

MINUTES
DELAWARE VALLEY MENSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER / OPENING REMARKS

HILLMAN called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm

II. ROLL CALL [Secretary's Note: Roster is in Appendix 1.]

Present: HILLMAN, MARIANI, NEFF, RIGNEY, TAYLOR, HEIPLE, CRAM (included in vote tally from IV below), GOMEZ-FARROW (included in vote tally from VI below).

Remote: DESTEFANO, JARRIN

III. APPROVE MINUTES – minutes from the July 15, 2017 meeting were approved. Approved 7-0-1. JARRIN abstains

IV. ASIE CLEANUP (RG COMMITTEE)

Moved HEIPLE, Seconded MARIANI:

“A recurring program committee to coordinate DVM’s regional gathering known as the RG Committee is established.

Once a chairman is selected, the RG Committee is charged with making all arrangements for the upcoming RG: negotiating with the venue, establishing a budget, securing speakers, planning activities, organizing hospitality, and handling registration.

The ExComm shall appoint the chairman of the committee. The chairman of the committee shall appoint the other committee members. Once the event has occurred and the books have been closed, the committee ceases to exist until a new chairman is appointed.

As per ExComm policy for all committees, the need for the RG Committee shall be reviewed by the incoming ExComm at the start of each new term.

The RG Committee shall report to the Program Chair through written reports, and through its chairman as necessary.”

Approved 9-0-0 **DVM2017-021**

V. APPOINTMENTS

RECRUITMENT AND TESTING CHAIR - Moved HEIPLE, Seconded TAYLOR: “Stacy Rigney is appointed Recruitment and Testing Chair.” Approved 8-0-1. RIGNEY abstains. **DVM2017-022**

There is now an open Member-At-Large position. HILLMAN opened the floor to nominations. JARRIN nominated Jim Tepper. HILLMAN to reach out to determine if he is interested.

VI. REPORTS

Publications – Publications Officer provided report on newsletter, website, and social media. See Appendix 2.

HEIPLE to continue working with printer to better understand full impact of switching to periodical postage rate. GOMEZ-FARROW will cut check to postal account if we switch, and brought up the possibility of a postal audit. MARIANI agreed to provide GOMEZ-FARROW with specs of the newsletter before sending to printer.

With regard to the inquiry from a potential new printer for our newsletter business, HEIPLE will inquire which post office they use.

Finance – Budget approval moved by HEIPLE, seconded by RIGNEY, approved 9-0-0. **DVM2017-023** RIGNEY has been selected to chair the Audit committee and will be selecting fellow members.

Program – A group outing to see the Terra Cotta Warriors will be taking place on Sunday, January 7th. There is a registration link on the website.

The RG currently has 45 registrants from 7 different chapters. Both numbers are ahead of where we stood at this point before last year’s RG.

Recruitment and Testing – RIGNEY has been appointed chair of the committee. Multiple testing dates and sites have been secured. Interest has been shown by numerous potential members, include potential young Mensans. While current numbers are down, we'll be looking at actions to bring back lapsed members and taking advantage of a “member voucher” program being run by National.

VII. ASIE CLEANUP (FINANCE COMMITTEE)

Moved HILLMAN, Seconded CRAM: “Appendix 3 of the ASIEs – Guidelines for DVM Committees: Their Structure, Establishment, Reporting, and Review” is updated to replace reference to the “Finance Committee” with “Treasurer”. **DVM-2017-024**

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

MeetUp Discussion - Further discussion of utilizing MeetUp is tabled until a Social Media Chair is next appointed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

CRAM to start making arrangements for renting a pavilion for BBQ/Picnic 2018 at Ridley Creek State Park.

X. Next Meeting

October 14 12:30 PM HILLMAN

Adjourned – 3:40pm

Appendix 1

Roll call

Local Secretary	Amy Hillman	(present)
Deputy Local Secretary	Jared Cram	(present)
Treasurer	Joy Gomez-Farrow	(present)
Member-At-Large	Nick DeStefano	(present - remote)
Member-At-Large	Jyme Mariani	(present)
Member-At-Large	Joe Neff	(present)
Member-At-Large	Stacy Rigney	(present)
Member-At-Large	Joseph Taylor	(present)
Publications Officer	John Heiple	(present)
Program Chair	Nancy Jarrin	(present - remote)
Recruitment and Testing	(vacant)	

Appendix 2 - Publications Officer's Report

ExComm Meeting – September 9, 2017

Newsletter

1. Jyme Mariani has made the successful transition to the editor position with the August edition of the Proteus.
2. The Publications Committee has decided to embrace the requirements for obtaining a Mensa ACE Award as it applies to the newsletter, and so there will be changes to both format and content that will be phased in over subsequent issues. To accommodate the additional letters, Gifted Youth page, puzzles, event recaps and other requirements, the Editor has chosen to discontinue some long-running features such as movie reviews and CD reviews.
3. There is an unbelievable amount of complaining about members' names not appearing in the birthday listing. This is not something within our control, as the list is pulled from National and based upon member disclosure preferences. We are working on a disclosure for that page instructing the membership how to correct the problem themselves.
4. As mentioned previously, one requirement of the ACE is to have a Gifted Youth page. Joe Neff is working with his Youth to have reviews and photos of GY events, and hopefully puzzles they create or drawings, etc. to start filling that page.
5. The Publications Committee has decided (in agreement with the LocSec) to scale back the number of issues per year that are published to 10. Some of the savings will go toward having a couple longer issues and a couple that utilize color.
6. Since 2013, we have been paying a flat rate for postage for the Proteus. We have asked the printer what is required to get back on the cheaper periodical postage rate, and there is a cost involved for the application process with the USPS.
7. We have also been reached out to by the printer that produces FORVM, the newsletter for Central New Jersey Mensa, to see if we would be interested in switching to their print shop. We are going to get a bid from them once we resolve the postage situation.

Website

8. Nobody with skills sufficient to remodel the website has stepped forward yet to take on the role of Webmaster, so no appointment to the position is imminent, and I am continuing to update the website as needed.

9. Mark Herrmann (formerly an At-Large member of the ExComm) has agreed to be an Assistant Webmaster, and I have given him the access to make updates as requested.

Social Media

10. I appointed myself Social Media Coordinator until a more suitable candidate can be found in order to get on National's mailing list for social media coordinators. Ironically, I have yet to receive any communication.
11. I took control of all four Facebook groups, and immediately archived two of them (Gen XY and DVM Public) for lack of strategy for how they can be utilized at this time.
12. The Gifted Youth Parents' Facebook group was purged of all those who do not have a direct link to an actual gifted youth, and we are now posting GY events to the group with positive response both in comments and actual attendance at the events.
13. I have solicited volunteers in the most recent Proteus to be Facebook moderators. I am looking for both those who can get conversations going and for their input on the future of the Facebook group – including developing policies and deciding whether it should continue to be moderated or just monitored closely.
14. I took control of the Twitter account, and cleaned it up, but there is still uncertainty of how to best utilize it. Just news blasts and reminders, or is there another approach that we can lead with?
15. We are required to have a third social media platform for the ACE awards, and MeetUp would qualify for this – if the ExComm chooses to pursue it.