

Morningstar Mystery School

Board of Directors

August Meeting

Minutes

8/11/20

Present: Katie, Laura, Louise, Ealasaid, Lyssa (for Teaching & Curriculum), Sandra

Facilitator: Laura

Called to Order at 10:05 am

- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer
- Brief checkin
- Resting in the arms of love meditation (Laura)
- Approve minutes from previous meeting – yes
- Pillar and other standing reports
 - ★ Teaching & Curriculum Pillar (Lyssa)
 - Psychic Skills and Planes have ended, sent out teacher feedback forms, due back by 16th, then will collate and send to teachers.
 - Setting up for Demon Work and Self-Possession. Call for teachers will go up September 15, app by 30th.
 - Proposal for public facing classes
 - Sid is teaching a class a little later in the year.
 - ★ Research & Alumni Pillar (Louise)
 - Met w/Jenn a few weeks ago, raised issues board was concerned about wrt alumni voting and retreat attendance. She agreed.
 - Jenn has some questions:
 - Is R&A Pillar responsible for identifying people to contact? Or does that come from the board? (as far as who is active/inactive).
 - How often would Pillar be contacting inactive members? Once a year? Once a quarter? Would then give them options to become Alumni or return to active membership?
 - Jenn will make calls to Sarah and Saga about membership. Noted there are other people who are on the active list but haven't been very active. Sid, for example – but he's going to be teaching? Starr sort of comes and goes. We need to come up with a standard and apply it to everyone.

- Laura: identifying folks would be the registrar's job. Are people paying dues? Are they active and not paying? Or not active and not paying?
- Sandra: If they're paying dues, thinks we have to maintain their membership unless we have reason to kick them out.
 - ♥ If we're going to proactively identify people who aren't engaging, that's the Board's duty rather than the Pillars. We have to reach out to the Pillars to get info, but it requires broad knowledge. Also, if someone is going to be the bad guy, it should be leaders.
 - ♥ Also: we'd only be approaching to ask "are you still a member?" We're not talking about kicking people out or cutting them off, but following up and asking if they want to go. We are a group of adults, nobody gets to make this decision independently except the member. Appropriate to check in and make it official.
 - ♥ We need to be clear about what it means to be Alumni. Not voting, not attending retreats. How much of forum do they have access to, if any? Probably none. Private FB group? Basically we stop doing the most intimate stuff (retreat) and control (voting). But we're still friends, we're not kicking anybody out.
 - ♥ Katie: currently, alumni can re-enter the school, become active members again without the whole application process. (someone who's been around as an alumn, not just vanishing for years.
 - ♥ Laura: there's been a lot of change, and will continue to be change, we'd need to have onboarding so they know how the school operates now.
 - ♥ Sandra: good to have some kind of ritual process. The school's very intimate.
 - ♥ Louise: we could have a letter/doc with language the board approves, "we're glad to hear from you and hear you're interested. Now that Thorn is gone, we've made some changes," etc.
 - ♥ Laura: yeah. We need to think about stuff wrt all students, things are constantly shifting. We need to talk about this stuff a lot, maybe even at the beginning of classes.
 - ♥ Sandra: wants to address things new folks have talked about. Like if Rynn were going to come back, how would we integrate things when a bunch of folks have intense bonds with her? How do we minimize the impact it could have, of clique-ness? Wants some kind of ritual to bring an old student back as new instead of slipping into their old spot. How do we celebrate a person coming back to us and also recognize them as a new person. We're not the same, they're not the same.
 - ♥ Katie: agrees. Ties in with how often we contact alumni, how we keep them involved. If someone just vanishes, they'd need to re-apply; we need a way to have someone qualify as alumni.

