

GRAIL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 21, 2022

6:30 p.m. EST/3:30 p.m. PST

Present: Cynthia Bernardez, Judi Brown-Leigh, Judith DeFour-Howard, Tina Kalala, Laura Kaplan, Thanh Xuan Nguyen, Sharon Wood

U.S. Grail Staff: Terrie Puckett, Executive Director, Ex-Officio

Grail Member Observers: Vivian Corres, Mary Fordham, Trina Paulus, Nancy Richardson, Simonetta Romano, Gloria Sellers, and Carol Siemering,

Meeting Notetaker: Thanh Xuan

Time Keeper: Cynthia

Meeting Notetaker for January:

Time Keeper for January:

I. Welcome/Prayer/Reflection and the Reading of the Grail Mission/Vision: Cynthia

II. Review and Approve Previous Council Minutes and Today's Agenda

- July Minutes – Laura agreed to include the final edits as suggested by Thanh Xuan. Judy BL moved to approve the minutes with the necessary edits. Cynthia seconded. 6 approved. One abstained.
- October Minutes – moved, seconded and all approved
- November Minutes – moved, seconded and all approved
- Agenda – moved, seconded and all approved

III. President's Report

Thanh Xuan reported that two transfers were authorized in December: for the Training for Transformation in South Africa and for the Health and Welfare committee.

- International grant to South Africa was sent in early (vs. January) as they were in a funding crunch and there were significant donations awaiting transfer.
- Laura asked that Health and Welfare be more transparent?? Terrie said that it is confidential and is managed by the Elder Care Working Group.

IV. Executive Director Report

- Finances – we are \$51,000+ better than budget.
- Member Giving – we have not met our goal of \$65,000. We'll be lucky if we receive \$40,000. It has been trending down for years. Currently at \$28,000.
- Finance Committee sent out a member fundraising letter and survey mailing. We received only 13 responses. The mailing will go out again in the January.

- The new fire system was installed in Phoenix building at Cornwall. Ongoing monitoring is half the cost vs. previous years.
- Oratory break-in – 10 items were taken.
- Easter Seals (ES) Program – an employment program in three counties for young adults with barriers to employment. Anyone on summer Crew who meets the ES criteria will have ES pay their wages vs. The Grail including transportation assistance. Terrie will meet with ES in January to lay out framework. Conservative estimate is 25% of young women applying for Crew will also qualify for the ES program. Grail is Chamber of Commerce member which is how The Grail connected with ES.
- ATP program moving from 2x a week to 2x a month until the Juvenile Justice Center can resolve staffing challenges.
- Face-to-Face – Sometime between January – March 2023. Terrie sent out a survey to Council to find a date everyone can attend. Only two Council members have replied. This meeting can be in person or virtual.

V. GVIC Job Description

Laura noted she has only received edits from two Council members. Members suggested we edit it and gather to discuss by the second week in January. Laura will send out survey of times members are able to meet and discuss it. Laura said she is on break the first three weeks in January and free Monday evenings.

VI. GV Southside Fencing/Clean-up

- Terrie said she received 11 responses from Grail members. The NGN site has suffered from hacking. An IT team is working to correct this. Terrie suggested we give members more time to reply because of this issue and repost all issues needing member feedback in January NGN.
- Terrie reported there have been no break-ins at GV in the last month – just broken windows.

VII. By-Laws Change Recommendation

- It was suggested that this recommendation be placed again in the NGN due to hacking issue. Terrie said she will resend the By-Laws Change, Ed Loan/Scholarship, and Fencing proposals again in January 2023 NGN.
- We have received 13 responses thus far re: Ed Loan/Scholarship Fund. Responses are varied. It was suggested we send this out to members in a Blast as well.
- Terrie will place all members' input in Council packet and Council members need to read all of them and come to Council meeting prepared to vote on these proposals.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Finance: Fencing proposal is on hold until we receive member feedback.

- B. Membership: Judi will give a report at January meeting and Laura will set up the next meeting.
- C. Communication: One Grail member has volunteered for this committee. The GA report said that communication is very important and yet only one person has volunteered.
- D. Ad Hoc Educational Loan/Scholarship: Consultation from members is ongoing.

IX. IC Rep Report:

Tina reported that the International IC representatives met on line from Oct 3 to 12 to discuss the three priorities set by the International Grail: Spirituality, Migrant/Refugees and Climate sustainability. The Grail in different continents approach these issues differently and at different level of priority.

X. GA Report

Thanh Xuan moved to approve the GA report in its final version and have it posted on the Grail website. Judy BL seconded. 6 approved. 1 Abstained.

XI. Sustainable Community Affinity Group (SCAG) Cornwall proposal:

All agreed to put on January agenda for discussion.

XII. Correspondence:

Judi DH read some of the members correspondence attached in the Council package.

XIII. Miscellaneous Business:

Laura proposed the Council to discuss the future of the CSW as two of the main leaders are aging. Thanh Xuan mentioned that GLUNN is the committee that works on the CSW. GLUNN members should discuss the future of the CSW and make recommendations to the Council.

Next Meeting: Terrie will send out a poll to see which date in January (as well as the first 6 months) is available to all Council members.

XIV. Evaluation of Executive Director:

Observers and the Executive Director were asked to leave the meeting.

Thanh Xuan reported that the Personnel committee received 3 evaluations. Judith DH stated that her evaluation was submitted. JDH will clarify with the Personnel committee. The evaluation in your package is a summary made by the Personnel committee and needs to be approved to go in the Personnel file. Heated discussions followed and Thanh Xuan decided to end the meeting when it gets out of control.