

Sunday OA HOW September Business Meeting - October 29, 2017

Meeting Coordinator: Jenny C.

Secretary: Judy G.

1. **Attendance:** Jenny C. MD; Molly NC; Dana D. FL; Alyson NY; Judy G. WA, Nikki NY; Janey Z, FL,; Deb H., MI; Marilyn, NH; Marlana, CA; Sera, VA

2. Minutes from September meeting approved

3. New Business

a) *VSB Chair/Vice Chair Candidate.* On November 12 Alyson, our VSB representative, will be going to a special VSB meeting for service positions. Anyone wanting to do service for VSB can contact Alyson or Helen M. We currently have a candidate for either of the open positions of VSB Chair or Vice-Chair.

Laura C (TN) has submitted a service resume for consideration for one of these positions. The basics of the resume were read to the group. Service experiences included being on a public relations task group; doing graphics and creating fliers for groups; and being on various subcommittees. Laura was at one point ill and received treatment. She is recovering well and wants to bring cultural awareness and ethical standards to the VSB. She describes herself as clear thinking and hard working, with the ability to listen and stay open to different perspectives. She is, by her account, very motivated. Her HOW abstinence date is June 16, 2012; her entry into OA predates that.

It was noted that Laura is the only candidate and, in people's experiences, the first person to ever submit a service resume.

Discussion

Judy: It shows a lot of commitment to put together a resume. Speaks to willingness and commitment to service.

Jenny: Wants to make a motion that we accept Laura unless a new person presents who is better qualified.

Nikki: Motion to say yes to this person. (Seconded)

Jenny: The VSB rep has to think on her feet. If Alyson found someone better, would want her to be able to make the choice she judges best.

(More comments about Alyson having the right to make a judgment)

The motion was rescinded and a new motion presented.

Nikki: Laura is judged to be a favorable candidate. However, we trust our rep to make a decision for the group (Jenny: seconded the motion)

Vote: no opposed, 2 abstentions

Comment from abstainer #1: Did not comment during discussion because of concerns about anonymity, but abstention reflects concerns. In her resume Laura said she was clear thinking and hard working. This was true in the abstainer's opinion. Laura also said she listened and stayed open to different perspectives. This was not the experience of the abstainer, a perspective shared by abstainer #2.

Deb: Disappointed that we voted without complete information.

The discussion concluded with the original vote standing.

b) *Distribution of Business Meeting Notes*. Judy raised the question of whether the business meeting notes that are sent by email should be blind-copied so that people's email addresses are hidden. Several comments were offered.

Nikki: This is not an anonymity issue because anonymity is not required in service positions.

Marilyn: Is there any reason not to have blind copy?

Nikki: It's useful to have emails shown so we can be connected. If you "reply all" to a blind copy message, does the reply go to everyone?

Deb: You can't "reply all" to a blind copy

Jenny: Appreciates the concern and will not want addresses to appear on website when the minutes are posted

Alyson: Likes emails for people who are present so we can communicate about notes

Conclusion of conversation — we will not change to blind copy but will check about keeping emails off the website.

4. Final comments: A "thank you" was extended to the leader and moderator of the meeting for keeping cool heads in the face of repeated disruptions.

5. Adjourned