

PeaceWorks, Inc. Board of Directors Telecon Minutes, October 14, 2009

PeaceWorks, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Telecon Minutes

October 14, 2009

(Action items in italics)

BOD Members Present: Darvesha MacDonald (Interim President), Allaudin Sandy Hill, Kabir Stuart McKinnon, Maitreya Jon Stevens, Halima Sussman

Also present: Munir Peter Reynolds (Interim Director); Martha Bracken (IN office manager); Sky Majida Roshay (Volunteer Coordinator/Recording Secretary)

*Toward the One,
the Perfection of Love, Harmony and Beauty, The only Being,
United with all the Illuminated Souls who form the embodiment of the Master,
The Spirit of Guidance.*

AGENDA

Welcome and Check in
Approve Minutes from 7 October telecon
Discussion of Notes and/or Minutes decision
Discussion of usefulness of Backgrounder
Kabir McKinnon as Interim Treasurer – update
Alima Stoeckel as Advisor
IN Website – update
Pubs Proposal
Upcoming PW Inc regional telecons
New Bylaws
Closing and Check Out

Next Telecon Dates:

Wed Oct 21, 2009; 2 p.m. Pacific, 3 p.m. Mountain; 5 p.m. Eastern time.

Tuesday, 10 November; 5 p.m. Eastern time. Tentative.

Out of Town Schedules:

Darvesha will be away for a month, beginning 23 October.

Allaudin is unavailable 1-11 November.

MINUTES

Welcome and Check-In

Munir reviewed the agenda with BOD, with the above resulting list. Everyone present offered a brief check-in.

Approve Minutes of the 7 October telecon/ Discussion of Notes and/or Minutes decision

Two documents reporting on last week's telecons were presented for BOD's consideration; one is longer, with more record of the conversation, one is slightly shorter with summaries of the discussions. Kabir moves, Halima seconds, that the shorter version of the minutes of the 7 October telecon minutes be accepted for distribution. Passes unanimously.

There was discussion of whether there was a need for two versions of the meeting, notes and minutes. *Munir suggests that he, Halima and Sky Majida come up with a recommendation to present to the board on this next time.* BOD agrees.

Discussion of usefulness of Backgrounder

BOD agreed that having a backgrounder frames the meeting well and gives a good context and would like those to continue.

Kabir McKinnon as Interim Treasurer

Munir asked a nonprofit attorney in Montana about having a Canadian serve as Treasurer of a non-profit public benefit corporation; the attorney says there is no problem with it in Montana, and Munir believes the same would be true in California. He adds that in the past Europeans have served as officers of the corporation with no problem, so if Kabir is willing to move forward as Treasurer let's just do it. Kabir is willing, and BOD is appreciative.

Alima Stoeckel as Advisor

Alima Stoeckel of the German network (who has served as Regional Networker/ International Council member from that region) has volunteered to serve as an advisor to the Board. She cannot at this time come on as a Board member due to other concerns in her life, but has offered herself and Rashid, another member of the German network who is also an attorney, as advisors and communicators with the German network. Munir has spoken with her, and reports that the German network is very optimistic and supportive of the new plans.

Allaudin moves that Alima be added as an Advisor; Halima seconds. Kabir clarified for all that Alima is being appointed as advisor in the sense described in the Unity Council recommendations rather than a new member of the Advisory Council. *Sky Majida will add Alima and Rashid to the minutes distribution list.*

IN Website

Munir reports that Johara is working with Bruce Heeter about specific aspects of the web design. Halima adds only that the website committee is in process.

Allaudin asks what the process is on this project: will the website just pop up one day or will the BOD be asked to review it? Munir says the committee is still working on developing the “feel” of the website, even though the size of the committee has shrunk, and there is still much to do with the content. The BOD will have a chance to offer feedback and input when the draft design gets to that point.

Munir will discuss this project further with Darvesha and Halima.

Pubs Proposal

Munir, Darvesha and Martha have met by telecon and have presented (via email) a plan to reduce the inventory in the near term by a year-end sale and by giving a certain amount of the inventory (for the cost of shipping) to various organizations which exist in the same vein as Peaceworks. The short term goal is to get the inventory down to a manageable amount by the end of the year.

This sale and reduction does not include materials that are directly related to Dance leadership and/or are resources for Dancers: direct lineage support. Halima points out that there is some clarification needed about what this kind of resource actually includes. Darvesha, Munir and Martha are working on completing a list of what has been published by Peaceworks Pubs, and of materials that are essential for the support of Dance leaders and the lineage. *Darvesha agreed that it is the responsibility of the MTG Guidance Council to recommend materials essential dance leader training and will consult with the Council to prepare such a list.*

The Board has unanimously approved, via email, the plan and a draft email to go to many people who have been offering their products through Peaceworks Pubs catalog, asking them if they are agreeable to having their products sold at a lower price (sale price) than they might be offering them for, or would they like the products returned to them?

Halima moves, Allaudin seconds, that the sale begin as soon as possible. Passes unanimously.

Munir gave a summary of his initial discussion with Mansur Johnson yesterday. Munir described the new direction of the board and asked Mansur about his feelings on the continued sale of the book Murshid. Discussion followed on how to best make materials for sale into the future.

It was noted that recent book contracts signed by PeaceWorks with different authors call for paying a royalty percentage of the published price per book sold. This raises some questions that may require legal or professional advice.

Allaudin, Darvesha, Munir and Martha offer to begin working on a Pubs Committee to take up the longer-term plan for PeaceWorks materials. Munir reminds BOD that committee make-up is not confined to BOD members. *Sky*

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Majida adds that previous Pubs Committee members have offered to help with this; she will send the committee a list of their names. Kabir adds that if the committee could become clear on their goals and strategies, that will make it clear as to what resources (people) to add to the mix.

Darvesha moves that BOD adopt Halima's suggestion to ask on the listserves if someone would be willing to take on order fulfillment as a service. Allaudin seconds. Passes unanimously. *Munir will draft the email to go out; Halima and Martha will review and edit.*

Kabir, as Treasurer, asked whether PeaceWorks ought to reduce the book (accounting) value of the materials as assets before disposing of them, since they have an actual value significantly less than the retail value that has been carried forward in the accounting. *Martha will send the spreadsheet of this information to the committee and Kabir; she also suggests that they talk with Ananda Hazzard, the accountant, who has a much better idea of the accounting aspect of this than she does.*

Upcoming PeaceWorks Inc Regional Telecons

The European telecon is scheduled for Tuesday, 20 October, at 2 p.m. Eastern time; the North American telecon is Thursday, 22 October, at 7:30 p.m. Eastern time. Munir and Pir Shabda will be on both calls.

Munir reports that Peaceworks North America has sent an email out announcing the telecons to their circle contacts. He asks any BOD members who wish to be on either call to contact Sky Majida for the call details.

New Bylaws

Kabir reports that he has already read the bylaws and has had conversations with several people about them. He feels fairly confident that the BOD can make the necessary changes to the current bylaws with little difficulty. *He will have more to report next time.*

Closing and Check Out

The meeting concluded with a check out by all on the meeting process.