NTM – North Texas Mensa
A local Group of
American Mensa Ltd
A NY Not-for-profit corporation

NTM Board of Directors minutes for May 19, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:02PM by Gunny Hartman. Present were President Eric "Gunny" Hartman, VP Ken Roberts, Treasurer Cathy Allshouse, and Board Members at Large Chris Cree and Jonathan Bethune (via Zoom). Absent were Secretary Paul Whiteman and BMAL Juan Faura.

1. Reports

President – Eric "Gunny" Hartman … The next Board Meeting: 6PM June 16, 2024 at Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas (5455 La Sierra Drive, Dallas). We urgently need to find a RG Chair and we need to be looking for Nominating and Election Committee Members.

VP – Ken Roberts … Nothing to report

Secretary – Paul Whiteman … The minutes of the April 2024 board meeting, which were prepared by Anne Whiteman, were distributed via email. There were no corrections, so the minutes stand approved.

Treasurer – Cathy Allshouse … Financial statements for 2024 YTD, January through April, were distributed. We have had a positive YTD cash flow of $3,225.65, but outstanding are a few reimbursements, like Andy McKellar for SiteGround webservice subscription. "New Member's Party report: It was great fun, with over 30 people in attendance, lots of great things to eat. Spent: $286.45 on beverages, food, ice, supplies and $70 collections at the door. Net cost of $216.45." At the end of April, we had $5,184.48 in checking, $12,030.83 in savings, and a note receivable for $10,000, putting total NTM assets at $27,215.31. Cathy also shared the annual report she sent to national.

Ombudsman – Roger Durham … Nothing to report

Membership – Ken Roberts … As of May 1st, 1026 members, with 194 still lapsed, making us 7th among chapters in membership. Ken shared a list of lapsed members, so those wanting to do so can contact them.

S.I.G.H.T. – Gunny Hartman … Nothing to report

Editor – Bill Rock … "Still holding June issue awaiting an RVC column. day-for-day slip since Tuesday."

Gifted Youth – Bill Rock … "Two families attended strawberry picking. Plan for on-line games in June, possible TI plant tour this summer."

Circulation Manager – Val Beasley … No report

Scholarship – Lauren Ogden … No report

Web Contact – Andy McKellar … "No major news; all is well so far as I know. I will be addressing lapsed memberships next month, in order to give folks time to renew without being cut off." It appears Andy may have been charged for domain and software renewals; if so, Cathy will reimburse him and we'll endeavor to get the billing changed to ensure Andy isn't charged again. Andy noted that it would be helpful to have the capacity to generate a membership list. Gunny will try to get him that access.

Testing – Rebecca Raymond … "We had 2 testers at the April test and 4 at the May (including our first re-tester with the updated re-test guidelines from National). Our next test will be June 22 at the Renner Frankford branch of the DPL. Receipts for the last few months are forthcoming!" She also reported potential members being disgruntled with poor communication from national.

Calendar – Sara Hawkins … "Calendar is working great! I added another recurring national event to the calendar which I hope everyone likes. I want people to know what's going on."

Programs - Gunny Hartman (acting) … James Wallace will be speaking tonight about nutrition and "Why Eating Healthy, Isn't." We have programs set through July as well as for September, so we are recruiting for August and October. "

Social Media/Facebook – Collene Goldman … "Overall, our North Texas Mensa FB page stats have been level for the past 28 days. There are 923 followers. There's a slight increase in activity in the 45 - 54 year old audience as a % of all who are active. Age and gender % remains relatively equal among all groups. 30 of our friends in Canada, specifically in Mensa Saskatchewan, are active on our page." (www.facebook.com/NorthTexasMensa)

Bylaws Committee - Randy Brack, Chris Cree, Roger Durham, and Paul Whiteman … Two options were submitted to the board, as each version was preferred by half the committee. The benefits of each option were presented, with the difference being whether or not the bylaws would require monthly activities (i.e., board meetings, printed newsletters, and membership meetings) or would only require them quarterly, with the board's flexibility to do them more frequently. In addition, some of the material presently in our current bylaws would be moved to standing policies, which would be much easier to modify by future boards as necessary.

2. Actions

Chris Cree made a motion to adopt the version of the bylaws created by the committee that mirrors the minimum standard bylaws (MSB), which were recently distributed by national, in requiring quarterly board meetings, newsletters, and membership meetings. This and future boards could continue with those things on a monthly basis, but the proposed bylaws would not obligate that, being no more restrictive than the MSB. After discussion, motion passed. The committee was thanked for their diligence and helpful presentations. The bylaws will now be submitted to national for approval.

Cathy Allshouse made a motion, which was unnecessarily seconded by Ken Roberts, to sign another contract with Hubra for our website maintenance, at the rate of $250 per month, with the contract expiring January 2025. The 2025 board could determine to continue or make other arrangements. This would be an unbudgeted expense. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07PM after a motion was made by Ken Roberts and passed.