



MINUTES OF SPECIAL Board Meeting of SECULAR AA

28 AUGUST 2021 / 2:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD / 11:00 AM PACIFIC

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86026065030?pwd=ZG5pcGlpdIZNbHYvT3h4VmJVTVJsZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 2606 5030 Passcode: 017230

Call to Order by the Chair at approximately 2:00 pm Eastern Standard / 11:00 AM Pacific

Roll Call by the Chair (Quorum 2/3 = 7 not including Technology Coordinator)

2017-2020 Board Members

Carol M. – ICSAA 2018-Toronto, Host Committee Chair - Present

Geri B. – Secretary - Not Present (arrived late)

Joy R. – Treasurer – Present

Sam E. – Chair - Present

2019-2022 Board Members

Gregg O. – ICSAA 2020-Washington DC, Host Committee Chair - Present

Joe C. – Outreach Committee Chair - not present (arrived late)

John S. – Archives Committee Chair - Present

2020 Board Members

Marty B. – Vice Chair - Present

Cyril – Board Member at large - Present

Upcoming board meeting times (to be confirmed), Saturday's 2pm Eastern time/ 11:00 AM Pacific.

1. October 23rd - Marty will be available to chair if Sam is unable

The chair opened the SPECIAL SESSION to discuss whether the upcoming scheduled conference should be postponed again until 2022, with same lineup, same venue.

Note: Geri arrived and Joe connected via phone.

Gregg confirmed that the "headliners" are available, as is the same hotel venue, on the same weekend dates, at the same room rates.

Motion made and seconded to postpone the ICSAA Conference event to 2022, with the same dates, speakers and venue. Passed unanimously.

Discussion on the upcoming 75th Anniversary of UK AA which is upcoming in Leeds, in June 10 - 12, 2022. Suggestions that we might have an "ad hoc" hospitality suite representing Secular AA. Cyril reported on the difficulty in getting cooperation from UK-AA for the recent International Secular AA virtual event.

Cyril also reported on the policy of "Safe-Guarding", which is part of UK-AA, turned out to be inadequate to modern AA, and was not helpful.

It appears that the event will be held in an arena, which may not lend itself to hospitality suites. Sam suggested renting a long-boat to use as a hospitality suite.

Motion that we investigate having a Secular AA presence at the UK Conference, whether unofficially or preferably officially. Cyril and Joe volunteered to look further into the possibilities.

Discussion: Joe C opened discussion on the possibility of having a virtual conference since we will not be able to have the in person event we have been planning. Joe, John, volunteered to work with Gregg to look into the possibilities, timing, etc.

Discussion: Sam opened a discussion on taking the opportunity now to change the structure of the Secular AA Board and organization to be more like the ICYPAA structure, which has the primary purpose of presenting the annual or biannual conference.

Sam explained that ICYPAA is run by a committee, which makes all decisions about the conference, and new members are invited to join by the committee. There is no general "membership". Joe stated he has worked with ICYPAA in the past.

John reported on the GAYLA organization, which focuses on telling their stories at regular AA meetings, and may have a structure we can consider.

Sam asked the Board members to consider the possibilities of suspending our Bylaws and how that would work, for the future discussions .

Joe suggested that at our upcoming virtual conference, we have a session with representatives from the various organizations (eg ICYPAA, GAYLA, Womens Conference) to discuss their organizational approach. There was general agreement.

Cryil spoke on his reluctance to continue on the Secular AA Board because of a number of other commitments that he had prior to joining. The group encouraged Cyril to continue to come to Board meetings in order to contribute his past experiences and thoughts, without becoming responsible for any particular individual projects. He agreed to sleep on his decision.

Joe brought up the need to publicize that the October 2021 Conference is being postponed and the need to say the dates of the upcoming (replacement) Virtual Conference. Joe will work with John and Gregg.

Meeting ended at 2:52 pm Pacific time.