

April 11, 2006 Executive Committee Meeting

The ExComm convened at Pancho's at 5:45 PM with all members present. Other Mensans present were Susan Hinson, Trisha Nelson, and David Norris. Other members arriving during the meeting were David Stowell, Brent Milton, Dick Shaw, Marcia Denman, Jamie Francis, Neville Mayfield, Suzanne Hundley, Mike Deming, Mary Custer, and Lisa Herman.

Ben nominated Trisha as Proctor Coordinator, approved 5-0.

After a short discussion about other candidates, Ben nominated Susan Hinson as Membership Coordinator, approved 5-0

Ben again announced that although Dick Shaw would continue as Newsletter Publisher until a replacement is found, he would like to pass that duty to someone else.

We had a short discussion about trying to find a replacement for the copier we use now to produce the Newsletter. Ideally, we would like a digital laser printer with duplexing, 1200 DPI or better, good grayscale rendition, and the capacity to handle 300 sheets without intervention.

It should have a duty cycle capability of at least 15,000 impressions per month, and a speed of 20 PPM or better. Aimee will check with Novacopy about what trade-ins they have available, but unless they have a machine that better meets our needs, will renew our current contract for the copier.

Aimee announced that she will have new checks soon, and reminded us that receipts are required for reimbursement of expenses.

Dave Shiffman informed the group that due to new requirements, Memphis Mensa was disqualified from its automated postal rate. As a result, our postage for the April Newsletter increased by \$14.25 over March. Brent told us that to re-qualify we need FOUR bar-coded tray labels and a "qualification report" to accompany each mailing. We are evaluating "Postage Saver" software from Hochberg Consulting Services to produce these.

Smoking was discussed.

Ben asked about Bylaw revision. David Norris said that he is requesting proposals and suggestions for revisions to our current bylaws, which are not in compliance with National standards. Dave Shiffman reminded the group that National Mensa offers both a "minimum standard" bylaw document and a "model bylaws" document with a few standardized variations to accommodate some local preferences. Shiffman described the process, and reminded the group that the more changes from the model, the longer it will take, and that any subsequent changes will be equally difficult and time-consuming. Neville discussed how the bylaw revision process worked recently in New Orleans. Also, we discussed the last documented list of "Standing Rules" (recently forwarded to many of you by Trisha) and what should be there versus in the bylaws.

Ben announced that the Strategic Planning Session will take place at the Collierville Library at 10:00 AM on May 6. All members may attend, and anyone with a business item to present is invited to place it on the agenda by contacting any ExComm member, or to appear at the meeting.

Aimee asked about renewing our primary and clone "MemphisMensa" Internet domain URLs. Renewal of all was approved, 5-0.

David Stowell announced that he has assembled a 4-member team for CultureQuest, but can still accept one more team member and two alternates.

Trisha requested a moratorium on ExComm votes taken at other than scheduled meetings, except for approval of minutes, until we adopt a formal policy about such votes. We agreed to the moratorium until the May monthly meeting.

Brent reminded us that the program for May will feature Alexander Gogonelis on ancient technology, and the June program will be on obsolete and quirky laws still on the books.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM to make way for dinner and our program on Ballroom Dance.