

All Star One On-Island Governance Council Meeting\*  
Marshman Building on Star Island  
June 30, 2013

ATTACHMENT B

Present:

Phil Pierce, Jim Prochaska, Jan Prochaska, Louise Williams, Mary Trudeau, Ali Walton, Deb Walton, Sally Easter Jr., Dick Case, Bob Jorgenson, Bobbi Jorgenson, Scott Stewart, Anne Stewart, Steve Parr, Hal Basdekis, Val Basdekis, Wanda Wood, Carla Osgood, Lois Williams, Pete Williams Holly Hunnicutt, Adam Osgood, David Osgood, Elee Bernd, Bill Gimpel, Chris Gimpel, Karen Mills, Marion Cook, Roy Cook, Tom Griffiths, Jane Trudeau, David Yermack, Bill Tibbs, John Best, Estelle Best, Betsy Berg, David Epstein, Elissa Best, Tom Coleman, Dennis O'Keefe, Judy O'Keefe, Cheryl Anne Sturken, Pam Pierce, Dug Miller, Kemp Harris, Elizabeth Yermack, Larry Yermack, Dana Powsner, Henry Powsner, Ben Soule, Tom Walton, Deb Weiner Soule, Tricia Coleman.

Phil Pierce, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

Nominations for conference chair, 2015:

Nominations were made taken for 2015 conference chair

Vote for Chair:

Henry Powsner explained ranked voting. You cast a ballot on which you list ALL the candidates in the order you would like to see them chosen. The count identifies first place votes. David Yermack: If anyone gets more than half of the first place votes they are automatically elected, if not a second count is made. Others are eliminated.

Voting commenced and votes were counted. While being counted, other business was covered.

Registrar's report:

Annie Stewart reported that there will be 288 people on island by Friday. The Island has been very encouraging; they brought in extra staff to serve people in the dining room and elsewhere. Normally over ten people would have dropped out after registering; this year it didn't happen. Joe Watts has been very accommodating and the new online registration system worked very well in general. The registration system did not accommodate people who had a family cap, however. People who overpaid will be reimbursed after the Treasurer reviews the list. All people who applied on time got in. There are about twenty new shoalers present. Question: is there a concern about whether we are losing old shoalers and whether we will be oversubscribed? Response: we accommodated everyone who applied. Scotty Stewart: At the end of the week, talk to Ali or Deb Walton and tell them whether the number felt OK or too high. We had only five people drop out and we need to know whether we can continue to accommodate such large attendance – but it is great that the conference is so popular. Tom Griffiths: Remember that there are still conferences not filled, including AS2, with Tim Berners-Lee as speaker. Sign up! Scotty: And remember that Joe deserves thanks from us.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Gimpel reports our fiscal health is excellent, better than we have ever been in the past. Can't report

on financial assistance because there have been some modifications. Proceeds from the auction will go toward the annual fund as well as Texas Hold 'Em. Proceeds from the T-shirts that Cookie did go to financial assistance. Chokefest shirts proceeds go to the conference treasury.

Bill said, "I want to plant a seed. I want to say that we are in such fiscal shape that we have a surplus. I would like to suggest that you think, between now and the off island meeting, that the conference consider donating money to the Corporation for a specific project in the name of the conference. By the time of the meeting I will have a sense of projects and how much money we have spent. The state of the financial assistance fund suggests that we are solvent for five years out."

Tom Walton: I think we want to be sure not to rob Peter to pay Paul so that we have enough to pay for financial aid going forward.

Dana Powsner: Haven't we used the surplus to make sure registration fees don't go up?

Bill Gimpel: Fees have been stable except for raising fees by \$10, which went for financial aid. We are the lowest of all the family conferences in terms of registration fees.

Jan Prochaska: SIC is doing well and for the first time in years there was a surplus in the budget. Things are on target now, we expect that there will be a balanced budget and there is a \$100K grant from Veatch. Other grants are also being applied for, so this does not just depend on us, but on others who come on a regular basis to help support the island.

Deb Walton: This is the first time in a number of years that we haven't allocated lots of money for financial assistance.

Bill Gimpel: 3 or 4 years ago, we said we could take up to fifty percent of art auction monies for financial assistance, and we took \$4K. But we don't need money this year from that source. How will we replenish financial assistance money awarded this year? From the registration fees that are coming in and the T-shirts that will bring in 1200 or so, plus some incidentals.

