

TGMI Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
May 10, 2011

Committee Members:

Present:

E. Ross White – Chairman  
Jon Zirkle – Past Chair  
Phyllis Hodges – 2010 Member at Large  
Mehran Mostajir – 2009 Class President  
Georganne Martin – 2009 Member at Large  
April Wright – 2010 Member at Large  
Victor Barnes – 2010 Class President  
Debbie Knox – 2010 Steering Committee Member  
Trish Pulley – Ex Officio  
Vicky Goodin- Voted to replace Julie Lamb

Excused Absent:

Marilou Cook – Vice Chair  
Dr. Tom Kohntopp – via conference call  
Chris Harris – 2009 Member at Large

Guests:

Mike Travis  
Susan Burdette

Called To Order:

Meeting was called to order by Chairman E. Ross White at 2:07 pm. The meeting was held in the Crockett Tower 12<sup>th</sup> floor conference room.

Treasurer Report:

Debbie Knox stated there is no change in the funds from last month. The balance is \$1,063.93.

She is still looking into the matter of TGMI Alumni Association having obtained a Federal Taxpayer ID, and registered as a 501(c) organization with the IRS.

No documentation has been found concerning either one of these issues. Trish Pulley will get with the legal counsel of DOHR and Commissioner Hunter, since the TGI programs started under DOHR. If an alumnus has knowledge of where the official paper work is for the 501(c) organization registration, and the Federal Taxpayer ID, please contact Debbie Knox.

Old Business:

a. Steering Committee Involvement in Alumni BBQ

The alumni BBQ to meet the new class has been set. It will be held at Montgomery Bell on Tuesday, June 7, at 5:30. The alumni will be asked to pay \$20.00 for the event. The 2011 class member's meal will be paid from the per diem travel rate. Currently, there are 11 alumni registered. Reminders will be sent out periodically until June 1. If an alumni plans on attending, they should email Ross White, Lauren Hill and Debbie Knox. The alumni will pay at the event. If an alumni registers and does not attend, they will be asked to pay, since the caterer will be serving based upon the registration numbers.

b. Proposed Changes to the By Laws when Officer Leaves

Mike Travis discussed the by-laws. Particularly, Article VII, Section 5 which reads:

“If any member of the 'immediate past class' or the 'most current class' on the Steering Committee is elected to another Steering Committee position, retires, or leaves Tennessee State Government prior to the end of their term, their respective Class shall elect a replacement person to represent their Class on the Committee for the remainder of the original term.”

This was written to cover the Steering Committee, the Alumni Network as a whole, and make sure a Class covers its obligation to the Steering Committee. However, it's up to each individual Class to determine if they want to elect anyone to replace someone who has left State government once that Class has met its obligation of service on the Steering Committee.

Currently, three Classes do not have a President. The three Classes in question are 2000, 2003, and 2007 fall class. The Class of 2000 has provided 5 of the 13 elected Steering Committee Chairpersons and they have been very active in TGMI and continue to show their support, even

though they have been without a Class President for the past 9 years. The Class of 2003 presently only have 17 class members still working in State Government. The class members that remain are still active in TGMI and also don't seem to need a President.

The purpose of the Steering Committee is to serve the alumni, not any one particular class. The By-Laws are for the benefit of the Steering Committee and the Alumni Network. If a particular class loses a President or other elected official, it would be up to the class body to elect someone, if they so choose. As TGMI Classes get older, the number of active State employees dwindles, thus causing a larger problem of filling an empty position.

If the Steering Committee feels that every class should have a President or other official, the Steering Committee should write a memo to the Class members in question, asking the Class to either elect a new President or at least have a "contact" person for that Class. As there would be no way to enforce a policy thru the By-Laws that would require each Class to have a President.

On Wednesday, May 11, 2011, Marilou Cook, Ross White, and Jon Zirkle will drive to Knoxville to discuss elections with the new Class. They will mention the possibility of electing a President and an alternate, so there will already be someone in place for the future.

c. Adopt A Highway

Chris Harris had emailed the information from TDoT. There are two roadways in Nashville that are up for adoption. One is on Franklin Road and the second is at Harding Place. The vote was to go with Franklin Road. All approved.

