

The Adventurers' Club of Los Angeles

Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

July 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Alec Shumate, First Vice President

**Officers in attendance:** Alec Shumate, First Vice President; Rich Mayfield, Second Vice President; Larry Stern, Secretary; Andy Medina, Treasurer;

**Directors in attendance:** Jim Heaton, Bryan Kresie, David Hayen, Ken Hudson

**Others in attendance:** David McAlexander, Bernie Harris, Jay Foonberg, Jeff Holmes, Vince Weatherby.

The meeting was held in the Clubhouse and was hosted by Bryan Kresie.

Approval of the minutes was moved by Rich Mayfield and seconded by Brian Kresie and unanimously approved. There was a short discussion of the bylaw provision that any board member who, without being excused, has missed more than three consecutive meetings shall be dropped from the board.

Presidents Report: No Report as Mr Lawler did not attend and has been excused for this meeting and the next to participate in the Transpac Sailing Race.

**First Vice President Report - Alec Shumate:**

1. Speakers are being lined up but a few vacant nights still need to be filled. It was stressed that the Program Chairman must be the coordinator for scheduling speakers, regardless of who recruits them. Prospective speakers contact information should be given to the Program Chair.
2. Alec has created a digital calendar for meeting nights showing who is speaking on which date and dates still open. It is important that Stewart Deats be kept up to date as he needs to keep the website current.
3. It was noted that it is difficult to get speakers to agree to speak on members nights only. They would prefer to speak to a larger audience.
4. Jeff Goddard has volunteered to do a presentation, sometime in August, on his father John.
5. Movie nights seem to be a success and popular, as well as a revenue generator.

6. There was a discussion on possibly doing a movie screening on Apollo 11.
7. There was a discussion to hold a large Halloween Costume Party on October 31, similar to Tiki Night. The evening would be widely advertised (Atlas Obscura, etc) and could be a fundraiser for the Club. Rich Mayfield, David McAlexander and Brian Kresie have volunteered to work on this.

### **Second Vice Presidents Report - Rich Mayfield:**

1. The group congratulated Rich on having his first baby boy, Jack.
2. He reported that Brian, Andy and others have been working very hard to clean up the physical plant and the artifacts and how time consuming the process is.
3. There was an update and discussion on electrical upgrades. An electrical contractor has surveyed the building and will be providing a bid for ceiling lighting that includes options for canned lights, trac lighting, dimmers, etc. It was the consensus of the board that it would be nice if it could be completed in time for the Halloween Party.
4. Upgrades to the Library were discussed. Exact scope of services are still under consideration. A figure of approximately \$2,000 to \$3,000 was envisioned for this room.
5. Painting the library and dining room was generally discussed in terms of what to paint, estimated cost who might paint it. The context of this discussion was that there is a potential member who is a professional painter who has floated the idea of providing his professional services in lieu of either his initiation fee or his annual dues. (????). It was agreed that significant vetting would have to occur to see if this type arrangement might be a problem in the future.

### **Secretary Report - Larry Stern**

1. It was reported that Stewart Deats sent out information regarding Robert Gilliland, No. 888, going On The Great Adventure. It was suggested that he be featured on the cover of the next Club Newsletter.
2. There was an announcement made that The University Club of London contacted our Club via email to request that our two clubs enter into a reciprocity agreement. This was generally well received and the secretary will follow up with that club.

### **Treasurers' Report - Andrew Medina**

1. Andy handed out detailed information consisting of a Profit and Loss Statement January 1 - June 30, 2019 compared to the same period in 2018, and

a Balance Sheet comparing Club assets for the same period . He highlighted that income comparisons from the sale of merchandise is significant; income from programs is low on members only nights but significantly higher on open nights; movie night income is new money; and delinquent dues are slowly coming in. His overall conclusion is that overall, the Club is on very solid financial footing

2. Individual line items were brought up for more detailed discussion. These included website maintenance, Tiki Night possible input errors, where certain expenditures, such as new flooring and new audio equipment were accounted for, and a speaker fee line item. Andy agreed that these items needed to be reviewed and that he would do so and report back to the Board.

A motion by Jeff Holmes, authorized representative of Eric Streit, moved, and seconded by Larry Stern, that the Treasurers' Report be received and that the Treasurer return to the next meeting of the Board with corrected or adjusted financial documents for consideration.

### **Centennial Celebration Committee Report - Jay Foonberg**

Jay Foonberg presented a detailed report outlining his goal to reach out to an international audience to create a very wide spread affiliation of like spirited clubs. He reported that a Wikipedia search turned up hundreds of clubs worldwide and at least 89 clubs in London alone that might be worth contacting to see if they would be interested in a one year reciprocal agreement. Through the use of social media and the internet, he believes this can be done at absolutely no cost to the Club. Privileges of such affiliation are detailed in his report, but generally include approval to attend our meetings and receive our newsletters.

