

Minutes -- MCA Board Meeting March 2, 2020

In Attendance:

J. Zalasky, S. Brazina, P. Sherman, L. Nizin, M. Sobol, R. Prosten, I. Kushnir, R. Price, M. Binder, W. Kargher, E. Feldman, M. Weisberg, J. Margolis, M. Kehila, L. Israelite, G. Perrin, (Guest), L. Hecht (Former Board Member - Guest)

Meeting called to order @ 8:45 AM by President Les Nizin

President Nizin moves **adoption of February 3, 2020 minutes**. Multiple seconds. Unanimous approval.

President Nizin genda as there were a few tabled items from last month that need to be resolved before we can act on some new items. Specifically the matters of dues and the cost of luncheons.

Les has spoken with Becky at Audubon about lowering cost by changing or eliminating dessert. She indicates **price will be \$32 per person no matter the configuration** (Audubon will be charging all other clients \$38). We are currently charging members \$30 and absorbing approximate \$3.50 per meal (which includes Regfox charges).

Michael Sobol moves to raise dues to \$95 per year and luncheon fees to \$32. Second Sherman. Discussion of utility of various configurations/combinations of dues/luncheon cost pricing.

Ira Kushnir notes that tabled motion from last month (raise dues to \$90/year) has precedence. Moves adoption. Multiple seconds. Passes 9-3 . **As of March 1, 2020, dues will be \$90 per year**.

Michael Sobol moves to raise luncheon fees to \$32 for 2020-2021 program year. Second Sherman. Passes 11-1.

Michael Sobol moves that Board members receive new name badges subsidized by the Board. Second Phil Sherman. Motion passes 10-1. Phil asks all to send him their preferred cit(ies) for inclusion on new badge ("city of formative years --- at least through high school").

First Vice President Sobol reported that:

- **Sweetheart Dance** is sold out. Mike asks that Board members planning to attend should plan to act as ushers. Move people past entry-area congestion point towards the bar. 6 PM.
- Mike reports working with Larry Hecht on **Luxury Car and Collier County special ops tours**.
- **E-blast** and other activities are continuing -- next issue will include details of dues increase. Larry Israelite will discuss the software related changes and work necessary to make it happen
- We have signed a **contract with Vineyards for Dinner Dance next year**. Subsidy of \$3500 will not all be used. Perhaps \$3000. Anticipate a \$10-15 per person increase in our price next year. Unexpected cost this year associated with chair rentals not anticipated in budget.

Report of Second Vice President Zalasky

- Request from Federation that we inform them of **space needs for next year**. Les met with Renee and told her to roll over our usage from this year. But more work will be needed.
- Les notes that **our programs seem to be concentrated on Tuesdays and Thursdays** --- we should try to spread programs out over other days. Jeff notes that it's hard to do as WCA has rooms at JFGN tied up on a legacy basis. **Sobol thinks we should demand "zero based budgeting" for all JFGN space** going forward. Renee has supplied a list of room availability to Glenn. Mike feels Glenn should call a meeting and insist on parity with WCA. Prosten wonders if our officers who are also on the JFGN board can seek resolution at that level. Sobol feels it would have to go to Jeff Feld, and that there should be an immediate sitdown with "appropriate people".
- **By-Laws**. Prosten reports that **in light of changes in officers and their terms, committee has had trouble coming up with a final product**. Zalasky & Binder concur. Les encourages Jeff to stick with project. Consensus to consider matters over Summer and present to the board next fall with the goal of implementation for 2021-2022.

Report of Treasurer Feldman:

- Second iteration of proposed budget, income & expense. **Anticipated income based on 800 members.**
- Income report did not previously reflect badges.
- New -- **\$1000 subsidy for Comedy night** is an addition to report.
- Larry Israelite will be proposing a **new \$1700 software package --- but a net cost of \$650** after deducting price of current software.

Sherman moves to adopt Treasurer's report, Kushnir seconds. Approved by voice vote.

