

IYAUM Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: April 23, 2023 Time: 1-2:30 PM

Place: Zoom

IYAUM BOD Meeting minutes

Draft 2

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm Bethany Valentini , Katharine Wood , Nancy Footner , Hallie Evans , Sean Scott Clay , Dawn Talbert, Chris Saudek, Pat Harty , Susan Johnson

Review of Agenda: Approved

Feb. Minutes: Approved

News to Report: None

Refining decision making process: (Nancy)

- Would allow everyone to be fully participatory/voices are all heard.
- Proposal/Motion. Discussion/questions. Voting begins: Pro, No objection, I object. (objection based on premise that motion goes against IYAUM'S mission. Allows and requires full participation; must explain why one objects.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter: (Katharine, reading Irene's notes)

- Thanks to all for contributions
- Bi-monthly format is preferred, though still can be difficult to get people to contribute to member profile feature.
- Coming up in June-Hallie will write intro, Bethany will write article on her trip to India, Joy will write philosophy article, need a coming soon article for Yoga Day, if possible would like Yoga Day teacher to write or submit video for asana feature.
- Deadline May 22-24 2023
- Aug newsletter should include coming soon for Jaki Nett, Bethany or another member will write intro.

Media/Communications: (Katharine)

- Registration for Prairiewoods up and running.
- Chris's Cobblestone retreat added to website.
- Website build-Bethany will be in touch with Katie for timeline on going ahead with this.

- Some confusion with convention magazine ad and missed deadline over board transition time/perhaps missed emails/wires crossing all over the place? IYNAUS email communication goes to president and membership chair.
- This brings up the fact that in any board transition we should try to have a more clear channel of communication so important business isn't dropped–shelve for later discussion.

IYNAUS Update: (Susan)

- Convention is main topic of IYNAUS communication.
- Need more people to stay at the hotel so they don't lose significant amount of money; perhaps in the future they'll try to book less expensive lodging options.
- Continuing Ed committee has reached out to Prashant to continue his talks for June-Aug.
- Ethics committee is problematic because if we have one then people can file complaints; it holds IYNAUS board more accountable and vulnerable for lawsuits; discussion on this issue is ongoing. Yoga Alliance has statement that says if anyone doesn't adhere to sexual misconduct rules they're not allowed to join. How does this work? There is a lot of discussion going on regarding all of this.

Administration: (Bethany)

- Would like to organize IYAUM members gathering, perhaps around a meal, during convention? Hallie will help with this.

Treasurer's Report: (Dawn)

- Balance is \$19,089.08 as of today
- Need to formally document change in who can sign checks.
- Motion made: We as a board need to approve the following changes to the association's 2 checking accounts. We need to remove Nancy Marcy, the former President, and Shannyn Potter, the former communications chair from both accounts. We need to add Bethany Valentini, the current President, to both accounts and issue her a debit card and we need to remove the two signatures required stipulation on all accounts.
- All in favor of changing signers, issuing a debit card to Bethany Valentini and removing the two signatures required stipulation and outlined above. Motion passed.
- IYNAUS service mark payment dangling out there somewhere; need to look further into that. Susan will help with contacting the right person to finish up with this.
- May 15 is deadline for filing IRS 990-N
- T-shirts to sell at convention? Rather than selling them at a table at the convention, which was possibly discussed long ago, we will sell at future events, but it would be nice to have members going to convention to have one for group picture. Bethany will send email asking if members are going, if they'd like to meet and ask about t-shirts.

Finance: (Nancy and Pat)

- One \$200 scholarship requested for Prairiewoods, and it was granted.

- Used IYNAUS money to reimburse earlier scholarships given, the rest was split between other two applicants.

