

Morningstar Mystery School Steering Committee Call

1/14/17 10am

Minutes

- In attendance: Ari, Ealasaid, Jenn, John, Ryan
- Not present: Starr
- Facilitator: Ari
- Note-Taker: Ealasaid
- Facilitator lead breath and prayer.

- **Select Facilitator**
 - Jenn: has a friend whose collective uses alphabetical order and just rotates through the people.
 - We will do this also.
- **Check-ins on last time's action items:**
 - *Ari: Multiple Temple & Tech to-do items.*
 - Most of these are Temple & Tech or Ari stuff, she doesn't have much in the way of updates.
 - Sent a long email to the pillar, they're going to have a call to process/digest that.
 - Will set up the budget contact person on that call
 - *Ealasaid will draft edited Roberts Rules of Order for Steering*
 - Ealasaid sent out the Rules of Order earlier in the week.
 - The Rules of Order are renamed to Bob's Rules of Order.
 - Changes/notes:
 - Add reviewing action items to meeting process near the end.
 - Decision-making needs more clarity.
 - ▶ Nancy: It's good to have options.
 - ▶ Nancy moves that the procedure be updated to include the Facilitator asks if there's general assent about the decision under discussion. If yes, motion and second, done. If not, any member can request that a vote be taken. The vote shall be taken and recorded.
 - ▷ Ari seconded. Ealasaid will update the Rules of Order accordingly.
 - These are not intended to be proscriptive, but are available to the Pillars and other Morningstar subcommittees/groups.
 - *Ealasaid will talk to Sarah about getting Steering material onto Moodle.*
 - Email exchanged.
 - There will be a wiki, rules of order will go up there.
 - *Jenn is overseeing cord stuff/interfaces with Lyssa*
 - No real updates; scheduling the retreat will have an impact on that.
 - *Jenn is taking point on retreat.* Current questions: go back to 2016 site? What about a travel fund?
 - Thorn has requested that the retreat be in the Portland area.
 - Jenn will post a Doodle poll for dates and look into availability for the 2016 site as well

as other options.

- Starr is working on the travel fund; no updates.
- *Jenn will start a thread on Moodle about research projects.*
 - Hasn't done it yet. Will do it today!
- *Nancy is gathering info about who's on which pillar.*
 - A bit behind/sidetracked. :)
- *Temple & Tech (so, Ari?) will look into doing a regular link roundup or an index of forum discussions or something to help people find cool info*
 - Ari: hasn't started moving on it, but it's on the list of things for Temple & Tech to do
- *Thorn will review Nancy's work, may need someone to remind her – Ryan is probably the lead on that.*
 - Thorn emailed Nancy, affirmed what she'd done so far.
 - Nancy is moving forward with the curriculum.
- **Teaching & Curriculum Checkin**
 - Ryan: we need to select an approval method for teachers.
 - Decision: Criteria for teachers will be written by Pillar and approved by Steering, and Steering will be notified by email and have two weeks to respond with advice and counsel. Individual teachers will be approved for a particular class at a particular time, not a blanket approval. Again, Steering to be notified by email and have two weeks to respond with advice and counsel. Curriculum and faculty is up to the Pillar.
 - Not sure about Thorn's role in this.
 - Ryan moves to adopt
 - Nancy seconds
 - Vote: passes unanimously
- **New Business?**
 - Concern about Starr; John will reach out to her.
 - John will also try to find a process document he was thinking of during the discussion.
 - Call needs to be put out for people to join the Pillars.
 - Jen will look into this – probably posting on the news forum, then posting in the Morningstar Facebook group is the best way.
- **Action Items**
 - Ari:
 - Temple & Tech tasks, in particular, who will be the budget liaison and doing a regular link update
 - Ealasaid:
 - Update Bob's Rules of Order and send out.
 - Set up wiki for Steering once Sarah hands it over.
 - Jenn:
 - Doodle poll for retreat dates.
 - Talk to Lyssa about cords when we have a timeline for the retreat.
 - Thread on Moodle about research projects
 - Travel fund
 - Will compose a call for people to join the Pillars and send it around to Steering members before posting it
 - John:
 - Ping Starr
 - Nancy:

- Curriculum work
 - Pillar information gathering
- Ryan:
 - Reach out to Teaching & Curriculum Pillar about Bob's Rules and teacher selection
 - Get a meeting for the Pillar scheduled
 - Send out a call for teachers once the criteria is approved.
- Facilitator lead breath and prayer to close.
- Adjourned at 11:06am Pacific