Membership:

- Larry Israelite reports **765 members as of today --- 156 of them new. 92 non-renewals**

Badges:

- Phil Sherman working on procuring new style badges. Would like to purge all the badges that have not been picked up over a long period of time.

Luncheons:

- Steve would like cordless microphone to work. Larry Israelite feels Audubon managers should be confronted on matter as we are a very good client.
- Meir Kehila wishes to **limit reservations at future luncheons to 150**. Meir moves, Sherman seconds, limit luncheon reservations to 150.

Motion passed.

Luncheon Speakers:

Steve Brazina reports speakers all lined up for next year.

Speaker Series:

President Nizin notes Jim Simon will handle series going forward. will report directly to President. Could not be at this meeting due to illness in his family.

Publicity

- Jeff Margolis reported that **deadline for May issue of *Federation Star* is end of April.** Coordinators with programs running through Summer should aim at getting material into this issue.
- Mike Sobol believes that **Larry Hecht's** PBS, jail, courts, war museum and airport trips should be included.

Volunteers:

Ira Kushnir reports substantial registration for **riding center tour** in Mid-March.

Software:

Larry Israelite reports that recent years have seen big growth in MCA use of computer-based programs. Each new application and iteration of technology has taken more and more of his time, but Larry indicates he has found a program (called wild apricot) that will simultaneously save time and pull together the various tasks that are now electronically processed -- including:

- our website
- e-blast
- online event reservations
- membership data
- membership events
- calendar
- processing on and offline payments

Moreover, he believes the software offers many additional capabilities, including:

- password protected site membership for each MCA member
- membership discussion forums
- branded merchandise sales
- automatic reminders/communications
- automatic notification of next event in a series
- prevents duplicate reservations
- prevents reservations by non-members
- automatic membership renewal
- only those who register for a group or event will see it on their calendar
- Individuals will be able to opt out of their being included on participant lists

In anticipation of the acceptance of this idea, Larry has prepared all existing data for transfer. Thus all 2020-2021 membership will be done via the new system.

Morris Binder moves to appropriate \$1728 for software. Second Sobol. Passed by voice vote.

Documentary Films

President Nizin asks Steve Brazina if films are all set for next year. Brazina not sure as matter is in hands of Arlene Sobol, who has the list of requested dates. Temple availability is never assured. Steve had suggested to Arlene that date of November film be altered to accommodate his travel schedule --- although Corona virus may moot the trip. Israelite and Prosten both feel we should opt for consistency of dates. Steve agrees to reopen question with Arlene Sobol and attempt to return to original date.

This month's film is tomorrow. 290 registered. Nizin, Binder, Sobol, Prosten, Reubenstein to assist.

Nizin-led Events -- Update

- **Art Glass @** Sibrick home. \$540 was refunded when bus failed to show up in timely fashion. Prosten suggests allocating the money to the volunteer event.
- **Swamp Buggy** 15 will attend.
- **Botanical Gardens** There are now some vacancies.
- **Book Fair** -- MCA sponsoring March 11 event at Sholom. Seats available. Call Les if you want to attend.

President Nizin asks if we are in agreement to committing to an **"MCA room" at new Federation building**. Sobol wants to table the idea pending resolution of what our commitment will be. Prosten moves that President Nizin be authorized to express our interest in naming a room to Jeff Feld and ascertain what, if any, financial commitment is required, as well as pinning down which of the monies we donate to JFGN will count towards that commitment. Nizin is authorized to commit us to the project if the terms are not out of line with the Board's discussions of the matter. Second: Zalasky.

Motion passes by voice vote.

Old Business

Jeff Zalasky reported that approximately half of the 48 people invited to the **recognition event at Veterans' Park** have accepted. Pavilion has already been rented and Jeff is arranging food. April 28. No significant others..

Prosten wonders if JFGN has actively considered **implications of Corona virus** which will likely be a big deal and is not being taken seriously.

President Nizin thanked Glenn Perrin for the very successful **pot luck at Temple Sholom**.

Next Meeting April 6, 2020, 8:45 AM

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM

Richard Prosten, Secretary

