

AGA Board Meeting, Sunday, 21 March 2003

Meeting called to order 7:05 PM EST

Present;

Allan Abramson

Jeff Shaevel

Bill Cobb

Willard Haynes

Jon Boley

Dave Weimer

Chris Krishner

Susan Weir

1. Approval of Minutes from February meeting
 - minutes approved

2. Reports

- a. Status of Leadership Development Committee (Sam Zimmerman, chair).
Everyone recommended has accepted a committee position. By end of April, the LDC hopefully will come in with recommendations for presidential candidates. Previous candidate questionnaires have been sent to Sam Z. by Dave Weimer.

- b. Draft mission statement for the Leadership Development Committee (Allan)

Draft: The mission of the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) shall be: to continuously identify people with the potential for AGA leadership roles; to recommend and encourage such people to contribute actively to AGA activities; upon request of the Board of Directors, to periodically conduct a search for candidates for the position of AGA President, seeking, screening and recommending candidates for Board consideration; and such other related assignments as may be requested by the Board.

- draft approved by board. Copy will be sent on to Sam by the secretary.

- c. President's Report (Chris Kirschner)

Software development discussion: A conference call was held with Mr. Chris Kubica, very productive, we want to move forward. I thought he was a capable person, he proposes to use the filemaker platform (vs. basic). Programs written in other languages can be fit into it. There is some concern that we don't want to rule out future developers because of incompatibility with the choice of platform. We want people besides Chris to be able to work with it. We need others to evaluate the platform.

- the board authorizes Chris to pursue this and report progress and information back to the board.

3. Old Business

a. Governance Committee issues

Should we draft formal letter to Keith Arnold, summarizing last meeting's decisions on priorities on the list of issues? It was decided that it being in the minutes would be sufficient. The board feels Keith does not need to have a package ready at Assembly this coming summer for the voting issues, but Keith himself is eager to get this ready by Congress. The board is willing to let the Governance Committee try to meet the deadline set last summer, and encourages the committee to communicate with the membership via an EJournal announcement on the voting issue, inviting comment and feedback from the membership. Chris Kirschner asked if the GC reports to the president or to the board? This prompted some discussion of when do committees work with board, when with president? It was decided to put this issue on the agenda for the next board meeting.

b. Discussion of a Board retreat

Background: with lots of hesitation, the mood has been to have a retreat at Congress, not separately. This was generally affirmed in discussion. Do we have the newly elected new board members, old ones, or both? How can we anticipate who new people would be? The focus will be on developing vision and direction for the AGA over the next 12-24 months. The discussion was to meet at Congress from Saturday afternoon after the Open round through Sunday night.

c. Finances: Fund-Raising.

The proposal is for a committee, to pursue both philanthropic and commercial funding. One issue is the need for a full-time leader of this effort, possibly compensated. Another issue is allowing for commissions for the fund-raiser.

David Dinhofer has generously expressed an interest in spearheading this effort. The board wants to make sure there is diversification of a possible fund-raising committee, more than just one volunteer. Do we want a professional fundraiser? We need to have a clear plan of how such a group would plan to approach raising money. Also need to be sensitive and coordinate with the AGF. The two organizations need to clarify our separate roles. Would AGA fundraising compete with AGF fundraising? Some donors would prefer to donate to a 5013c. Board resolution: Ask Chris to pursue it with David, to solicit for more volunteers, and put together a more detailed package for the board to review.

d. International Go Federation Meeting

1. Chris talked to Thomas Hsaing, who will be our representative.
2. Participate in international rating system development?

Discussion: not everyone got the e-mail about this, deferred till next meeting.

3. Relationship with IGF

Discussion: have given up on the Olympics, but are pursuing Association of International Sports Federation (AIFF). There was consensus on wanting a closer relationship with the IGF, to become a little more proactive with them. Our cost is just sending someone to Asia every other year.

e. Professionals

1. AGA principles for representation at tournaments(See attachment)
2. Goals for the relationship
3. Strategy for positive relations
4. NAMT status; Ing status
5. Upcoming international events
6. Long-term planning, such as "League"

Discussion: Ing status-Chris: is drafting a letter to be sent out to Mr. Yang about this, which is that we're not going to change the designation of who will go. Want to make sure this mistake doesn't happen again. Sent a copy to George Zhou to edit this for cultural sensitivity. Do we want to add a statement of the principles involved, i.e. that we support pros who are residents, not necessarily citizens (and/or citizens), but are active in the U.S. Go community. Dave W will continue to work on the statement, will pass the final draft by the board. The board directed Chris to get editorial feedback back to them within 5 days.