Full Notes

- Select Facilitator
 - Jenn: has a friend whose collective uses alphabetical order and just rotates through the people.
 - Ari
 - Jenn
 - John
 - Nancy
 - Ryan
 - Starr
- Facilitator (Ari) leads breath and prayer
- Present: Jenn, Ealasaïd, Nancy, John, Ari, Ryan
- Check-ins on last time's action items:
 - Ari: Most of these are Temple & Tech or Ari stuff, she doesn't have much in the way of updates.
 - Sent a long email to the pillar, they're going to have a call to process/digest that.
 - Will set up the budget contact person on that call
 - Ryan: a while back, Ryan was added to the bank account for Solar Cross, might let him deposit checks. Doesn't want to be the liaison, but is up for helping with check deposits.
 - John: has a friend who can deposit into his account without even being on the account, you just need the account number
 - Jenn: last year payments were pretty chaotic. Hoping this year to have it be better.
- Ealasaïd will draft edited Roberts Rules of Order for Steering
 - Nancy thinks they look good.
 - John: maybe add to meeting ending section, reviewing action items.
 - Ari agrees.
 - Everybody reading over the writeup
 - Ryan: is this for pillars too?
 - Ealasaïd: no, it's not intended to be proscriptive
 - Ryan: decision-making needs more clarity
 - Ealasaïd: could use more detail, yeah
 - Ari: we've voted in the past
 - Nancy: it could be good to have both options. Maybe do discussion, facilitator asks if there's general assent. Someone can ask for a vote if they want one. Some things need a vote, but not everything.

- Ryan: that's fine. sometimes there needs to be clarification and discussion if not everybody is behind it. Maybe call for a vote if there seems to be lack of agreement?
- Nancy moves that we adopt the amended rules.
- Ari seconds the motion.
- Hooray!
- Vote: all in favor? John and Jenn against
- Jenn: we don't need to require the pillars to use this but we should make it
- Ari: do we want to rotate note taker?
- E: nah
- Just want to be sure E doesn't burn out.
- If E can't make it to a meeting, pick a new one.
- Also, rules of order informally named "Bob's Rules of Order"
- Ealasaid will talk to Sarah about getting Steering material onto Moodle.
 - There will be a wiki, rules of order will go up there.
- Jenn is overseeing cord stuff/interfaces with Lyssa
 - No real updates; scheduling the retreat will have an impact on that.
 - Ari: anything that needs updating from retreat planning?
- Jenn is taking point on retreat. Current questions: go back to 2016 site? What about a travel fund?
 - Jenn: things are going fine, has three other people in the planning group, will be posting a Doodle poll soon, Thorn has requested it be in the Portland area. Will ask if people want to use the same place as last time. Will start looking again but be sure to check that place from last time.
- Jenn will start a thread on Moodle about research projects.
 - Hasn't done it yet. Will do it today!
 - Ari: should we discuss travel fund stuff here? Is that a thing the retreat comm is working on?
 - Jenn: Starr is working on it, no updates.
- Nancy is gathering info about who's on which pillar.
 - A bit behind/sidetracked. :)
- Temple & Tech (so, Ari?) will look into doing a regular link roundup or an index of forum discussions or something to help people find cool info
 - Ari: hasn't started moving on it, but it's on the list of things for Temple & Tech to do
- Thorn will review Nancy's work, may need someone to remind her – Ryan is probably the lead on that.
 - Thorn emailed Nancy, affirmed what she'd done so far, asked if she needs anything in particular. Asked her to look at triple soul stuff, Thorn was all "why does everybody keep asking me about triple soul, everybody knows about triple soul!" So we'll just do it. :) Now that holidays are past, will get everything put together.
- Teaching & Curriculum Checkin
 - Ryan: we've talked about who's allowed to teach but not set up a process. We need to decide how getting approved works.
 - Nancy: Suggests the teaching pillar set up the criteria and present it to steering; the final say on who is and isn't a teacher is for the pillar to decide. Steering should have input, but not a hard veto. If steering handles the faculty decision, we will become a teaching org. we are an org that does teaching, but not primarily a teaching org. Gotta keep that clear, Nancy knows from experience. :) Curric and faculty is up to the pillar.

