APPROVED

Billy Foundation Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Sunday, January 21, 2007

Location: at the home of Steve Rockwell & Steve Cismowski
741 Natoma Street, #1
San Francisco, California
(415) 553-8680

Board members present: Bill Blackburn, Jim Burke, Robert Conrad (Goat), John Cwiakala
Board Members absent: Paul Mueller, Charlie Seltzer
Staff: Marcus Borgman
Guests: Steve Rockwell, Mark Hoffheimer, Jim Gilson, Fred Fishman

Note: **Bold text indicates consensus agreement**
*Bold italics indicates specific person charged with task to accomplish*

Board President Jim Burke called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

I. Introductory Items

1. Welcome / Check-In: Done
2. Personal Announcements: None
3. Working Agreements: Read
4. Agenda Revisions: None
5. Approval of Dec. 17 Minutes: Strike last sentence on page 2, “We decided to reset our “clock” on the expectations of Toby from his first release till at least Dec. 6 start.” Consensed. John Cwiakala’s computer is malfunctioning, dislikes being Secretary, will continue but suggests the Board look for another more interested in the position.
6. Billy Goals / Agreements: New Draft provided by Bill Blackburn, then read aloud.

II. Old Business

1. Visioning Working Groups Update: Blackburn gave update of the Vision Retreat working group meetings. **Mission/Values** group lost Charlie Seltzer but gained Fred Fishman as point person/focalizer. **Fundraising** is in focalizer transition. **Volunteer** lost Tim Henke as focalizer but should start up again after the Skills Survey completed. **Inreach** has the Skills Survey in progress, Chas Nol is focalizer. **Juicy Gathering** is not contemplating any changes in policies, but has had two meetings already with upwards of 15 at the last meeting. **Outreach** needs Billy Values piece completed. Has decided the web site is important as are paper handouts at potlucks, presence at Gay Days may be more productive at smaller community events than the larger SF event. Discussed using a web-based calendar for all Billy events. **Communications:** Discussed use of BilleNet and Board Announcement email list. Want some overlap but no minutes on BilleNet, link to them okay. David Brin reported to offer to help proof gathering calls. Clarification - Billy Times is open to community
articles, and will be published 6 times per year with each gathering call except for Mid Winter 2007 because the deadline is too close to make.

2. **Heartwood Re-cap**: Financial numbers are generally good, Community Circle held and had good attendance, some issues behind the scenes with logistics but nothing major.

3. **Report on ex-RC/Restitution**: Jim Burke gave report. Toby may be prohibited from contacting the Billy Foundation, but his parole officer’s supervisor said this is not the case. If wage garnishment is wanted, we have to wait until Toby is working, then petition for garnishment. Karen Ottoboni will stay on top of informing the office if/when Toby is working. He is living in Ukiah with a roommate but not working at present. Steve Rockwell suggested if Toby is prohibited in this way it must be part of a publicly identifiable court order. Goat wondered if the Board should put an end to “beating this dead horse.” Hoffheimer supported Goat’s comment, asking “How do we end this?” Jim Gilson asked “How do we heal the community split over this?” Jim Burke informs the Board he will remove this item from the agenda until word from Karen Ottoboni that Toby is working again. At that point, the Board will decide if future action on Restitution is warranted. *Bill Blackburn, Jim Gilson and Goat volunteer to brainstorm ideas on healing our community over the Toby issue.*

4. **Office Sign Designs**: Latest designs passed around. Burke requests Board members take them home and discuss next meeting.

5. **Winter gathering**: to be considered after the Break

6. **Yard Sale Update**: Resource Coordinator will split local names with Peter Dal Pogetto to call to find local home for storage and location of yard sale. If not together by next meetings, we cancel the event.

7. **Billy Times Update**: Deadline for Board members to get articles in to Billy Times editor is Wednesday February 14.

8. **Board Retreat Update**: to be considered after the Break.

9. **Gathering Refund Policy**: Tabled until next meeting.

*** BREAK 3:20 pm until 3:30 pm***

**III. New Business**

1. **New Board Members**: Jim Burke gave overview of the Board selection process. Mark Hoffheimer considered first, answered questions. Consensus to bring Hoffheimer onto the Board. Steve Rockwell answered questions. Consensus to bring Rockwell onto the Board. Both Hoffheimer and Rockwell were formally seated at this time.
II. Old Business

5. Winter Gathering: One coordinator cannot get other sub-coordinators, the other coordinator has not yet responded to request. Gathering call not ready. All agree “not good.” Lots of preliminary work by Gathering Portfolio holder Rockwell but some necessary components not yet together and there is no more time to get it together. All speakers say the gathering should not go forward. The Resource Coordinator will draft a statement to release regarding why we cannot go forward with the Mid Winter gathering.

8. Board Retreat: The only weekend all Board members can make is April 13-15. Resource Coordinator to change date of home rented for Retreat, and asked the agenda be crafted so only one day of the retreat requires RC attendance.

III. New Business


4. Future BoD Mtg. Locations: The schedule has been two meetings in Ukiah then one in Sonoma county. Hoffheimer cannot make the February meeting in Ukiah. Gilson requested deciding now on schedule changes as he will be flying from southern California to make Board meetings. Consensus to change Board meeting schedule to Ukiah/Sonoma county/ SF-Bay Area rotation, and to place on the February agenda the question of whether to hold the April Board meeting at the Board Retreat. Resource Coordinator to publish the Board’s meeting schedule.

Additional Items if time permits….

1. Monthly Pledging: no time
2. Committees & Portfolios: no time
3. Gathering Drop-In Policy: no time
4. Board Attendance Perk: no time
5. Board Recruitment: no time

V. Future Agenda Items

1. 2007 Budget Discussion
2. Billy Endowment
3. Gathering Auction
4. Alternate Gathering Sites
5. Billy Grant Giving
6. Decision-making between meetings
VI. Portfolio Reports

1. Gatherings: Portfolio holder and RC are reviewing and drafting revision of the Gathering Manual. Goals are to move toward more instruction manual/job description, revise some sub-coordinator descriptions, updating to reflect current practice and current money handling policies. Expect the first draft at the February meeting. We are also visiting Goat’s property 2/17/07 for a site inspection for Labor Day gathering.

2. BESF: no report

3. Publications: no report

4. Personnel: no report

5. Fundraising: no report

6. BillyFon: no report

7. Site Search: no report

8. By-Laws: no report

9. Billy Boutique: no report

10. Billy Website: no report


12. Mendocino Outreach: no report

13. Grantwriting: no report

VII    Action Items to be completed

April or May meeting: web site item with Joe Kukulka
Jim Burke talks with David Brin re: community articles
Jim Burke gets Community Circle minutes
Jim Burke gets updates from Karen Ottoboni
Jim Burke will inform Charlie Seltzer he can resign now
Jim Burke places Budget approval item at March meeting
Goat, Jim Gilson, Bill Blackburn brainstorm and draft Community Healing item for March meeting
RC to deliver office Wish List to Billy Times
RC to deliver article on Richard Locke Scholarship Fund practice to Billy Times
RC to publish the Board’s meeting schedule
Paul Mueller, Bill Blackburn Mark Hoffheimer propose agenda for Board Retreat for March meeting
Rockwell and RC present first draft of revised Gathering Manual at February meeting
Site report for Goat’s property at February meeting

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Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.
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Submitted by Marcus Borgman, Resource Coordinator and edited by John Cwiakala, Secretary