

# Morningstar Mystery School

## Board of Directors

### September Meeting

### Minutes

September 14, 2019

Present: Ealasaid, Laura, Katie, Ken, Sandra

Facilitator: Ken

Called to Order at 10:00 am Pacific

- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer
- Approve minutes from previous meeting
  - ◆ Unanimous approval
- Updates on action items from the previous meeting
  - ◆ Ken:
    - Revise Tomb of Rebirth draft, send to Sandra – Sent it in its current state to Sandra two days ago, a bit late.
  - ◆ Sandra:
    - Look at Tomb of Rebirth draft – spent some time with it this morning, has written up a Google doc and will share with us shortly.
    - Sandra read the draft aloud.
    - Discussion
    - Temple maintainers need to be involved – either in maintaining the temple, or a new maintainer gets recruited to do it.
    - Could do construction at retreat but coordinate so people who couldn't come would be able to join.
    - This is priesting work, it's working on behalf of others, crossing worlds
    - How many people to mind the tomb? Three is a nice number but probably too much. Maybe specify “up to three”?
    - We also need a mechanism for comm with the board – either one of the Tomb minders is on the board or will come report to the board.
    - We also need to sort out accountability somehow. The current temple maintainers are doing the work but not checking in. If someone who isn't already engaging steps up, hard to trust?

- Sandra: What kills a compost pile is anaerobic bacteria. It's still fertile but it consumes everything. If you don't breathe air into it, if you don't speak it, it becomes toxic. We need a balance. Astral/magic is anaerobic, we are in the air, we need air to interact with it. That's how we can draw nourishment and fertility by letting things decompose and break down. Every problem has within it its own solution.
- We can present this as an opportunity to do priesting work for the school. Whoever volunteers needs to be inclined to a priesting role, which not everyone is, or isn't right now but might be later. If we can get two priests to volunteer, labeled like that, people will understand what the commitment is. If there's no interest, that will be an indicator that maybe this isn't the right solution.
- Ken: should we look at the draft over the next few days and make sure it's good for the newsletter?
- Sandra: yes. Will check on Wednesday, clean it up if necessary, then send to newsletter.
- Interlude: the Treasurer's report
  - ◆ Right now we have \$8k+ in our checking, and a couple hundred in PayPal!
  - ◆ Tried to file our 990 form but the site was down.
  - ◆ Will be ordering checks soon.
  - ◆ Spreadsheet for insurance which requires a three year plan, do we want to draw one up and include in spreadsheet? Has a doc with what we've already spent and a list of things we might do but no numbers.
  - ◆ E: it doesn't have to be formal, they're not going to check next year to see that we're doing it.
  - ◆ John: will just use the current numbers to forecast.
  - ◆ Ken: has there been progress getting folks to sign up for recurring?
  - ◆ J: there are 8 or 9 people doing that. Other folks seem to pay when they think about it.
  - ◆ Laura: one thing we're responsible for is following up with people who aren't paying. Proposes that next month we get a list of who's outstanding.
    - We also need to do a real 3yr plan at somepoint.
    - We do have procedures related to this in the bylaws/docs.
  - ◆ John will send us info, [MStarBoard@morningstarmysteryschool.com](mailto:MStarBoard@morningstarmysteryschool.com)
- Back to action items from last time.
  - ◆ Laura:
    - Add info on in-Mstar-only info to social media policy: did so, sent a link to us. It's hard to quantify.
    - Checklist for blog person to look at when approving posts – has it, we need to know who the approving person is.
    - Look into forum capabilities for turning replies on and off for threads – Done. It is possible.

- Discussion – we need to be able to stop people from having a conversation on things that are in the Tomb. Will continue discussion via email.
- Pillar and other standing reports
  - ◆ Research & Alumni Pillar
    - Met Thursday. Still issues with blog.
    - Alumni members and retreat? Fell off retreat planning people's scope.
    - Laura: would like a policy around alumni at retreats because they're not involved. Would be uncomfortable doing deep work with effective strangers.
    - Sandra: we currently don't have alumni members. It's a theoretical group we haven't really defined in the bylaws.
    - We need to sort this out.
  - ◆ Teaching & Curriculum Pillar - Laura
    - Currently no liaison, Ealasaid stepped back, Laura is facilitating but hoping to be done with that soon. Laura will take this to them to sort out.
    - Sandra: We can set something up so the person reports at a particular time and then bails. Kind of like treasurer. This could help build board visibility and trust.
  - ◆ Temple & Tech Pillar – Laura
    - Newsletter is going well. Also working on temple maintainers stuff.
    - Would like Board to discuss: how do we post policies, retain them, and make sure they're being followed? Larger question around how policies are being stored and shared. Added to items for next time.
    - Sandra: companies say “run everything through legal” - she can review bylaws and summarize what they say around responsibility and power.
  - ◆ Retreat Committee - Laura
    - Call for workshops, got first proposal. Meeting monthly, have timeline. See post in forum. Laura feeling good about where we're at.
  - ◆ IRS Stuff - Sandra
    - John already talked about this, there have been some hiccups. Filings are innocuous but we are starting to get close to where it'll be an issue if we don't get our 990 in. We have until 10/31, basically.
- New Business – none.
- Action Items
  - ◆ All: continue Tomb discussion
  - ◆ All: Look at Tomb writeup for newsletter
  - ◆ Sandra: send Tomb writeup to newsletter folks when it's ready.
  - ◆ Sandra: review bylaws and summarize what they say around responsibility and power.
  - ◆ Laura: raise liaison issue with Teaching pillar.
  - ◆ Laura: draft current processes in Visio
- Agenda Item for next meeting: policies, their retention and enforcement. Who makes them?

- Confirm next month's call – October 12, 2019, 10am Pacific
  - ◆ Yep!
- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer.

Adjourned at 11:40am