- ♥ Ealasaid: College alumni – some folks are involved and send in updates and stuff, others aren't. How do we distinguish between them two?
- ♥ Louise: yeah, how do you measure participation?
- ♥ Laura: trusts the pillar to come up with something. For the re-entry process would like board to be involved. Also: we don't have a ritual for new people joining, if we're going to have one for alumni rejoining, we need one for new people.
- ♥ Sandra: when Thorn was running things, she said there was something done when students left, but it was just Thorn and those students, nobody else was involved. Would like to have this stuff recognized and made explicit. BUT we can't hinge anything on an in-person retreat because who knows when we can do that again. We need a way to do it that doesn't require the calendars to line up perfectly. With alumni returning, we shouldn't make them do Elements again, but we also can't just let them log back into the boards all at once, right? Would also love to see things like alumni mentoring, or being invited to partner in for teaching externally. Could get the newsletter.
- ♥ Laura: agrees with a lot of this. Suggests Katie and Louise go back to Pillar with the highlights of this conversation, and get feedback for how they envision all this working.

★ Temple & Tech Pillar (Laura)

- Putting out a call for the newsletter. If there's anything R&A would like to add stuff about what they're up to, that would be cool.
- Katie: password isn't in the calendar event for the happy hour, need to update.

★ Retreat Committee - nada

★ IRS/Business Stuff (Sandra)

- We need to approve payment of annual fee to sec of state of like \$50 and then annual fee to the registered agent – under \$300. Moves we pay both. Approved unanimously. We're caught up with IRS and taxes. Our second anniversary is coming up!
- Oregon wants info on our board and registered officers.
- No progress on bylaw amendment or Insurance. Laura: can we spread that out over several desks?
- Sandra: was going to start with a business plan, because then we can just fill out the insurance app form. But putting that together is a lot.
- Laura: Can someone make a list of what we need so we can split it up?

★ Treasurer (John)

- Uncashed check to Sandra
- June: incoming \$365, \$125 dues v check, \$65 donations Paypal. Transfer fees, stuff.

- July: \$525 Paypal dues (Doneby caught up), \$25 check for dues, \$65 donations through Paypal, \$615 total coming in. \$19.95 chunk for Paypal. \$125.21 refund to Breven (conversion fees). \$31.98 URLs renewal. Tax fines. \$125 for registered agent. \$50 for annual fee (Ealasaid paid this using a Morningstar debit card).
- Laura: Can we get a calendar for fees that are due? Like, just what we think is due roughly when, so we can keep an eye out for paper forms and stuff.
- John: yes.
- Total \$9720.00 in Paypal and Bank, \$30 in savings.
- John: still needs to reimburse himself for taxes and reg agent. Ok? Approved.
- John: needs to update the docs. Laura and Louise will coordinate with him. Then can make list of people to reach out to.
- ★ Registrar (Louise) – still doesn't have access to some stuff.
- Updates on action items from the previous meeting
 - ★ Ealasaid:
 - Attach treasurer report to minutes (was sent to board address). Find and send. - DONE
 - Notes from annual meeting – Done
 - ★ Katie: - All complete.
 - Send reimbursement policy info to Lyssa for newsletter. (done)
 - Post Reimbursement policy on wiki, post notice on forum in News section that it's up (with link) (done)
 - Review Board onboarding material
 - ★ Laura:
 - Registrar info set up with Louise - ongoing
 - Remind Katie and Louise to look at the scholarship policy
 - Give Katie Lyssa's email - done
 - Louise and Laura to sort out and handle Breven's dues situation. (done) Also email Teaching Pillar to remind them about dues and teachers.
 - Schedule for board elections
 - ★ Louise:
 - Figure out what counts as "active" and draft language for people who are active and not paying dues
 - ★ Sandra: not done
 - Update minute book
 - Bylaws amendments
 - Putting accounting stuff together for The D&O Insurance
- New Business
- Action Items
 - ★ Ealasaid:
 - Notes from annual meeting – think I sent it out?
 - ★ Laura:

- Registrar info set up with Louise and John
- Remind Katie and Louise to look at the scholarship policy
- Schedule for board elections
- Fee calendar (with John)
- ★ Louise:
 - Pillar to draft what counts as "active" and draft language for people who are active and not paying dues
- ★ Sandra:
 - Update minute book
 - Bylaws amendments
 - Putting accounting stuff together for The D&O Insurance
- Confirm next month's call – September 12, 10am Pacific
- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer.

Adjourned at