

TGEI Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2012, 3:30pm, Bureau of TennCare, 3rd Floor Atrium

Members Present:

Tammy Gennari, Chair
Luvenia Butler, Vice-Chair
Gerry Boaz
Tammy Golden
Donna Jewell
Rip Young

Members Present via phone:

Felenceo Hill
Barbara Wall
Antonio Meeks (proxy for Trish Pulley)

Members Absent:

Tony Mathews, Past Chair
Stephanie Dedmon
Sandra Gray
Torrey Grimes
Carolyn Head
Julie Johnson
Sharmila Patel
Cathy Salazar
Amanda Snowden
Brigitte Tubbs-Jones
Macel Ely (UT)

January Agenda Items:

1. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – N/A
2. Elections for Treasurer and Secretary
3. Account balance update
4. TGL Applications
5. Member Survey Results
6. Social media discussion (Facebook vs. LinkedIn, public or private group, etc.)
7. Fall Conference update
8. Holiday Breakfast (30 year anniversary)
9. Ideas for updating the website (removing old information and adding new information)

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Tammy Gennari started the meeting by welcoming those present and those present via the bridge line. She then passed out copies of the minutes from the November 2012 meeting. Although no approval was required, these minutes would help the new committee members to know what is typically discussed at the meetings.

Elections for Treasurer and Secretary:

Tammy Gennari and Donna Jewell explained the role of the secretary and treasurer of the committee. Gerry Boaz suggested emailing all members of the steering committee to see who is interested in fulfilling these roles for the current year. Luvenia Butler suggested that we send out the by-laws as well as a description of the duties of these positions to all members.

Account Balance Update:

Tammy Gennari reported that after the Holiday Breakfast, we ended up with roughly \$20 less than we started with in January 2012. The goal of the committee is to maintain the balance as closely as possible and not let it drop for the next year's committee.

TGL Applications:

Antonio Meeks explained the process for the Tennessee Government Leadership Council selection. After the applications have come in (deadline for submission is January 30th) and Trish Pulley and Commissioner Hunter have reviewed them, Trish will let us know how many were selected. At this point, there is no set limit currently as to the number of members that will be on the council.

Member Survey:

Rip asked if we as a committee are concerned about the level of involvement among the alumni. Tammy Gennari will bring the results of the member survey to the next meeting. However, the main reason most of the responders gave for not doing more with the alumni association was a lack of time. Tammy Gennari and Donna talked about the past activities and having tried community service activities and fun, family-type activities. The responses were about the same. There seems to be a core group of people who will be present, no matter the activity.

Rip brought up that we compete with class activities. His class (2012) meets monthly for lunch and has a quarterly event. He raised the question as to how we balance class activities with association activities.

Tammy Golden asked if time away from going through the TGEI experience seems to cause the decrease in activity. Most of the committee agreed that it did.

Felenceo mentioned that her class has asked Secretary of State Trey Hargett to meet at their class's next meeting. Having commissioners as speakers seems to spark interest in attending the events.

Luvenia said that the interest is still there among some members, but we have to keep it going. She asked if we could do something similar as an entire alumni association. Rip says that TGEI alumni seem to be more interested in professional development, even above networking. He suggested that we meet quarterly, but make the meetings worthwhile. We should have a good speaker and a good back-up speaker lined up. Rip raised the question as to how do we break down boundaries between the classes. Tammy Golden agreed – she gets excited for professional development or to see those from her class. She asked the committee for ways we can create that excitement between the classes.

Rip gave his ideas for quarterly meetings or how to develop interest in the association in general: 1) Professional development; 2) See classmates and network with classmates; and 3) Network with other classes.

Gerry suggested that we all work on separate vision and mission statements and bring them to the next committee meeting (or even email them out to committee members a few days prior to the meeting).

Tammy Gennari asked that we also bring ideas for events to the next meeting. She mentioned that Second Harvest has meeting rooms and lunches available. Tammy Golden mentioned the Farmer's Market as another possibility.

Social Media Discussion:

Tammy Gennari told the committee that Tony Mathews established a TGEI Alumni Group on the social networking site "LinkedIn". So far, there has not been much activity. However, that may be because the group does not appear on mobile devices.

Fall Conference:

Tammy Gennari stated that she has not heard from DOHR officially, but is assuming that they will need our help at some level for the Fall Conference. Antonio said that we will be getting the table discussion information from the last conference at our next meeting.

Holiday Breakfast:

Tammy Gennari suggested that we start working on the Holiday Breakfast very soon. Since this will be the thirtieth anniversary of TGEI, we want it to be very special. Tammy Golden suggested that we recognize certain milestones (example: members from earliest class in attendance receive a prize). Tammy Gennari said that we needed to start thinking about possible venues and possible caterers.

Ideas for Updating the Website:

This will be discussed more at the next meeting. We all need to look over the site and consider what needs to be removed/added. Luvenia suggested that we look within our membership to see if we have the talents to create the particular files that DOHR needs in order to update the website. Antonio told us that the DOHR webmaster is Mi Jones.

Other Business:

Antonio mentioned that Trish will be working with Mary Jenks and Macel Ely to revise the curriculum for TGEI 2013.

Action items before next meeting:

Donna will send out the minutes.

Donna will send out the by-laws and a description of the Secretary and Treasurer positions

Tammy Gennari will prepare a summary of the member survey results

Entire committee: Try to join the LinkedIn group – may work better from a PC

Entire committee: Prepare a vision and mission statement for TGEI alumni association

Entire committee: Consider possible venues for meetings and possible speakers

Entire committee: Consider possible venues and caterers for the Holiday Breakfast

Next Meeting: February 21, 2013, 3:30pm, Bureau of TennCare, 3rd Floor Atrium