Jon Zirkle will send out an email to all alumni to make sure there is enough interest to do this project long term before the Steering Committee obligates TGMI.

Committee Reports:

a. Charter Committee

Mike Travis's report was presented previously under old business.

b. Communications Committee

All class reporters need to have their reports to April Wright by May 13. The TGMI newsletter will be out by June 15.

The spotlight, meet a member, in this issue of the newsletter will be on the new commissioner of DoHR, Commissioner Hunter.

c. Community Service Committee

The Adopt-a-Highway information has been gathered and will be presented to the alumni via email to see if there is enough interest to proceed.

Jon Zirkle is talking to Hands on Nashville to see what the TGMI alumni could do to help the current flood victims and the victims from last year's flood.

Harpeth River clean up will be in October.

d. Events Committee

The April 21, 2011 was held at 44 Vantage Way, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, in the large conference room at 11:30 to welcome the new class. The presentation was excellent and there has been some great feedback from that luncheon.

Phyllis Hodges is going to try to get several more luncheons scheduled, so the alumni can get the dates on their calendars.

There are two major events coming up. One is Fall Conference and the second is the Holiday Breakfast in December.

e. Education and Leadership Development Committee

No new business.

## New Business:

### a. Mentor Bureau / Program Discussion

Victor Barnes, 2010 alumni, will touch base with the 2011 class members and try to match up a 2010 alumni with a 2011 class member. If he does not have enough volunteers from the 2010 class, he will call on the Steering Committee members.

Trish Pulley would like to coordinate this program with DoHR's programs and let it be state wide. DoHR is willing to help build the guidelines, help train the mentor and help monitor the program. The Steering Committee welcomed this input and decided to table this until the next meeting since Fall Conference needed to be discussed.

### b. Fall Conference

Trish Pulley and Susan Burdette had met the day before the Steering Committee meeting. There will be a Conference Committee made up of: 5 TGEI alumni, 5 TGMI alumni, and 4 Lead TN alumni. As the conference develops, there will be many sub-committees. The committee will need to reach out to the alumni to get volunteers to help with many aspects of the conference.

A survey will be sent out to the alumni via Survey Monkey by DoHR asking alumni to rank themes suggested by the committee for the Fall Conference. Survey Monkey tallies the results and all correspondence is kept confidential.

The first 3 planning meetings have been scheduled. The dates are:

May 25 from 2:30 to 4,

June 1 from 2 to 4,

June 29 from 2 to 4.

### c. Golf Tournament

The deadline to register for the Golf Tournament is Friday, May 13, 2011. The Golf Tournament will be held at Montgomery Bell State Park on Friday, May 20, 2011.

## Reading Recommendations:

Current month's recommended readings are:

Heath, R. (2009). *Celebrating failure: The power of taking risks, making mistakes, and thinking big*. Franklin Lakes, NJ: Career Press. ISBN: 978-1-60163-064-3.

Previous recommended readings are:

Hesselbein, F., Goldsmith, M., & Sommerville, I. (Eds.). (1999). *Leading beyond the walls*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. ISBN: 0-7879-4593-5.

Gladwell, M. (2002). *The tipping point: How little things can make a big difference*. New York: Little, Brown, & Company. ISBN 0-316-34662-4.

Agenda and Discussion: How State Government Executive and middle Managers and Administrative Policy by OLSHFSKI

The Feiner Points of Leadership by Michael Feiner

The Oz Principle: Getting Results through Individual and Organizational Accountability  
Roger Connors, Tom Smith, and Craig Hickman

Relationships 101: What Every Leader Needs to Know  
John C. Maxwell

Strength Based Leadership by Rath and Conchie

This Ain't No Practice Life by Michael Burt

Good to Great by Jim Collins

Leadership Gold by John Maxwell

On Becoming a Great Leader (2003 Edition) by W. Bennis

Meeting adjourned at 3:37.

Regards,

Georganne Martin