

RPIRG Board Meeting

March 16, 2009; 3:00-5:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Laurie, Clint, Travis, Charlotte, Rhonda

Regrets: Shaheen

Meeting begins 3:05

1. Check-In: connections, updates, passions... (10 mins)
2. Approve Minutes (Feb 23/09) (2 minutes)
Minutes approved
3. Approve Agenda (1 minute)
Agenda approved. Rhonda suggests that we switch order next time so that approving minutes comes after approving the agenda. Board is OK with this.
4. Board Roles (10 mins)
We discussed a list of roles brought by Rhonda. The board decides it is best to delegate roles at the beginning of each meeting. If bringing food to the meeting, please email or basecamp everyone to let us know.

RPIRG Board Meeting Roles

Tick Tock

Time keeper watches how long we spend on each item and reminds us that we do not have to solve every issue at this meeting. Presents options: table unresolvable items, continue discussion and table other less important items, extend length of meeting.

The Juggler

Facilitates conversation. Aware of group dynamics. Manages (better word?) (and brings?) agenda.

Vibe-Watcher

Watches, listens, feels, observes and reports back on the vibe of the conversation before moving to next item. May lighten things up... (*joke master*)

Chef Yum Yum

Bearer of delicious snacks, kettle, tea bags. All members must BYO mug, if they want tea. Posts intention on Basecamp before meeting.

The Lead

Brings an item to the agenda and takes the lead on discussion. May be linked to committees or portfolios.

Superscribe/Synthesizer – Staff Role

Minute taker extraordinaire. Writes notes of discussions and resolutions. Also clarifies with speakers and sums up discussion after the Vibe-Watcher has spoken, or in the midst if it seems to be confusing or running in circles.

5. Budget Report (10 minutes)
Rhonda will create a chart for the budget actuals versus projected budget. Overview of

funding money remaining: \$9050 left in Project/Event and \$2000 left in WG.

6. Applications Assessment Committee: Funding Recommendations (20 mins)
Working Group Applications

Recommendation: All Applications Assessment Committee Members recommend that some of the budgeted, but unspent Working Group funding (\$1450) be used towards the GBLUR project.

Project/Event/Training Fund Applications

1. Engineers Without Borders Fair Trade Campaign

Request: \$500

Recommendation: All Applications Assessment Committee Members recommend the Engineers Without Borders "Fair Trade Campaign" be approved by the Board of Directors for \$500 Project funding.

2. GBLUR Resource Centre

Request: \$10,000

Recommendation: All Applications Assessment Committee Members recommend the GBLUR Resource Centre project be approved by the Board of Directors for \$10,000 Project funding.

Total Funding Recommendations = \$10,500

Discussion: Clint asked if GBLUR will be reporting progress throughout the summer. Staff explain that they will only need to abide by the contract, which states that they must submit a budget and final report after the project is complete. Board reaches consensus on funding.

BIRT RPIRG approves the Applications Assessment Committee recommendations for March 2009, including moving \$1450 from Working Group funds to account for the extra Project funding.

Extra Funding Opportunity:

Charlotte was approached by students who want to apply for funding for a summer project but missed the deadline. They are asking \$450. The board must decide whether it agrees with considering this application since the deadlines have already passed. Some ideas we thought of:

- *Since we do not have a spring/summer funding round this may be acceptable*
- *Since we have \$550 remaining from winter funding this is possible.*
- *We may want to open a new funding round for the \$550 to be fair to others, but this is too costly.*
- *Ranch Ehrlo may offer these kinds of services.*
- *Group can also apply for reimbursement in Fall 09*
- *Charlotte will request that the group submit an application if the board decides it makes sense to consider it.*
- *We should open a discussion on Basecamp about whether we should consider the project, not about the merits of this particular idea.*

So....a discussion will be posted on Basecamp about whether or not to consider funding this project. Board members have until Monday, March 23rd to come to consensus, otherwise we will not consider funding the project. Staff will remove themselves from the discussion to give the Board a chance to have a full conversation considering all points of view and reach consensus.

7. RPIRG Events (10 minutes)
Board involvement: Board should make a real effort to attend and be active at RPIRG events for the sake of the organization. Board should also be doing PR at events, wear a nametag and table these events.
8. Elections Update (20 mins)
Filling 4 positions. Volunteers: Carillon ad with candidate pics and bios ASAP, ballot counting March 26 (Laurie, Clint, who else?)
Elections: Unsure if we are having formal elections. If so, Laurie, Clint and Char volunteer to count ballots on the evening of the 26th.
9. Retreat (15 minutes)
Discuss dates with new Board
10. FCAC (5 minutes)
Meeting delayed again because staff and BOD is too busy. We want to involve the new BOD, so we will make a meet and greet day after elections. We also may want to consider having a portion of the retreat reserved for FCAC discussions/meeting.
11. Board Development Workshop (5 minutes)
Tabled to next BOD meeting to include new BOD.
12. Schedule Next Meeting (5 minutes)
IMPORTANT: BOD Next meeting March 27th 3-5 location TBA
Other: Due to BOD absence staff will check the constitution to determine what course of action is required in the case of BOD absenteeism.
13. Check-out (5 minutes)
Meeting adjourned 4:45 p.m.