

GRAIL COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes
February 27, 2023

Present: Cynthia Bernardez, Judith Brown-Leigh, Sonia Jacquez, Tina Kalala, Laura Kaplan, Thanh Xuan Nguyen, Sharon Wood.

Ex-officio: Terrie Puckett, Executive Director

Observers: Liz Jones, Ieva Zadina, Trina Paulus, Carol Siemering, Simonetta Romano, Magda Durante, Cynthia Cheyne, Elizabeth Murphy, Judith DeFour-Howard, Vivian Corres, Elizabeth Robinson, Mary Farrell.

Notetaker: Thanh Xuan and Sharon

Moderator: Judi BL

I. Meeting started with a meditation/reflection followed by the reading of the Grail Mission and Vision statements.

II. Minutes and Agenda approval

A. Laura requested that January minutes be corrected to reflect that Lynn Louchart-Keefer's name be added when it noted her passing, and that she was a Grail Member in addition to being Mary Kay Louchart's niece.

Judi moved to approve January minutes; Laura seconded; all approved.

B. Agenda – Laura noted that several items were missing from the agenda but these items were placed under the Executive Director's report or Other Business.

Sharon moved to approve February agenda; Judi seconded; all approved.

III. President's Report – Thanh Xuan

A. Election Results for National Leadership Team Members: Thanh Xuan – President; Judi – Secretary; Sharon – Co-Treasurer (Carol Skyrn is the other Co-Treasurer).

B. Transfer authorization on February 1, 2023 for \$89,600 from the Major Maintenance (MM) Portfolio to cover the planned and approved MM for 2023.

Thanh Xuan moved to approve this transfer; Judi seconded; all approved.

C. Signatories on official/financial documents in addition to Thanh Xuan as President; recommended Pam Cobey as local emergency signatory to replace Deborah Sullivan.

Sharon moved to approve recommendation; Thanh Xuan seconded; all approved.

IV. Executive Director's Report – Terrie

A. See Council packet for meeting documents

B. A revised Executive Director Job Description – a decision was made to move this conversation to a closed executive session at the end of the meeting.

C. By-law changes – An open forum (date TBD) will be offered for Grail members to discuss changes. Tina volunteered to set up this Forum.

D. Council Meeting Notetaker: Terrie said that applications for Council meeting notetaker are still being accepted.

- E. Grailville Implementation Committee – Southside (GVIC-SS) Discussion
 - 1. Nine (9) letters of intent from Grail members to serve on the committee were received
 - 2. Council members discussed how many members should comprise committee
 - 3. *Judi moved to approve a five (5) member committee; Thanh Xuan seconded; vote was 4 yes and 3 no. Motion did not pass (5 votes needed to pass).*
 - 4. *Laura moved to approve all nine applicants for committee; Tina seconded; vote was 3 yes and 4 no. Motion did not pass.*

Following discussions, Council agreed to a rating process to help make the decisions. Terrie will create a chart to help Council rate the applicants based on the expertise needs listed in the GVIC-SS job description. Ratings are due March 6 and decision for applicants will be made by March 10.

V. Sustainable Community Affinity Group (SCAG) Resolution

- A. Council members received in their meeting packet the presentation made by SCAG in January in preparation for this month's discussions among Council members. The packet somehow got forwarded to SCAG members who thought they were presenting, which led to confusion and disruption of the meeting. (Note to all Council members: Council packet is for Council members only).
- B. Judi suggested that we have a special Council meeting with SCAG representatives to dialogue with them. Then Council can discuss after SCAG representatives leave meeting. Cynthia moved to approve a special meeting and Sharon seconded; all approved. Cynthia will take the lead on setting up this meeting.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Finance (Sharon and Terrie)
 - 1. Member donations were budgeted for \$65,00 for 2022 and approximately \$30,000 was donated.
 - 2. Finance Committee sent out a packet via postal mail and digital to membership, with among other items, a questionnaire re: member giving. Approximately 30 members responded. Answers given were varied with many saying they plan to give at the same level as in the past; others saying they're giving less to National and more to International programs; and some saying their income has decreased so they're unable to donate less or at the same level as in the past.
- B. Membership (Judi and Laura)
 - Laura noted that the February Membership Forum was not announced so it has been postponed until the Spring

- C. Communication (Thanh)
 - Renee Wormack-Keels and Carol Siemering have volunteered to be on the committee and here's hoping more members will join. Sonia said she would like to join the committee if she has the time. Terrie will set up a meeting with them soon.
- D. Education Loan/Scholarship Fund
 - Thanh Xuan is scheduling a committee this month to work on the policy

VII. IC Rep Report - Tina

- A. Call for Crossroads articles from Grail members – Theme: Refugees and Migrants Deadline is March 15.
- B. July 3-7 Summer School in the Netherlands – Application submissions due by March _____. Title: Community with a Heart
- C. Training for Transformation – The first session is already underway for February 24-28. It is virtual; there are 19 participants from 9 different countries.
- D. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the UN. March 6 – 17. Grail members need to register (see NGN Friday March 3) for virtual sessions.

VIII. Other Business

- Council needs to review and approve the revised Job Description of the Executive Director (ED). The revised version has incorporated the activities that were listed under “other duties” section from 2022 ED review. The Personnel Committee has approved it.

Some members indicated they have not reviewed the ED job description. *Laura made a motion to delay vote until next month. Sharon seconded and all approved.*

Next Council Meeting: March 20, 2023 6:30 p.m. EST/3:30 PST