

# TGEI Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

## August 22, 2008

### **Members Present**

George Zukotynski, Chair  
Lamont Price  
Kandi Thomas  
Jesse Neely  
Kathy Anderson

### **Members Via Conference Line**

Karen Hale, Past Chair  
Pam Busby

### **Members Absent**

Leslie Sperrazza  
Nat Johnson, Vice Chair  
Tracy Carter  
Donna Bridges  
Emily Wilson  
Trish Pulley, DoHR Liaison  
Ernie Ricketts, DoHR  
Jack Elder

### **Call to Order**

Chair George Zukotynski called the August 2008 Steering Committee meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

### **Review of July Meeting Minutes**

George asked if everyone had received the Draft July minutes and if there were any changes needed. George requested a few changes. A motion was made to approve the July minutes. Motion was seconded and all present were in favor of approving the July minutes. George asked Kandi to finalize the minutes and send them to Trish at DoHR for posting.

### **Officers and Committee Reports**

Secretary:	Kandi Thomas – No report
Treasurer:	Kathy Anderson – Kathy reported the only change in the bank balance was for interest earned.
Newsletter:	Nat Johnson – George reported that we missed our target date for the newsletter release. See additional discussion in New Business regarding potential changes to the by-laws and other communication tools for our alumni.
Web page:	George provided an update from our last meeting. We are still hoping for the web-

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site project to be completed by December 31, 2008. Further discussion follows in New Business.

### TGMI/TGEI Fall Conference:

George has discussed with Trish and DoHR the challenges of planning the conference and that time for planning is quickly slipping away. DoHR is currently dealing with the budget crisis and employee buy-out options. A date for the Fall Conference has been set for October 23, 2008. See New Business for additional discussion.

### Golf Tournament:

Jesse reported that he has worked with TN Department of Environment and Conservation (and Andy Lyon Class of 2007) to finalize the golf tournament at Henry Horton State Park. Jesse and Kathy are working through the details of registration and door prizes. The date of the event is September 19, 2008. The estimated cost per golfer at this time is \$50. See New Business for additional discussion.

### Holiday Breakfast:

No report. Date is set for December 4, 2008, at Ellington Agricultural Center. Kandi Thomas / Leslie Sperrazza / Donna Bridges / Tracy Carter / will assist.

### Community Service Project:

Lamont Price – Chair. Lamont is working with John Zirkle, TGMI, regarding the project for the Fall Conference. See New Business.

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:

Pam discussed the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of TGEI and our wish to coordinate with DoHR to celebrate this milestone. However, in the event that DoHR cannot commit, we will proceed with planning an event for the fall or around the Holidays. See New Business.

### New Business

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### Web Page

George and Pam discussed their continuing efforts to communicate with DoHR about the web-page project. George is still focused on bringing this project to completion by December 31, 2008. George, Karen, and Pam met with DoHR to talk about the progress with the web-site. Trish, Ernie, and Debbie Eggars attended. All reported that the meeting was productive. Pam is still attempting to get with Sharon Buwalda to review pictures and make selections for the web-page. Pam will contact Trish again regarding the pictures. We also planned to include pictures from our up-coming events. A follow-up meeting has been set for September 22, 2008. The steering committee or at least George, Karen, and Pam will review the web-site again and recommend needed changes, etc. George would like for the steering committee to provide DoHR with specific changes at the September 22 meeting. We all agreed that George, Karen, and Pam could represent the steering committee and provide recommendations and suggestions to DoHR.

### Newsletter

George reported that we did not meet our target date for newsletter release. We anticipate the newsletter will go out in September.

### Golf Tournament

Jesse briefly discussed that he and Kathy were still working on registration details and obtaining door prizes (which will be covered with registration fees). Jesse talked about the location change to Henry Horton based on TDEC preference and the fact that Henry Horton had an air-conditioned room for lunch. We also discussed weekly advertising from DoHR to TGEI, TGMI, and state employees for participation in our event. Based on past events, Jesse is hoping for approximately 60 golfers. The estimated cost to register is \$50. George asked Jesse if he needed funding from the steering committee for prizes, but those will be covered with registration fees. Jesse also planned to call TRICOR, a TGEI supporter for possible door prizes. To date only two teams had registered for the tournament. TDEC will provide a meal which is also to be covered by the registration fee. The date is September 19, 2008, at 8:30 a.m.

### Fall Conference

DoHR has selected the conference date of October 23, 2008. TGMI is the lead agency for planning with DoHR. George shared that DoHR has new ideas for future fall conferences. We are not sure what this might mean for this fall conference. George was meeting with DoHR in the near future to discuss this year's conference. We are also not certain that DoHR has a facility reserved at this time. There is a meeting scheduled for August 28, 2008, with DoHR, TGMI, and TGEI for planning purposes. Jesse inquired about the level of involvement for TGEI steering committee members since DoHR and TGMI are key in planning the event.

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### Holiday Breakfast

No further discussion.

### Community Service Projects

Lamont met with John Zirkle regarding community service events. Lamont described two projects, the Harpeth River Clean-up opportunity with TDEC on October 25, and the Ghouls at Grassmere Event on October 16. The Nashville Zoo needs a final volunteer list by September 16. Lamont will contact DoHR regarding both opportunities and soliciting their help in advertising the events and seeking volunteers. George recommended that Lamont develop an email and send it to Trish, Karen Eddy, with a cc to George.

### Spring Social/25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Pam reported that we still want to pursue the coordinated effort with DoHR to celebrate TGEI's 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. In the event the DoHR cannot plan a celebration, Pam will still pursue planning an event associated with the fall conference or during the holidays. George thought it might be more practical to combine this event with the Fall Conference, but until we can meet with DoHR we do not know what their ideas might include.

### Other Business

George reminded everyone to review action items that come out with the monthly minutes.

George asked if there were any other pressing matters and there were none.

### Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting is set for September 26, 2008, at 11:30 a.m. in the Andrew Jackson Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor. The conference line will be available for our next meeting. The conference line telephone numbers are 741-1193 (local) and 1-877-214-0097 (long distance).



Tennessee Department of Human Resources, Employee Learning & Development,  
Printing Authorization Number 319503, 15 copies. This Public Document was  
promulgated at a cost of \$3.19 per copy, April, 2008.