



Annual Meeting 2022 Minutes

Meeting time: 7:00 pm, Wednesday, November 9th

Location: Zoom

Officers:

President: Bob Persiko

Vice President: Kieran Holland

Public Relations Officer: Sabrina Lima

Treasurer: Bruce Truitt

Call to order at 7:10 PM. November minutes were accepted as submitted.

Reports of officers:

President – Bob

Bob reported:

- GC's conversion to an all-volunteer organization continues to present challenges: e.g., how to contact the management team, how to develop activities, and how to get members to be more active.
- Outreach efforts in the community have paid off. Membership continues to grow.
- The executive committee is now more international.
- We cherish our ongoing partnership with Penn State Global and Ten Thousand Villages.
- We are finding ways to serve the community: partnership with SCASD, especially in supporting immigrant families; assisting refugees.

Goals:

- Develop more in-person activities
- While our financial situation is healthy, we need to generate revenue
- Fill vacant standing committee chairs
- Reconnect with former members and hopefully re-engage them.
- We will need to find a replacement for me when I step down at the end of 2023.

Treasurer – Bruce Truitt

Bruce reported:

1. \$6,600 in a checking account, \$30,713 in the money market account. Holdings with the Centre Foundation is estimated at \$65,000 - \$66,000; expected distribution in March-April 2023 – \$3,200 - \$3,300 (estimated amount, the distribution rate doesn't set yet until the beginning of the fiscal year).

2. GC was the beneficiary of the “Centre Gives” in 2022 and got \$845. A big part of that number was generated by our own membership.
3. GC satisfied all obligations (was able to meet the fixed and variable costs) and has positive balances, but the cash flow is pretty flat.

Vice President - Kieran Holland

Kieran reported:

1. WPS, PBS channel – WPSU and Global Connections are exploring a partnership for December 3rd, 6:15-10:30 PM. We need 5-6 volunteers to answer phones at WPSU. WPSU will be promoting Global Connections the entire evening of this drive. This information should be advertised on the website.

Public relations, website, and social media

Sabrina Lima reported

1. We changed the template of the newsletters, and now we have every monthly highlight on members of the organization and their stories.

Cultural Luncheons – Shannon Holliday - absent

Membership

Rita Graef reported

1. 89 members, December 1st will start a new year of memberships, and members will receive notification to renew their dues (\$10).
2. We maxed out the current subscription of the Wild Apricot, but the work on resolving this problem is in process.
3. About the recruitment members, we take part in such events as the Lion Bash.
4. To spread information about GC to recruit new members is the duty of every organization member.

Small Groups

Deb Leo and Bob reported

1. Bob is leading online classes: English class and the discussion group every week.
2. Individual tutoring English is also active; there are some examples of members volunteering to help foreigners learn English.
3. Women’s Book group: Becky – beginners, 2 per month (Saturdays); Deb, Sharon – intermediate level group with the help of Susan (transferring the contact details of interested people), 2 per month (Wednesdays). Do not yet have a set calendar.

Linda Barton

There was a list of English tutors who work for fees and voluntarily – Bob and Bruce will investigate and develop current lists.

Special orders

- **Bylaws changes**

1. a vote to adopt the following bylaws proviso: “The office of the president will not be held to term limits until after the 2023 annual meeting. This proviso will no longer be in effect upon the conclusion of the 2023 annual meeting.”

Motion: Bruce

Seconded: Linda

Discussions: none

The Motion passes.

2. a vote on amending the Bylaws:

Current text: IV.D.4 Duties of the Treasurer. The duties of the treasurer will include receiving and collecting membership dues, maintaining membership records, receiving and collecting programming fees, receiving and disbursing monies with the approval of the executive committee and keeping the financial records of the organization.

Proposed amendment: Delete the phrase “maintaining membership records” and add it to the responsibilities of the Membership Committee Chair in the Standing Rules.

Reasoning: This is not a fiscal responsibility and therefore not relevant to what the Treasurer does. The Membership Chair is already fulfilling this function through the upkeep of records in Wild Apricot.

Motion: Debora Smith

Seconded: Linda

Discussions: none

The Motion passes.

- **Election of 2023 Officer Team:**

President – Bob Persiko

Vice President - Kieran Holland

Treasurer – Bruce Truitt

Social Media – Marco Damasceno

Secretary – Anna Borisova de Valdez

Motion to accept the entire slate of candidates: Melanie

Seconded: Debora Smith

Discussions: none

The Motion passes.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None.

Presentation:

Global Connections member and Afghan refugee told the story of his activities in Afghanistan, his escape, and his adjustment to life in the US.

Next meeting: TBD

Meeting adjournment: 8:18 PM

Prepared and submitted by Anna Borisova de Valdez 12/11/2022 with edits by Bob Persiko