

The November 2014 regular meeting of the Lone Star Mensa board of officers convened on Saturday, November 15, 2014 at the Old Quarry Branch of the Austin Public Library at 7051 Village Center Drive, Austin, TX 78731. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.

Attending Senior Officers were Douglas Yee, Geri Neemidge, John Neemidge, Ron Edelstein, Doug Williams, Johnnie Vaughn, Leslie Stevenson. Cecil Atkinson was also in attendance.

The board adopted the agenda for this meeting. The minutes, agenda, referenced written reports, and other documents related to the meeting will be made available on the LSM Website. Paper copies are available on request.

The board received the following officer and committee reports and took the following actions:

President report: Geri is going to ask Carle Aldrete, salesman from Alpha Graphics, to come answer newsletter printing questions at the January 17th, 2015 board meeting - which will be moved up the beginning of the meeting agenda.

All of the 2015 Board of Officers meetings will be held at the Old Quarry Branch of the Austin Public Library: 7051 Village Center Drive, Austin, TX 78731 on the 3rd Saturday of every month, with the exception of the March 2015 meeting (see Vice-President's report.)

The annual holiday party is to be December 20th from 6-10PM (setup to begin at 5PM).

Vice-President report: The board discussed the need for a day-long strategic planning meeting each year when the new board is elected to discuss our priorities for the upcoming year. Leslie moved that we have a day-long yearly Strategic Planning Board Meeting in late March, after elections, that would have both the outgoing and incoming board members participate, as well as any other appointed members. The motion passed unanimously. Leslie will draft a basic agenda to get ideas for this planning meeting, and Ron will look into the venue. We are hoping this will be March 21st, 2015 from 11am-7pm this coming year.

Treasurer's Report: Douglas found that Well's Fargo doesn't offer comparable interest rates on CD's, so will investigate other institutions to transfer the CD's to for a higher interest rate. We discussed how much money we need in our basic checking account and our CD accounts, and we have two CD's coming up for renewal before the end of 2014. The board recommended Douglas invest the CD's in a 1 year and an 18 month CD. We discussed why we are holding on to so much money, and using more money for promotions and other LSM building activities. There will be more discussion at the yearly Strategic Planning Board Meeting.

Elections Committee Report: Linda Edelstein as Elections Committee Chair for 2014-2015, sent an email to prospective board candidates confirming their desire to run for the four 2015-2017 senior board member positions open. If someone is interested in being Elections Committee Chair for 2015-2016, they can help with the elections this year. If someone is interested in serving on the board (deadline to submit name is December 1st), or helping with the elections, they can contact Linda at: ledelstein@mindspring.com

Bylaws Committee: Johnnie Vaughn had to resign the position of being the chair for this committee. Geri approved the resignation and appointed John Neemidge as chair. The board approved this appointment.

Membership Committee: Patsy Graham welcomed all new members to LSM and sent in a column for the newsletter.

Testing: So far, LSM proctors have tested 45 people this year, in 4 central Texas cities. LSM added one new certified proctor, and have had one former proctor recertify, and two proctors-in-training. LSM still needs more proctors. Members who have a 4-year degree and are interested in learning more about the proctor program, contact the testing coordinator, Johnnie Vaughn at: johnnie.r.vaughn@gmail.com

Advertising/Promotions/Outreach: People have to know about Mensa before we can get them to test, and that's where our Outreach Program comes in. This year, LSM has setup booths at 5 different conventions. These ranged from SciFi cons to miniature collecting and gaming conventions. We would like to add even more next year. People who can help can setting up or manning a table at an event for a few hours - (we have all the materials, all it takes is a little information and some enthusiasm for getting more people to join.) If someone wants to meet some interesting individuals, this is the volunteer job for you! Do you know of an upcoming convention or event where we can put up our table? Please contact Johnnie Vaughn at: johnnie.r.vaughn@gmail.com

RG Report: We will have an 2014 RG wrap up meeting in early December after Leslie gets the final reports from Johnnie (Geek Market) and Douglas (final financial report.) Then we will begin to discuss the 2015 RG. Patsy Graham, Registrar, reported 19 registrations for the 2015 RG.

Website report: Things need to be fixed (mobile format) and such, will work on updating things before January 2015.

Announcements

All of the 2015 Board of Officers meetings, followed by the monthly speaker meeting, will be held at the Old Quarry Branch of the Austin Public Library: 7051 Village Center Drive, Austin, TX 78731 on the 3rd Saturday of every month, with the exception of the March 2015 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50PM