argentina, Cecilia Burgos, Maria Christina Colia, and Eny Ottini, introduced themselves to the Board and gave a brief summary of their many years of service in teaching Focusing and/or using Focusing in their therapy practices. The Board congratulated them on their becoming Coordinators.
- III. The minutes were amended and approved as amended.
- IV. Portfolio on Governance: (Paula)
ILC MEMBER APPROVED
After reviewing the impressive CV of Laura Bavalics of Hungary, the Board approved the Nominating Committee's recommendation of Laura Bavalics to the International Leadership Council.

A rather lengthy discussion of whether the Board wanted to add a 7th member resulted in a consensus that a potential 7th candidate would be considered if that person significantly added to the Board's diversity and professional skills. The Board was asked to suggest names of underrepresented minorities to the Nominating Committee.
- V. Portfolio on Website (Peter).
The board discussed Catherine's update paper on the status of the website and three proposals she has received for hosting, maintaining (back-ups, security updates etc.) and developing the site. The document outlines the 3 proposals and their associated costs. Peter reported that our volunteer expert, François Roussel, favors Giant Rabbit, as they are confident the two platforms for the site (Drupal 8 and CiviCRM) can be combined, and they work with non-profit organizations. The board asked Catherine to contact Giant Rabbit to clarify what their basic contract includes and what would incur extra costs, as well as to request references/recommendations before making a final decision.
- VI. Portfolio on the Gendlin Research Center: (Leslie)
The committee was successful in its request to this year's grant winner to include more stringent test procedures in order to meet contemporary research standards. They are pleased with the

new design of the research. This Fall's online symposium on the works of Gendlin is scheduled for October 30 – November 1, 2020 at Seattle University..

VII. Portfolio on Fundraising: (Nancy)

TIFI successfully applied for and received \$45,900 from the federal PPP program to supplement its operating costs, such as rent, payroll, etc. Board members were urged to complete their goodwill calls. Catherine is available to supply contact and background information.

VIII. ED report

A written report was submitted. There was also conversation about the following items:

The innovative Focus-a-thon was a success. From the 350 registrants, 175 were neither members nor subscribers to TIFI's mailing list. The event raised \$3,700.00.

Catherine recommended the Board approve approximately \$2,500 to \$4,000 for legal assistance in drawing up a standard Intellectual Properties contract for matters including translating Gene's writings into other languages, as well as drafting our general policies on different kinds of permission. The Board approved spending the initial \$2,500.

IX. Strategic planning

Hanspeter stated his concern that the momentum the Board had generated in suggesting possible vision and mission statements had been frozen by the proposal to undertake a very large, lengthy, comprehensive study into the entire process of strategic planning which would then include mission and vision statements. He hoped that that the Board would reengage in its previous pursuit of trying to envision TIFI's next forward steps as a membership-responsive organization. To that end he will resend a summary of our past emails on this subject. Nelle stated that she is not envisioning a long, drawn-out strategic planning process at this time and supports continuing the effort to define a vision statement.

X. About the Board document

Peter asked for comments via email on his draft of a document on the role of the Board.