Membership: (Sean)

- In brainstorming realm for moving forward; would be nice to have mentorship for board transition, for quicker start up.
- Still interested in tri-fold brochure, something to hand out during trip around IYAUM yoga studios.
- Low-cost swag options like stickers to hand out is an idea—lyengar Yoga? You Betcha! Citta Vritta-ing? Every-body can do Something! Iyengar Local are brainstorms for sticker slogans. Reach out to teachers for ideas, arrange possible visits to studios. Other giveaways-t-shirts/slant planks for new members/studios visited?
- Strategy-build on existing members by accessing friends and family. If most members are women—go after the husbands/sons/partners, etc—Is there a family discount/household price? Run as a theme-bring a friend/family member to Yoga Day for free?

Do we need an Education and Events Committee?

- What is important for IYAUM to do? What events do we want to hold to serve the community? Coordinate events and better plan events/dates to avoid overlap and assure timely planning/promotion, etc.
- Should we look for our region's teachers for events rather than outside teachers; due to zoom, anyone can take classes from any teacher around the country/world. Would this unite us as a region? Have local teachers go to other studios where people aren't taking their weekly classes? (Ex. Chris goes to MIps, Joy comes to Lacrosse, etc)
- Need to get junior teachers involved. Have one day events/affordable events.
- Perhaps add more to an event—raffle/dinner/talk to generate interest. Create community within our own membership. Get to know teachers with in-person events. How do we find out what our region's teachers want/need, etc.?
- Keep Dec. Yoga Day format from last year of several teachers.
- Theme to work toward: Getting to know one another.
- We need help with region's teachers to help promote events. Turn certain existing events into IYAUM events?
- Educate students about benefits of belonging to IYAUM/IYNAUS organization—in local studios/article in newsletter/highlight on social media. (Discounts, sequences, info on IYNAUS website, etc, scholarships)
- Propose objectives and duties of committee. Bethany will write something up based on this meeting.

Events:

Prairiewoods: (Nancy)

- Everything is in place.
- Another email to go out for big push to get enrollment up. 12 enrolled so far to date.

Yoga Day-July: (Bethany)

- Propose to ask Kristin Chirhart to teach. All in favor.

- July 9th suggested as date.

Jaki Nett:

- Bethany will work with Nancy Marcy on this.

Yoga Day-Dec:

- Hallie will help; Dawn as Treasurer will help with all of the events.

Meeting adjourned at 2:37pm.

Email Follow-Up

April:

- Kristin C. has declined Yoga Day, Bethany will ask Jeanne Barkey.
- Bethany, Hallie and Sean will work together on an Education/Events Committee.

May/June:

- Sean, Nancy and Hallie will work together on website committee in moving forward with new website.
- Sean is working on updating the IYAUM member list into a more useful and coherent format. A list of CIYTs and general members would be useful. There is some confusion about how/if members are reminded to renew their membership, and making sure membership is current for discounted rates for IYAUM events.
- Prairiewoods had a successful turnout! 25 students registered for the workshop. Nancy and Dawn are working on a finalized spreadsheet of expenses, assuring correct invoice from PW, payment to Mary Reilly, payment to Prairiewoods, etc. Sean sold t-shirts.
- Hallie will chair Dec Yoga Day, Bethany and Dawn will help.
- July Yoga Day set for July 9; Joy Laine is teaching. Registration is open.

Email from Dawn regarding the start of a discussion around compensating board/committee members who help to organize events or who "work" at the events.

I'd like to propose that we open a discussion around providing compensation for board/committee members that are working events. In my mind, that would include things like:

- promoting membership at events,
- helping to plan and organize events, etc.

To start the discussion, maybe we could consider covering event expenses entirely, or up to a certain amount, or a percentage - since more expensive events require more coordination.

- This would fall outside of our scholarship process - as this would not be based on any financial need - but rather a "gift" of free or reduced fees to attend the event they've worked to produce.
- In my mind this would not apply to those that work to coordinate an event but don't attend.
- This would also not apply to board members that attend the event, but are not involved in the planning or are not working the event.

Date Submitted: 4/23/2023

Signed: Hallie Evans, Secretary