



# International Academy of Mediators

## Board Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting · June 19, 2020 · 11:00 AM

Agenda: Planning Future IAM Conferences

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jon Fidler at 10:05 AM Central time.

In attendance were President Jon Fidler, President-Elect Michel Kallipetis, Vice President Steve Paul (with Secretary Rob Daisley's proxy), Treasurer Larry Rute; Governors Claude Amar, Barbara Cornish, Jeff Hand, John Lloyd-Johnson, Denise Madigan, Joyce Mitchell, James Peter, Jody Sin, Paul Van Osselaer; Ex-Officios Lee Jacobson, Jeff Jury, Gene Moscovitch; and Executive Director Richard Rejino.

### Memo to the Board (see attached)

J Fidler began the meeting by summarizing memo to the board dated June 5, 2020 prior to the meeting regarding the future IAM conferences under the COVID-19 pandemic situation. In particular, the discussion centered on cancelling the Montreal Fall 2020 conference. He noted that IAM has paid a \$10,000 deposit to the hotel and that talks had begun with the hotel and they agreed to a postponement.

Among the alternatives was moving the conference to Spring 2021; however, scheduling in April and May presents challenges with weather and with the Winkler Institute and Victoria holiday in Canada. Scheduling the conference sometime in the summer of 2021 would also present a short turn around time for the scheduled Zurich Fall 2021 Conference, leaving less than four months until the next conference. J Fidler noted that these scenarios will also be influenced by the state of the pandemic and how it affects international travel.

First alternative: Move Montreal to June 2021 and Zurich to Spring 2022 and have a virtual conference sometime in between.

Second alternative: have no conferences until Fall 2021 in Zurich

A discussion included: having one conference a year and have some mini virtual conferences during the year; to have a conference in Montreal in Spring 2021 and use it as an opportunity to experiment to have one conference a year; to have a virtual conference in Spring 2020, keep Zurich in 2021 and move Montreal to 2022; to only have virtual conferences until there is a vaccine; that it isn't wise cancel Montreal and make another deposit with a different hotel and that IAM should use the Sofitel deposit; that even if there is a vaccine, a lack of public trust in travel may still be a deterrent.

J Fidler summarized the discussion with the following consensus: move the Montreal Fall Conference to 2021 and move the Zurich Conference to the Spring of 2022. J Peter confirmed that moving Zurich to 2022 is not an issue.

**A motion was made and seconded that the next in-person meeting take place in the late Summer or early Fall of 2021 in Montreal (July/August/Sept) and that inquiries be made with the hotel as to available dates as soon as possible. The motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made and seconded to have the Zurich conference in May 2022. The motion passed unanimously.**

J Fidler stated that he will compose a message to the membership and inform them of the decision to cancel the Montreal in-person conference, and that the Fall 2020 Conference will be a virtual and take place on October 16<sup>th</sup>. The board meeting take place on Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as a video conference at 9 AM Eastern.

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 AM.