

Minutes of HGI Board Meeting

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 18 November, 2015

Medium: Skype

Present: Ivan Tyrrell, Julian Penton (chairing), Declan Lyons, Celia Nicholson (up to item 5), Gail Rhodes, Don Elwick, Cathriona Edwards.

In Attendance: Sue Saunders (Registration and Professional Standards Committee); Ian Thomson (Human Givens Foundation).

Observing: Louise Appleby & Dan Scott (Professional Standards Authority)

1. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were expressed by the attending board members. The Declarations of Interest Register is virtually complete – this includes members of the HGI Board, R&PSC, the HGI Membership Secretary, Complaints Appeals Panel and External Oversight Committee for HG Therapy.

2. Resignations

The Board noted the resignations from Renee van der Vloodt due to work pressures and Joe Griffin, retiring from the board. Sincere thanks were expressed to both, particularly to Joe given his massive contribution to the founding, development and success of Human Givens.

Action: The resulting Board vacancies are to be discussed at the next meeting.

3. Minutes of HGI Board meeting 9/9/15

Matters arising:

- (i) **HGI Risk Management Policy** – The HGI Risk Management Policy is complete and will be reviewed in six months.
- (ii) **External Oversight Committee – Action:** Ivan Tyrrell committed to contacting Sue Cook about her potential membership of External Oversight Committee for HG Therapy.

4. Financial Review

Celia Nicholson gave an interim report from the HGI's Finance and Audit Committee. 2015 income is in line with expectations for a non-conference year. Expenditure is reasonably well controlled – PSA fees and website investment notwithstanding. Membership numbers need to be monitored on regular basis and trends identified.

Action: Discussion of marketing strategies at the Institute in next meeting.

A request, received from a member for reduced fee given she is a pensioner, was discussed. The Board concluded that if an individual is still practicing, retirement status is not relevant. If no longer practising as a Human Givens psychotherapist, an associate membership fee could be offered.

Action: Julian to respond directly to the member concerned.

5. 2016 Conference – The Need for Meaning in the Modern World

2016 Conference in Trinity College (on 18/19 June, 2016) was discussed. A request for further payment to Trinity College was agreed by the Board. Potential speakers for the conference were discussed. Speakers sought of sufficient calibre and depth to inject new ideas into the assemblage. John Bell, a diplomat already working from the human givens approach and a previous contributor to conference, has agreed to speak.

It was agreed to approach three prospective speakers, pitch to include dates/ theme of conference/ fee/ who we are, to be delivered by:

Action:

Fintan O'Toole – Cathriona to approach.

Karen Armstrong – Ivan to approach

Professor Ian Robertson – Declan to approach

Updates on availability and cost to be emailed around to Board members in between

Board meetings to expedite and facilitate conference marketing.

The offer of a member to speak at the conference on the subject of "Building a private practice" was discussed. Thanks were offered to the Institute member for offering but the Board concluded that it wasn't in line with the theme of 'finding meaning' of the conference and was thereby declined.

6. PSA update

Sue updated on the status of the PSA application, which was submitted at end of Sept. The Professional Standards Authority had responded with a number of queries on 30th Oct with a request that we respond by 13th November, which deadline was met.

The PSA have requested to attend a complaints hearing, or to receive previous anonymised complaints files, which will be prepared for next week.

A site visit to the Chalvington office is being planned before Christmas.

7. Review of HGI Risk Register

It was drawn to Board members attention that the Risk Register requires review at the next Board meeting. The Risk Register will be re-sent to board members in advance of the January Board meeting.

8. Webinar Technology for AGM

The webinar technology for the most recent AGM was unanimously approved by the Board.

Action: Ivan to approach Miles to look at and recommend the most effective webinar/similar technology to use for Board meetings.

9. AOB

HG Foundation Update

Ian, on behalf of the HG Foundation, updated the Board on the development of an HG App for depression. It is progressing well. The aim is for a launch early in 2016. In

addition, a funding application has been submitted to the National Institute for Health Research in relation to the projected RCT of human givens therapeutic outcomes.

Apologies for the poor sound quality during parts of the Board meeting were offered.

10. Date for Next Meeting

The date for next meeting was set as Wednesday 27 January, 2016 at 7pm.