Elizabeth Yermack: We have not ever turned anyone away that asks for financial aid and it is vitally important that we maintain an economically diverse community. We want to be sure that we will always have \$12,500 in that fund.

Ben Soule: I want to understand if you are moving away from the model that we used for years and years: registration was set at a certain level but as costs rose, there was an increasing deficit. So we had years of shifting costs.

Bill Gimpel: Electronic distribution of mail has changed expenses for the conference. We aren't seeing that same pattern any more. Additionally, the last two registration fee increases we have had have gone toward financial aid.

Elizabeth Yermack: Now that people have paid bills by VISA, donations are going directly to the island. That money goes directly in and eliminated donations to the conference's financial aid fund.

#### Annual Fund Report:

Cory Easter, Annual Fund Agent, arrived to talk about the Annual Fund Goal. Cory said that he felt it was time for those people in the 50 YO age range to step up. He indicated that Josie Easter would be a big part of the campaign. Cory said Ned Tillman would continue to be a good source of advice and counsel; Cory has also talked to Larry Yermack. "Our goal is to get people to participate at some level. We are

here to do what we can; we may be sending out messages with embedded links later in the season. Our goal is to speak on island with the most generous donors.”

Holly Hunnicutt: suggests talking to Carol Weissman, who has excellent connection to fund raising techniques.

Conference Goal last year was \$90K, we raised \$85K. Cory would like to suggest 5% more as a possibility.

Larry Yermack: In the past, the person in your role recommended a number. It’s unfair to look to you to recommend it, but what could we do? What did LOAS raise? \$87K.

Cory suggested that our conference set \$100K as our goal.

Tricia Coleman: When we vote on this and we say we are committed to that number, we have to be serious about it. I say \$100K is greater than \$85K and I do that calculation my head...am I willing to give that percentage more.

Carla Osgood: Last year we were asked to make a commitment that went for three years. A lot of people opted to do that. So to have to add on to that is significant.

Jim Prochaska: A place that is realistic and less of a stretch is \$90K.

Tom Walton: Greatest idea is that we have more people on the island than we have ever had. Idea of spreading the base so that it is not painful, and using technology to get there, is good. If it’s 10, 15, 20 more, that is a good way to get there.

Kemp Harris: I like the model that NPR uses...I am the guy who is moved by turning on the guilt and encouragement. Saying, “This is reasonable.” With social networking you can do that.

Bill Gimpel: Can we offer up a ‘sustaining membership’ where we contribute each month by debiting your credit card or checking account?

Annie Stewart: I keep seeing people who come up to the Snack Bar. Maybe we should ask them to match their Snack Bar outlay for the annual fund?

Roy Cook: I keep getting funds mixed up. Is there three different funds, two, or one? Response (Cory): There are two, capital and annual. The question is: how much we will give to the annual fund.

Phil Pierce: Are we comfortable with \$90K? Motion of \$90K carried resoundingly (by acclamation). People applauded their thanks to Cory.

The Governance Council recognized, with thanks, the contributions of Annie and Scotty Stewart, who have served as Registrars for six years. Ali Walton succeeds them as Registrar.

Fall Meeting of the Governance Council will take place at the Guest House, Chester, CT. October 25, 26, 27. Staff needs to know that we are committed to the weekend which will get us more choice of rooms and better preference for dates. People need to sign up for this weekend by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Expect an email from Tricia Coleman about this weekend, by next week.

#### Results of Election for Chairs:

Ali Walton announced the chairs for 2015 as Dave and Suzanne Cook.

A question was raised about whether the result of the election be known early. After discussion it was agreed that this should not be done without further consideration.

Process matters:

Carla Osgood asked: who is running the meeting in October and if you want to get something on the agenda, how do you do so? Tom Griffiths has agreed to moderate the fall meeting; if you want to put something on the agenda, send the idea to Tricia Coleman.

Louise Williams noted that she and Ali Walton will be co-chairing the Town meeting. They are looking for a supportive governance presence but emphasized that they are most interested in the possible participation coming from members of the conference community who are not governance council members.. They will have the agenda planned out and they hope that other people will raise any issues that need to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned (M; Larry Yermack and S: Ben Soule) at 3:00 PM.

*\*This was the first meeting of the renamed Governance Council, following changes to the All Star One Bylaws made in 2012.*

-- Debbie Weiner Soule, Secretary