



International Academy of Mediators

Board Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting · Monday, August 9, 2021 · 9:30 – 11:00 EST (US)

1. Call to Order
2. Having established a quorum President Michel Kallipetis called the board meeting to order at 9:33 AM. In attendance were President Michel Kallipetis, President-Elect Steve Paul, Secretary Jody Sin, Past President Jon Fidler; Governors, Barbara Cornish, Jeff Hand, Tat Lim, Denise Madigan, Joyce Mitchell, Doug Murphy, James Peter, Allan Stitt; Ex- officios Chuck Doran, Tracy Allen, Jerry Weiss; and Executive Director Richard Rejino, administrator, Carol Wilbur, and bookkeeper, Meghan Birmingham.
3. Approval of Meeting Agenda
The meeting agenda was approved.

Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes
 1. April 22
A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from April 28, 2021, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
 2. June 18
A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from June 18, 2021, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Financial Report
 1. Year to Date report from June 2021
J Lloyd-Jones reported that the financials are in order with approximately \$360,000 in total assets. The financial report was accepted as presented.
 2. IAM Financial Review Proposal Report
R Rejino summarized the report and proposals for a financial review and recommended the proposal from E. A. Murdock. J Lloyd-Jones supported the recommendation of using E. A. Murdock.
A motion was made and seconded to select E.A. Murdock to conduct a financial review of the IAM. The motion carried unanimously.
6. Conference Update
 1. IAM Symposium Update
Barbara Cornish reported that the theme has been modified to *Mediating in a Post Pandemic World*. The following dates have been established for the IAM virtual conference: Nov 5 – the Americas, November 15 - Australasia, and November 19 – Europe. Doug Murphy and Nina Khouri are the team leaders for the Australasia meeting;

J Lloyd Jones and Jane Player are the team leaders for the European meeting. The team leaders for the Americas include Fernando Navarro (South America) and the committee is looking for a volunteer from North America. Tat Lim reported two IT companies are in consideration for running IAM virtual meetings.

J Weiss added that the IAM Scholars in Resident have excellent presentation ideas for the November and Spring conferences and will be available to participate in the program. B Cornish confirmed they would be included in the program.

M Kallipetis reported that Gail Wright-Sirmans, co-chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, would like to take part of the Americas meeting and requested a 30-minute presentation on diversity. B Cornish confirmed that she would be included on the program.

2. Zurich Proposed Budget

J Peter, Carol Wilbur, and R Rejino reported that the numbers on the proposed budget have been adjusted with the current exchange rate. Shared expenses were calculated proportionally to the projected numbers of IAM and Swiss mediation group attendees. J Peter is optimistic that 25-50 Swiss mediators will participate and recommended that all events of the conference should be inclusive of both groups.

The budget projected an overall shared deficit in income vs. expenses for as much as \$20,000. J Fidler asked if past international conference attendance numbers were available and that a comparison should be done. C Doran and other board members agreed that IAM should make every attempt every attempt to break even including sponsorship and to secure dates as early as possible. The board asked R Rejino to look back on the history of non-north American conferences and report to the board.

J Peter reminded the board that the budget was discussed two years prior, knowing the risks of a shortfall, and decided to move forward; furthermore, that the Swiss Mediation Group was included to help minimize the IAM exposure. He agreed that everything should be done to break even, including sponsorships. He noted that the dates of June 1-3, 2023, are currently on hold at the Zurich Marriott Hotel.

7. Memberships

1. Nominations for Membership: J Hand reported on 3 outstanding nominees for members: Catherine Pulve, Prachi Mehta, and Anuroop Omkar. He noted that all three candidates had excellent credentials. Their applications were reviewed and:

A motion was made and seconded to admit the three candidates to membership into the IAM as Distinguished Fellows. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Recruitment Email

J Sin explained the purpose of the email is to help recruit international members to participate in the November IAM virtual meetings by using the IAM list to enlist the right members as champions in their region. This in turn will help identify potential members. R Rejino will provide a list of IAM contacts to J Sin and T Lim.

The email was approved by the board.

8. Appointment of Allocation Committee & By-law Changes

By-laws: J Lloyd Jones summarized the by-law amendments: Formalize a meeting of the board within 4 weeks before of the Annual Meeting for the committee to review the financials and set forth the dues for the coming year. Other changes include that the current President select the members of the committee to be approved by the board. The President and Treasurer will be on the committee for a one-year term and a two year for non-board members. The committee will look at finances, operating expenses, the reserve fund, and how much will be put into the allocation fund; and make recommendations to the board as to how the monies will be distributed.

T. Allen added that the bylaws should allow the committee to be as nimble as possible to make decisions as they come up. Allan Stitt asked if prior to spending the allocation funds, should the bylaws require a notification to members to propose ideas by a set deadline. M Kallipetis agreed that the president should write a letter explaining that the Allocation Committee is in place to receive the ideas, review them, and make recommendations to the board for approval by a board vote; and that subsequent presidents follow precedent.

The board decided S Paul and J Lloyd Jones will continue to receive suggestions from the board and that a final proposal will be circulated and voted upon by the board for final approval.

9. Proposal for being a supporting organization for Mediation Confidentiality webinar organized by HKIAC and DVC.

J Sin explained that the Hong Kong event will be advertised to territories in Asia and that because most of the speakers are from the IAM, HKIAC is asking that IAM become a supporting organization. The board approved the proposal.

10. Pro-Bono: Supreme Court of India

It was decided that IAM support the opportunity for IAM to be exposed and promoted in new territories, in keeping with the mission to becoming more international.

11. Professional Indemnity Insurance Update

R Rejino summarized the update by noting that IAM needs to seek out new D&O insurance since it re-domesticated from Canada to the US. Furthermore, he reported that IAM has received a quote for coverage from the current provider but through a US affiliate. The policy contains a provision that it will cover instances that occur world-wide, but only if the claim is filed in the US, its territories, and Canada. P Van Osselaer and R Rejino are waiting to receive and review other quotes from brokers without that provision. It was the consensus of the board is that IAM should pursue insurance that provides world-wide coverage, without the provision. The board will be updated as more information is received.

12. Member request for IAM survey about the state of online mediation versus in-person.

D Madigan stated that the board should be circumspect about sending out surveys at the request of a member. After the discussion, it was decided that the matter could be sent out and discussed on listserv.

13. Future Board Meeting Dates – M Kallipetis asked R Rejino to circulate a doodle poll to determine the best dates for future board meeting dates.

14. Adjourn: 11:09.