- John: do you get approved for everything or just specific classes? That hasn't been specified.
- Ryan: tends toward a person being approved for a particular course. Person approved and course approved for it to happen.
- Nancy: probably good to set things so that the list is presented to the steering comm before being formally approved. Steering can ask questions and stuff. Review and questions or something. NOT an approval thing.
- Ryan: Criteria for teachers will be approved by Steering, and Steering will be notified by email and have two weeks to respond if there are issues/grievances/questions. Sound good?
- Nancy: “advice and counsel” sounds better than “issues/etc” :)
- Jenn: agrees with Nancy, wants the bulk of the process to be handled by the pillar. Steering reviews and offers input.
- John: there's been conversation about grievances and ethics – but no specifics. If someone wants to teach and someone else has a major issue with them, how does that get handled?
- Jenn: right now, that would go to steering, but we'd also get input from Thorn. This is one of few things it'd be good to have Thorn get the final say on.
- Nancy: E, read all this stuff back.
- Ryan: so, the pillar will draft criteria and get it approved by Steering. Actual teacher approval is for a particular class at a particular time. Not unlimited approval. :) More like, someone can be approved to teach Triple Soul in summer 2017. tentative decision to approve made by teaching pillar, steering would be solicited by email to offer advice and counsel two weeks before pillar makes final decision.
- Every body likes
- Ryan: moves to adopt, Nancy seconds.
- Vote: passes unanimously!
- Ari: we discussed having pillar updates; do we want updates from research, temple and tech?
- Jenn: nothing from research.
- John: might be good to have a status report, even if the status is “nothing to report”
- Add status reports to standard agenda, maybe first thing in the meeting?
- John: we were reviewing minutes while discussing them, we talked about editing/approving and then posting, is that still the plan?
- Yes
- John: if a steering comm member misses X meetings they get booted? Haven't got that formally set. Starr hasn't come in a while?
 - Nancy: has Starr backed out?
 - Ryan: she obvs still considers herself a member, since she told us she can't make it.
 - John: yeah. We should figure this out, though.
 - Ryan: would be appropriate for someone to reach out to her?
 - Jenn: spoke to her this morning. We've had people ghost in the past, someone having health issues and missing meetings a bunch is different from someone just going dark.
 - Nancy: Jenn and Starr are friends, if we need someone to check in with her about this, might be uncomfortable for Jenn; we should task someone who's less close to do it. Nancy is too much of a n00b to feel comfortable asking.
 - Jenn: not uncomfortable, but it'd be a good boundary thing to have someone else do it.
 - John will drop her an email. Will also see if he can find the process doc he's thinking of.
 - Ryan: Thorn has been talking about activism on her twitter, and how people need a solidarity network. One of the pieces of it is needing self-care first and being able to ask for what you need. Starr did ask for prayers, so that's something we can do. Definitely want to approach with “what do you need” and not “you're gonna have to quit” or something.

- Ari: anything else?
 - We do need someone to send out a call for people to join pillars. News forum is the only one everybody gets email about. Then also post about it on the Facebook page. Look into messages through Moodle?
 - Jenn will do it! Yay.
 - We need concise descriptions of the pillars – Jenn will dig up stuff and run it by steering before posting.
 - John: we should check in with Thorn about her being the final say in teaching/ethical stuff.
 - Ryan will do that; not sure how this all works. Need more clear process about when Thorn comes in.
 - Nancy: that feels like an agenda item for next time – once criteria are determined, then we can figure out more process around this. Let's not go to Thorn until we have our end of things sorted.
 - Ryan: modify minutes to say we don't have Thorns role ironed out.
- Go over action items.
 - Ari: Temple & Tech stuff. Who will be budget liaison, regular link update
 - Ealasaid will update rules of order and send around, will set up wiki once Sarah hands it over.
 - Jenn: Doodle poll for retreat dates, will talk to Lyssa about cords when there's a timeline for retreat. thread on Moodle about research projects. Travel fund stuff. Will post a call for people to join pillars (running it by steering first). Jenn is awesome.
 - John: Ping Starr
 - Nancy: Curriculum, pillar info gathering
 - Ryan: reaching out to teaching pillar about Bob's rules and teacher selection, and getg a meeting scheduled. Also sending out a call for teachers once we have approved criteria
- Facilitator leads breath and prayer to close
- Adjourned at 11:06am