



THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUSING INSTITUTE

Building on the work of Eugene T. Gendlin since 1979

Board of Directors

MINUTES 11th November 2022 Online

Documents sent via email prior to meeting

- Agenda
- Minutes from previous month
- Adjunct Board Member – Proposed Procedure.odt
- Board minutes 2022.Sept – Draft.doc
- Board minutes Draft October 2022.docx
- Process for Naming Coordinators – 2022.pdf
- By-laws – approved 10.09.2020.docx
- TIFI ED report to BoD 2022.11

PRESENT: Nelle Moffett, Darryl Commings, Flor Sassoli, Catherine Torpey, Eveline Moor Züllig and
Veronica Toescu

ABSENT: Evelyn Fendler-Lee (excused)

GUESTS: ILC members: Claude Missiaen and Massimo Zarghetta

- I. **Proposal to add Board Secretary** – Veronica agreed to take this role and will be taking the minutes from now on. All in agreement. Proposal to add Board Secretary (Article 6 - Officers) to the Bylaws
- II. **Approval of the minutes** - from meetings in September & October 2022 – both minutes approved by the Board
- III. **Attunement** by Eveline Moor Züllig

IV. Presentation of Process for Naming Coordinators

The two ILC guests formally presented and requested Board approval of the “Process for Naming Coordinators.” Claude gave a brief overview of the lengthy and careful “Pilot Program” that the ILC

undertook over the course of five years and many meetings. The Board expressed their admiration and gratitude for the ILC's excellent work, which was done in a way so consistent with the ethos of Focusing.

The Board unanimously approved the proposed "Process for Naming Coordinators." The comment was made that although this is a finalized document, as is consistent with the TIFI way, there is always room for future review and amendment, as new circumstances may warrant.

- V. **Conversation about more connection between the ILC and Board:** The aim is to encourage more connection between the ILC and the Board. The unique functions of the ILC and the Board are well understood by both groups. However, there is currently not a formal connection/interaction between the groups. A suggestion was made for one ILC member to periodically attend Board meetings, and for a Board member to periodically attend ILC meetings. The Board President and the ILC Prime Mover will discuss next steps.

VI. **Third quarter Financial Report & 990**

- a. 990s: As non-profit organization TIFI must report to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) of our operations, using the Form 990 which has necessary public information and demonstrates that we are well organized. TIFI hires the service of professionals for filing this form and this is closely linked to the Audit that takes place every year. We follow best practice, which is to have one person do the Audit and another do the 990. The 990 is a public document. The question was raised whether we want to create a policy statement about sharing the 990 publicly. It was suggested to put it in the agenda for the future.
- b. 3rd quarter report: Expenses are right were we expected. A third quarter deficit is an annual pattern which generally turns around in the fourth quarter because of the tradition of giving donations at year's end. In terms of planning, the timing of programming can take this into account in the future. The possibility of shifting the fiscal year was discussed, though no decision was made.

VII. **Proposal for "Adjunct Board Member"**

This proposed new policy would allow the Board to invite someone to be an "adjunct," non-voting Board member for one year. It could give the adjunct a chance to participate without the commitment of 3 years. They could learn how the board works or have the chance to bring their expertise. It could serve to bring greater diversity to the Board. For instance, it makes it more possible to have young people who have lots to give, and they can also learn. Having the opportunity to invite non-voting members provides the Board the chance to bring on someone with specific skills, such as accountancy, when the Board needs external or expert input into financial management. The Board approved the proposal. Nelle will write a policy document to be approved in December.

VIII. **Executive Director Monthly report**

Catherine submitted a written report, and reported briefly verbally on:

- The upcoming TAE Academy Award this weekend
- We've revised the Account page that members see when they sign onto the website make to make it easier for members to know when their membership is up for renewal.
- The 2023 Felt-Sense Conference theme will be "Spirituality and the Murky Edge"

- February 2023: Online Children & Focusing Conference

IX. **Strategic Conversation**

The Board did some felt Sensing on recent elections in the USA and other countries. It was a wide-ranging discussion. One noteworthy comment: “The tools that we teach seem to be part of the solution”

MEETING CLOSED

The next Board Meeting will be Friday, 9th December 2022 at 12noon (U.S. Eastern time)