There was a very spirited discussion regarding the sharing of our current and/or past newsletters, and possibly recorded presentations, with our reciprocal clubs. Jay reported that he retained, at his own and sole expense, assurances from copy right attorneys that we would not be held liable for sharing our newsletters. He assured the Board that he was not taking about video or other recordings of past programs. This discussion then transitioned into the effort currently underway to digitize our club records. Kevin Lee has done some work on this as has Jay Foonberg. Jay believes strongly that this effort should continue and that he would personally pay for any marginal costs related to the Centennial Celebration.

Bryan Kresie moved and Jim Heaton seconded a motion that was unanimously approved, to sent out letters to the list of approximately 89 clubs in London asking them if they would be interested in entering into a reciprocal agreement with our Club. Affirmative replies would not be automatically approved, but would be vetted for adventure related appropriateness and brought back to the Board for approval.

### **NOAH Committee - Andrew Median**

Andy Medina reported that ticket sales are underway. The fee structure is graduated with tickets currently at \$110 but going up to \$125 in August with more increases as we get closer to the date. It hoped that this will encourage attendees to sign up early. It was also noted that in years past the earliest reservations were seated closest to the stage. Andy agreed to be the Silent Auction coordinator. Rich Mayfield volunteered his garage as a holding area for donated items. There was a discussion of using a professional silent auctioneer, but there was no resolution as to whether or not to do so.

### **Membership Committee - Jeff Holmes**

1. A general discussion brought up that the number of new members this year is way below previous years. It is typically the job of the immediate past president to lead the effort for new members. This is difficult this year due to the work schedule of Eric Streit. Since Eric is out of town so much, the earlier discussion of board members missing meeting was brought up again. It was decided that Jeff Holmes would contact Eric and ask him if he wants to remain on the board as a past president, or if he would agree to have Jeff replace him.

2. Jeff Holmes and Jim Heaton spoke about updating the membership files.

3. Three individuals were brought up as being either in the process of filling out an application, or considering asking for an application (Lance Miller, Don Tomajan and David McCallum). Blank applications are in the Presidents Office and any member can hand one out. However, Jeff stressed that the applications chair must be in the loop for all applicants.

4. Shiy's application is currently before the Board. The Board is waiting to discuss his application with Scott Warner who is currently prospecting in Nome, Alaska with Shiy. The Board did discuss the possible implications of a cash donation that Shiy made to the Club while his application is pending. Andy Medina said he would contact Shiy to discuss that donation.

### **Flag Committee - Larry Stern**

There is one application before the Board from Andy Medina. After reconsidering the guidelines as they relate to his adventure to Paraguay, Andy withdrew his application.

### **Exhibits Committee - Brian Kresie**

1. Brian Kresie has been making great strides on cleaning up and displaying our exhibits. He has a friend who is a professional curator who is helping and providing expertise on the process. He has put in very long days on this tedious and exacting effort.

2. He further reported that there are three flags in particular that are very fragile and in need of repair and proper display: a large Japanese Zero flag; the flag donated by Roy Roush that was carried by individual Japanese military men during WWII; and another significant flag worthy of display. David Hayen has a personal contact with an expert in textile repair. After much discussion, the Board approved David getting an estimate to repair them fully, or to a condition suitable for display, and to bring that estimate back to the board for further consideration.

### **Nominating Committee**

This committee consists of three past presidents plus four more general members to be nominated at a meeting of the Club in July. Alec Shumate appointed Vince Weatherby to chair the Committee. Additionally Alec will check with Michael Lawler as to how he wants to proceed.

### **Other Business**

1. Larry Stern discussed that he and Andy Medina are informally looking into proposing amendments to the bylaws to address the issue of distinguishing between members who are: 1) active but delinquent in their dues from 2) those who are delinquent, but want to remain members even though they will not be coming to the Club for a variety of reasons from 3) those who are delinquent and no longer want to be dues paying members.

2. Jeff Holmes discussed how there are historic member application files that need to be organized and possibly scanned into electronic form. He will look into what it would take and cost to scan these in-house or to hire a professional firm to do it.

3. Ken Hudson reported a problem with one particular member who, in his judgment, abused his privileges on Face Book by embarrassing the club with his comments and posts. In his capacity as administrator of our Face Book account,

Ken immediately barred this member from unlimited access. This member does however continue to have limited access. Rich Mayfield moved and David Hayen seconded that the Board adopt a motion to support Ken should this member make an issue of limited access. This motion was unanimously approved. There was additional discussion regarding this same member's general demeanor while attending Club meetings. Jeff reminded the Board that the bylaws state that original sponsors are charged with assisting the Board in dealing with any future problems of members they sponsored. For this individual, the sponsoring member has already talked to him. It was the consensus of the Board to wait and see what develops next.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11 pm.**