

East Bay CAMFT Board Minutes

July 21, 2017 Berkeley

Facilitator: Jurgen Braungardt. Note Taker: Sean Peterson

Attendees:

EBC Board of Directors: Jurgen Braungardt, Claire-Elizabeth DeSophia, Sean Peterson, Ben Jones. Absent: Galina Litvin.

EBC members: Steven Kessler, Vivian Nelson, Merrie Sennett, Rebecca Olmstedt, Stephen Vernon, Erica Seid, another member (name not captured).

Agenda:

- A. Admin Update
- B. Appoint new Board Member
- C. Committee Report on Division Plan
- D. Letter from Chapter Member
- E. Next steps.

A. 5 min: Administrative Summary

The Board reviewed duties and responsibilities of our new administrator, who is working 20 hrs per week:

- Emails, accounting, QuickBooks work, contact lists. Contact lists includes 5,600 email addresses.
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- Current Membership = 717, not including 63 etree only subscribers. We are also synchronizing the etree and the member database.
- ETree membership is up and general membership is down.
- Current account balances: \$84,600. We have cleaned out old bank IDs.
- Treasurer board position still not occupied.

B. 10 minutes: Appoint new Board member at Large position.

- We are In need of another board member since the resignation of Don Mathews, President Elect.
- Vivian Nelson, one of the founding members of the organization, volunteered to fill the position . She has extensive experience being a Board member and being involved with the Chapter.
- **MOTION:** To approve Vivian Nelson as Board Member at Large for the remainder of the year. Passed. Yes: 4. No: 0
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C. 80 min: Committee Report on Division Plan

The Board appointed a committee during the last Board meeting including 3 “Chapterites” (stay with CAMFT) & 3 “Leaverites” (in favor of leaving CAMFT) to come up with a proposal for a fair and democratic way to move forward regarding the division of the Chapter (i.e. splitting the assets, membership renewals, timelines, etc.)

1. They met 5 times since the last Board meeting via Zoom.

2. Committee members:

a. Chapterites: Toni Maita, Rebecca Olmstedt, & Merrie Sennet. (Rebecca joined for fourth and fifth meetings due to two committee members resigning (Holly Forman-Patel, Don Matthews). Toni was present for the second and third meetings.

b. Leaverites: Stephen Vernon, Ben Jones, & Steven Kessler

3. There was a lot of difference in opinion. Meetings were more process- oriented. Committee agreed upon three matters:

a. Renewals: EBC members should be able to continue their membership if they decide to leave EBC and join the new org.

Their payments will follow them and they won't have to pay twice. They recommend we notify members asap on this question.

b. The committee recommended to have the Board send regular progress updates to membership more often – Merrie willing to help with PR.

c. Committee recommended an outside audit of EBCAMFT finances. Financial statements posted on the website for past years have some inaccuracies.

4. The committee member Stephen Vernon distributed a “minority report”. He announced that he will no longer participate in the committee due to fundamental differences in the committee. He stated that the only way to move forward fairly was to divide the assets and let both sides move on. The committee struggled with a fundamental disagreement over the board's decision to move forward by dividing into two organizations.

5. It was suggested that a mediator might be necessary for the committee. We discussed ways to move forward, such as disbanding the committee or modifying the committee into fewer members.

Motion: Committee will be reduced to one person from each side, Merrie and Ben. They are tasked with working out a division plan within 2 weeks, present it to the Board, and get feedback from the membership.

Yes: Ben, Jurgen, & Sean. No: Claire-Elizabeth. Motion passes.

D. 10 min: Letter from Chapter member Susan Kelsey

Susan Kelsey is a current member of EBCAMFT and has past and present affiliations with State CAMFT. She sent a letter to the Board and the rest of the membership expressing concerns about misconduct and criticized the decision of dividing the EBC into two organizations. She asserted that she will consider legal steps to challenge the outcome of this process. This letter will be reviewed by EBC's lawyer.

E. 10 min: Next Steps

MOTION: To hire a CPA or accountant not affiliated with the East Bay Chapter to audit the EBCAMFT assets going back at least 5 years, or when the organization started its relationship with the Mechanics Bank. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: In case of division, members will keep their membership even if they decide to switch to the new organization. Motion passes unanimously.

Discussion: The Board may choose to hold another meeting in two weeks in order to review the proposals from the division committee.

[Because these proposals were not ready and feedback from EBC lawyer had not been received, this meeting was not held.]