NAMT: Do we create a new name, new format? Jeff Shaevel reported in, suggesting a new name (Golden Stones Cup a suggestion), double elimination format proposed. Mostly pros, with a small number of amateurs to fill out the field to 12 or 16 as needed.

Jeff And Chris will work together to resolve this issue. We'll send a draft of it out to the pros for their feedback when it's ready.

f. Ing Fund Application and Disbursement Policy - George Zhou proposal (Note: Ing fund application and disbursement policy are after the meeting notes)

Discussion: George Zhou needs our approval to move forward. Time constraints might be too quick on the proposal. Recommend lengthening this to 2 weeks, for a total of 6 weeks to get a proposal finished. Otherwise it looks good, suggest Dave's editorial corrections as included below.

g. Membership - Limited membership

Discussion: Chendao Lin and Terry Benson have brought up limited members not being allowed to vote. Decided to refer this to the governance committee for

review. (Chris points out this is connected to voting rights for youths.) All this is tied in to the larger voting issues the governance committee will be working on. Is limited membership still a valid option? It's not available on the web site, we need to clarify. Limited members can only join if they are part of a chapter membership.

h. None' Redmonds proposed rules for the children's room at Congresses.

Discussion: Do we wish to weigh in, or refer to the President for consideration?
Chris was directed to work together with None to formulate a policy.

4. New Business

b. Voting: policy on limited member voting (see above discussion)

c. Membership fee for foreign members

Discussion: Issue has been raised whether fee for foreign members could or should be lowered, now that Journal mailing costs have been virtually eliminated. We still mail out the yearbook. Refer this out to Chris to find out about.

5. Open discussion:

Edge TV folks: we need to use counsel here Michael Brockbank needs to be consulted.

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Weir

Ing Fund Application and Disbursement Policy (George Zhou proposal)

Ing fund application and disbursement policy includes the following sections:

(need to post this new policy and application form at www.usgo.org upon approval)

I. Application Process

II. Approval Process

III. Fund Disbursement Process

IV. Event Reporting Process

I. Application Process

o Any AGA full member, at least 18 years old, can apply for funds to

support events that will promote Go in US under Ing's rule.

- o Application form is attached for review
- o Application form is accessible by every applicant at www.usgo.org

II. Approval Process

o Approval process:

1. Application needs to be submitted to the Ing Committee for review and approval. Upon the receipt of application, the Ing Committee needs to respond within five (5) business days.

2. Upon the committee's approval, the application will be submitted to the Ing Grant Manager for final review and approval. Upon the receipt of application from the Ing committee, the Ing Grant Manager needs to respond within three (3) business days.

3. Upon Ing Manager's approval, the application will be submitted to the AGA President for review and approval. Upon the receipt of application from Ing Grant Manager, the AGA President needs to respond within three (3) business days.

4. Upon AGA President's approval, the fund will be granted.

o Levels of approval:

o Any fund request under \$1,000.00 needs to have approval from both the Ing Committee and the Ing Grant Manager, and inform the AGA President.

o Any fund request over \$1,000.00 needs to have approval from the Ing Committee, Ing Grant Manager, and the AGA President.

III. Fund Disbursement Process

o Once the proper approvals are obtained, the AGA President shall notify the AGA Treasurer to disburse funds.

o If equipment is needed, please contact Paul Celmer (equipment@usgo.org) for assistance.

IV. Event Reporting Process

o Upon the completion of the event, the applicant is required to submit a summary report within five (5) business days to the Ing Committee with the

following information:

- o Date, place, number of participants, results, prizes disbursed, feedback from the participants, if any. Event pictures are required.

- o A list of spending on the event shall be detailed and reported: If the actual spending is less than the approved budget, a check for the difference needs to be sent back to the AGA Treasurer.

- o Upon the receipt of event summary report and spending detail, the Ing Grant Manager shall report the event summary to Mr. Yang in Taiwan, and inform the AGA President within two (2) business days.

Attachment: Ing Grant Funding Application Form

American GO Association
P.O. Box 397 Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10013

ING GRANT FUNDING APPLICATION

Name of applicant _____

AGA Membership Number _____

Chapter _____

Address _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____ Phone: _____

Anticipated Number of Participants _____

Amount requested _____

How would this grant support the development of go in your community?

Describe how you would utilize the grant to achieve the above goals?
(Attach budget and other supporting documentation if needed?)

If I am awarded this grant, I agree to abide by all terms and condition specified in the final agreement, and I will provide appropriate documentation of the activity proposed above including verbal description, photos, and other required materials.

Signed by: _____ Date: _____

