



THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUSING INSTITUTE

Building on the work of Eugene T. Gendlin since 1979

MINUTES

Board of Directors

January 10, 2025

PRESENT: Nelle Moffett, Flor Sassoli, Bill Gayner, Tom Larkin, Darryl Commings, Catherine Torpey

ABSENT: Eveline Moor Züllig

GUESTS (NEW COORDINATORS):

Gerrard Porredon (Spain)

Mohamed Altawil (UK)

I. The December Minutes will be submitted together with the January Minutes at the February Meeting

II. 4th Quarter (2024) Financial Report (Darryl):

Darryl shared and explained the year-end numbers and how they compared to what had been budgeted for 2024. The year (2024) ended with a deficit. He explained that the deficit resulted not from an expenses problem, as expenses came in as budgeted. However, there was less revenue, due to a couple of classes and conferences which didn't take place, for various reasons (mostly having to do with the capacity of volunteers to run them). Donations came in slightly less than budgeted; however, the fundamentals are sound: membership and certification fees came in exactly as anticipated.

In the 2025 budget, Catherine is taking into account the circumstances which reduced revenue in 2024. Catherine explained that TIFI can offer programs this year which require somewhat less volunteer effort. She also making plans for a fundraising campaign early in the year, in addition to the end-of-year fundraising.

III. Reminder: the Annual Meetings of Members with the Board will take place on February 4 and 9

IV. Conversation inspired by statements made on the Focusing Discussion List regarding the war in Gaza
The Board became aware of a conversation taking place on the Focusing Discussion List, where some people in the Focusing community would like „TIFI“ to write a public statement on the situation in Gaza. As it happened, Mohamed Altawil had been invited to meet the Board as a new Coordinator at the beginning of the meeting; he ran late and joined the Board meeting at this point. After the normal brief introduction that is always done with new Coordinators, he was invited to stay if he chose, to take part in this conversation. He did so. The Board was very appreciative of having Mohamed (a native of Gaza) with us, as we each felt sensed our way through the conversation. Many thoughts and feelings were shared, and there was general consensus that what is important is that human dignity, freedom, justice and peace prevail for all people. Focusing is vitally important around the world and in especially in situations like this. We have wonderful Focusing teachers both in Gaza and in Israel and their work is more important now than ever. It was pointed out that the Board is offering two meetings with TIFI members in February, and that members are invited to attend and share any concerns or questions at those meetings, or at any time by writing the Board directly at its email address board@focusing.org.

Minutes by Ilse Pieth, edited by Catherine Torpey and Nelle Moffett

