

Ben Lomond Fellowship Steering Committee minutes May 9, 2024

Open meeting with the Serenity Prayer

Attendance: Jason, chair and co-secretary Friday 6 p.m. meeting; Joseph O., Saturday 7 a.m. secretary; Ed O., temporary activities coordinator; Joe R., H&I rep; Michelle M., recording secretary/media coord.; Joey S., online meeting coordinator and Sunday 6 p.m. Zoom secretary; Matt M., supplies coordinator and Saturday noon secretary; Barbara, Tuesday noon secretary; Russell, activities coordinator and Monday 6 p.m. secretary; Eric, represents District 19, Area 6 (Salinas, Watsonville, Santa Cruz Spanish speaking); BethAnne, literature coordinator; Katie, member; and Mark B., co-treasurer

Approve Recording Secretary Minutes from April 11, 2024—Russell, Ed 2nd—unanimous approval

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report—Mark B.: The automated payment isn't working for monthly rent and he'll try to get to the bottom of it. Sponsor dinner revenue and expenses haven't been calculated yet. Jason said that we need to send the landlord our annual insurance renewal statement. Ed/BethAnne 2nd—unanimous approval.

GSR—Open position; no report.

H&I—Joe R.: H&I is still looking for coordinators for several meetings. Financially, BLF is one of top H&I donators but overall H&I still needs contributions. H&I will use some GSR money to cover cost of background checks for people going into jails, so people don't have to pay out of pocket. H&I is working out some difficulties with meetings in hospitals and how secretaries should handle issues with attendees. Many meetings aren't happening in hospitals because of a lack of coordinators. Eric added that most Si Se Puede spots have been filled. Joseph/Ed 2nd—unanimous approval.

Intergroup—Open position; no report.

Literature—BethAnne: The fellowship book supply is in good shape but she'll restock pamphlets and chips. Barbara asked if we stock the large print Big Book, which BethAnn said we can get upon request. Barbara/Ed 2nd—unanimous approval.

Online secretary coordinator—Coordinator didn't attend; no report.

In-person meeting secretary coordinator—Coordinator didn't attend; no report.

Media coordinator—Michelle M: Russell said that the fellowship address is incorrect on the website, and Mark will fix it or show Michelle how to fix it. Ed/BethAnne 2nd—unanimous approval.

Maintenance—Coordinator didn't attend; no report.

Supplies—Matt M.: The fellowship recently ran out of 7th tradition envelopes, but Matt wasn't aware he needed to purchase those. Matt said he'll make a list of the supplies he buys and post it in the closet so he knows what he's responsible for. Michelle suggested that if Steering Committee members notice that we're out of something, they buy a small amount then notify the Supply Coordinator so he can restock. Ed/Russell 2nd—unanimous approval.

Activities — Russell: No report. Ed asked if we're planning Labor Day yet, and Jason encouraged volunteers to join Russell in planning the event and said that Russell should keep the Steering Committee updated on the planning. Katie said that the fellowship needs to create a binder with all the planning information about big events, like Labor Day. She agreed to head up an "Activities Committee Documentation Committee" to create a resource binder. Russell and Joseph joined the committee. Katie will report to the Steering Committee at the June meeting with resources she needs. No vote needed.

Old business —

- Boat charter fundraiser—Discussion tabled to the June meeting.
- Labor Day Picnic grand prize—Discussion continued about whether we should discontinue the Hawaii Prize and offer something else. In the past few years, no one has gone on the trip and instead have taken a cash payout, which totals about \$2,000—the bulk of the Labor Day proceeds. Mark said it's very difficult to purchase accommodations for another person, and said that if we continue to offer the trip, we should hire a travel agent to arrange it. BethAnn suggested we hire a circuit speaker instead, which would draw people to the event, and find a less expensive grand prize. Further discussion was tabled to the June meeting.
- Coffee mug fundraiser—BethAnne: The fellowship could do coffee mug fundraiser for about a minimal investment and make about \$10 per mug. Jason asked her to put some financials together and bring them to the June meeting.

New business —

- Financial review: Jason raised the idea of a finance committee to look at fellowship expenses. In the past, revenue from events have helped the fellowship make annual expenses. But that trend doesn't seem to be holding true. An audit would help us understand the trends better. Matt also said that Eric R. has raised the idea of setting up a big-screen TV in the front room so we could hold events like Super Bowl parties and

run hybrid meetings to help raise revenue. Further discussion of the TV and hybrid meetings were tabled to the June meeting.

- 27th Congress in Santa Cruz: Eric said that District 19, Area 6, which includes parts of Monterey and Santa Cruz counties, is holding a Congress at the Hotel Paradox from May 31 through June 2. Michelle will put fliers on the website and on the bulletin board.

Adjourn: Ed/Matt 2nd—unanimous approval.

Close meeting with the Serenity Prayer