

President's Report

AGM 2020

March 16, 2020

Board Membership

It was an eventful year. We started out with 13 directors in March 2019. In June one of our directors resigned. In September, both the Treasurer and Vice-President resigned. However, in October we had two new directors join us. Kheri took over as a signatory on our bank account and took over as the Chair of the GSO and Personnel Committee and as Vice President of the board. Tammie brought with her much needed knowledge around websites. She is currently looking at streamlining our book buying process and has revamped the website to make it more user friendly especially for mobile devices. She has also become our new Treasurer. Another director resigned in December, which brought us down to 9 directors, a situation which has endured until February at which time we gained one new director. We have been using a volunteer secretary for most of this year and hope to have one designated at the AGM.

We started a motions log to better track the motions we pass. It has helped us to be more aware of our decisions and to better follow up on them. We started to post reports and minutes on the website in order to improve communication and to allow all members who choose to attend board meetings to have access to the information they require to follow along.

I would like to thank all of the board members who served this past year. We would not be here without you. I would also like to thank our volunteer who devotes time on the various tasks that need to be done. I would like to thank our Office Manager for her dedication and hard work provided to us. We would not be in a position to function without you. Thank you for keeping us afloat.

Finances

We started getting monthly support from our accountant Dan Cohen which has resulted in more helpful reports. Our PayPal stopped working in late May and we got it going again in mid-June. We had an emergency board meeting on August 25 to create ideas on how to raise some funds. We sent out a letter asking for financial assistance and through the efforts of members we received a heart-warming response in the Fall. At the end of September, we moved out of the office and into a storage unit in order to save money. We also developed a committee whose purpose is to look at fund-raising efforts. Having quarterly appeals seems to have lost its helpfulness to us.

Committees

The Meeting Support Committee changed its role in the Spring. However, the Chair later resigned, and it has been largely dormant since then. We might think about putting it on a more permanent pause as well as the Consultative Committee since there has been so little activity for some time.

The Literature Committee continued to work on the second edition of the book and in February they started exploring the development of an e-book. The board voted to pursue this using the first edition of the book.

In the Fall we started a temporary committee whose role is to take us through an inventory both as a board and as a fellowship. This committee is set to go live soon with their series of questions. We hope to gain valuable insight from this process.

The GSR Committee, the GSO & Personnel Committee, the Public Information Committee and the Retreat and Conference Committee continued to work hard throughout this year, as did the Self Support and Inventory Committees since they were created during the year. I am grateful to the people who serve on these committees and I thank you so much for your time and efforts. Each of your roles is so important. All of these committees can use increased support and there is time on the agenda to talk about that.

Upcoming Year

I would like for us to continue to work on finances this year as we still do not have enough ongoing support to keep us stable. I believe that the Self Support Committee will be of great help in this regard as they are full of creative ideas.

I would like for us to have the e-book complete and it would be great to move towards having the 2nd edition of the book finished. This will be a process with many steps.

Some time in the future I think it would be great to look at adopting our version of the 12 concepts. Perhaps the GSR Committee and the Literature Committee can help with this.

Apart from that I wish for us to have a productive year keeping the GSA running and keeping the lines of communication open and efficient. I hope that we can continue to be respectful and kind in how we do this.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Gillard.