

JCICS Board Meeting
January 28, 2009
In Person

Attendees: R. Pearlman, H. Stultz, J. Rolsky, R. Gibson, K. Sacco, K. Wallace, L. Brownlee, K. Altweis Nicholson, T. DiFilipo, N. Fox, S. Cox

Absent: P. Singer, A. Hayo, D. Johnson

Call to Order & Agenda: R. Gibson at 9:22 AM EST

Membership: R. Gibson

Survey Results

Kathy, Jared & Rick put together the survey. Responses were shared with the board. 100 out of 224 members responded. 54% felt having Hague denied members would not make a difference. 70.8% felt JCICS is advocating for a clear and transparent accreditation process.

Membership Criteria

Suggestions were made that JCICS should use standards drawn from BBB, state licensing or new members be subject to a subcommittee review using set criteria, etc.

MOTION: To continue the suspension of the previous decision, which was to prohibit any organization denied Hague accreditation from applying for membership to JCICS.

J. Rolsky MOVED/ N. Fox SECONDED

PASSED Unanimously

CEO Performance Review: R. Gibson

All gave feedback and subcommittee of Nancy, Richard, Jared, Kristine, & Susan reviewed. Final report was shared feedback between Tom & subcommittee. The new agreement is slightly modified regarding date and time expiration & salary. Tom submitted goals in addition to those covered by the strategic plan. Rick will share these and formalize procedures and goals for the year.

Discussion was held that the current strategic plan needs to be reviewed. The April call will focus on this and this information will be shared immediately with new board members.

Families for Orphans Coalition: T. Baugh

The FFOC Group formed approximately a year and a half ago to explore options on how to do more coordinated programming for children overseas. Discussion grew into a desire

to build a pilot program that would address how to move children into permanent family care around the world. FFOC developed a concept paper very similar to one drafted within DOS at the same time that had been stymied due to lack of funding. After discussion regarding orphan care with Kathleen Strottman Title 1 & 2 were finalized. Title 2 is designed to cover gaps left by the Child Citizenship Act. FFOC needs feedback on the proposed legislation as soon as possible.

Treasurer's Report: J. Rolsky & T. DiFilipo

The finance committee needs to be expanded. A request was made that another board member participates, along with perhaps one outside CFO from a member organization.

The budget has not changed since what was approved in December 2008 for 2009. Member donations were reviewed.

Membership is ahead of pace as compared to the same time last year, both in terms of the number of members as well as actual revenue. JCICS is presently about halfway to the goal of \$220,000.

As an aside, this year the list serves will be purged on January 30, 2009. Only members will be able to add/remove themselves from list serves going forward via the member's only website. An announcement will go out tomorrow and be repeated as necessary.

Conference registration is significantly down. If JCICS cancels the entire event, it will owe the hotel \$85,000 cash. The room block was set two ½ years ago and JCICS must hit 85% (595 nights) or pay a penalty of 80% of the different between what is booked and what was promised. If no other hotel night registrations are received, JCICS will owe \$38,000 plus the food and beverage charge of \$31,000, for a total is \$69,000. Staff are working to negotiate that if not all of the 67 Saturday night rooms are booked, if they are sold to other patrons due to the NCAA Men's basketball tournament, those rooms will be deducted from the JCICS total. Staff are also requesting that for any night that more rooms are booked than promised it will be applied to the total number of rooms required. The adult adoptee reception may be moved to the hotel to drop the amount required for food and beverage. A conference call is being held regarding these negotiations today.

JCICS is committed to a hotel each year through 2010. Staff will investigate the Affinia Liasion's offer to pay the penalty to Baltimore and hold the conference with them again in 2010. 2011 is also being investigated and Tom will send updates to the board as things unfold. JCICS will send a post to the membership to help with registration by booking hotel rooms now, without penalty if plans should change.

Board Committee Structure: BOD

Finance

Kristine has agreed to participate on the finance committee.

Development

Susan is working with Tom to best utilize resources for board and staff.

Future Board Meetings: BOD

The cost for each board meeting is approximately \$9,000. Video conferencing was discussed, but is generally too expensive. There will be three in-person board meetings during 2009. The first is held now, in January, the second will be a short one at the conference and the last will be held in September for one night. In 2010 one will be held in the spring and the fall, as well as one at the annual conference.

There will not be a board call in February; however a brief financial call will be scheduled. The next call will be held March 11th at 3 PM EST. Calls after that will be held the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Paul Singer completed his latest round of chemotherapy and radiation last week. His memory and energy are returning and he is optimistic. He is scheduled to receive his MRI results on February 9th.

Board Self Assessment: BOD

Discussion was held about how the board is beginning to act more strategically rather than acting as a committee of the whole, how all board members can express their views and a desire to have more structured goals and talk more specifically about member needs.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 1:19 PM EST.

R. Pearlman MOVED/ S. Cox SECONDED

Action Items:

1. R. Gibson – resend detailed strategic plan to the board.
2. Staff – schedule February financial board call.