

# TGEI Steering Committee Meeting Minutes September 26, 2008

## Members Present Via Conference Line

George Zukotynski, Chair  
Lamont Price  
Kandi Thomas  
Jesse Neely  
Jack Elder  
Karen Hale, Past Chair  
Nat Johnson, Vice Chair  
Donna Bridges  
Emily Wilson

## Members Absent

Kathy Anderson  
Tracy Carter  
Leslie Sperrazza  
Pam Busby  
Ernie Ricketts, DoHR  
Trish Pulley, DoHR Liaison

## Call to Order

Chair George Zukotynski called the September 26 2008 Steering Committee meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

## Review of August Meeting Minutes

George asked if everyone had received the Draft August minutes and if there were any changes needed. No changes were requested. Jesse made a motion to approve the August minutes. Jack seconded the motion. George asked Kandi to finalize the minutes and send them to Trish at DoHR for posting.

## Officers and Committee Reports

Secretary:	Kandi Thomas – No report
Treasurer:	Kathy Anderson – No report.
Newsletter:	Nat Johnson – No newsletter yet. See details in business.
Web page:	George provided an update from our last meeting. Karen and Pam spent time with DoHR selecting pictures. We are still hoping for the web-site project to be completed by December 31, 2008. Further discussion follows in New Business.
TGMI/TGEI Fall Conference:	George initiated discussion about the Fall conference and we discussed the conference

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program content. The Fall Conference is set for October 23, 2008. See New Business for additional discussion.

### Golf Tournament:

Jesse reported on the great success and fun involved with the golf tournament. Jesse thanked the TN Department of Environment and Conservation and TGMI for their partnership in organizing this event. Jesse also thanked the sponsors who provided tournament prizes. See New Business for additional discussion.

### Holiday Breakfast:

Nat and Emily stated they would begin making calls to key contacts for planning the Holiday Breakfast. The date is set for December 4, 2008, at Ellington Agricultural Center. Kandi Thomas / Leslie Sperrazza / Donna Bridges / Tracy Carter / will assist.

### Community Service Project:

Lamont Price – Chair. Lamont reported the status of the fall service projects and whether we would still coordinate the Ronald McDonald House with the Fall Conference. See New Business.

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:

No report.

## **New Business**

### Golf Tournament

Jesse reported that the golf tournament was a success. Jesse said that 36 golfers enjoyed a great day of golf, fun, and good food provided by TDEC and Henry Horton staff. Revenue collected was \$1,810 and expenses were \$1,662 for net proceeds of \$148. Jesse thanked all parties involved in the event, including TRICOR for providing prizes and TDEC for hosting and providing a prize involving a 2-night stay a state park in May 2009. Jesse also asked that we begin planning for next year's event and recommended that we consider purchasing prizes for the next tournament from a golf-pro shop that is going out of business. We discussed the controls over pre-purchasing the prizes and who would be responsible for maintaining the prizes until the nest event. Jesse volunteered to be responsible. We discussed the amount of \$200 to allocate to purchase the prizes. Nat made a motion to commit the \$200 and purchase the prizes. Kandi seconded. Jesse also reported that TDEC has already expressed their interest in partnering again with

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TGEI/TGMI for next year's event. Jesse will provide Nat with information for the newsletter and will forward pictures of the event.

### Fall Conference

DoHR has selected the conference date of October 23, 2008. We discussed the fact that DoHR is changing direction in terms of the Fall Conference. Meetings have been held by DoHR with TGMI/TGEI members in attendance. We are not certain at this time of the program content and all speakers have not been set at this time. We hope the program content and speakers are set soon to ensure the success of the event. George hopes the program agenda will include a place to discuss the upcoming TGEI nomination of officers. George will try to clarify that opportunity with Trish. Nat will also follow-up with Karen Eddy.

### Nomination of New Members for the Steering Committee

George discussed the need to get ballot information to TGEI alumni for nomination of new members. Karen told George that the Chair of the Steering Committee usually spearheaded the organization of the nomination process. Karen volunteered to help with the collection of the ballots. We discussed which member's terms were expiring. Nat will be the next Chair, George will move to Immediate Past Chair, Jack, Karen, Donna, Kathy, and Emily will roll-off, and the 2008 class will bring 3 new members on-board. George will work with DoHR to develop the ballot.

### Web Page

George is still hopeful that we can complete the project by December 31, 2008. Karen and Pam met with DoHR and selected pictures for the web-page. We also want to provide DoHR with the recent golf tournament pictures and other upcoming events. After the Fall Conference we hope to focus on the completion of this project.

### Newsletter

George reported that we missed the September target date for the newsletter. Nat reported he has 3 articles, including a good interview with Karen Eddy. Jesse is also providing an article on the golf tournament with pictures of the event. In conjunction with the newsletter discussion, George discussed his research on Article 9 of the by-laws – Newsletter. George has been unable to find sufficient history to explain how Article 9 – Newsletter evolved. George did state that we have not met the intent of the by-laws either in terms of the number of newsletters produced each year or in terms of the deadlines for the newsletter releases. We discussed DoHR's roles and responsibilities as they related to the Steering Committee's newsletter and that we need to work together with DoHR to ensure that when we prepare the newsletter, DoHR has been involved in formatting and transmitting the newsletter to alumni. George talked briefly about the possibility of amending the by-laws if we decide that is the route to take. We also talked about the Class Reporters' roles in gathering information for the newsletters and that we need committed Reporters to provide the steering committee with news worthy information on our alumni. We also discussed the fact that our focus is and should be on

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“communication” with our alumni in whatever form. Nat will try to get a meeting with Karen Eddy and George to discuss where we go from here.

### Holiday Breakfast

Nat and Emily will begin planning for the Holiday Breakfast. Date is set for December 4, 2008. Nat will begin to formulate an agenda for the event. We briefly discussed the memorials dedicated to alumni who have passed. There is always the risk that we may not know details of all alumni.

### Community Service Projects

Lamont gave us an update on the community service events. Lamont reported on the number of volunteers for two projects: 10 people had signed up for the Harpeth River Clean-up opportunity with TDEC on October 25, and 5 people had signed up for the Ghouls at Grassmere Event on October 16. Lamont was still waiting on an answer from DoHR regarding the legal aspect of soliciting items for the Ronald McDonald House from alumni at the Fall Conference. George recommended that Lamont email and send it to Trish, Karen Eddy, with a cc to George, since we need to know if we can do the project or not.

### Spring Social/25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

No further discussion.

### Other Business

George asked that a memorial gift of \$50 be sent on behalf of Merlin Littlefield, Class of 2001.

### Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting is set for October 17, 2008, at 11:30 a.m. in the Andrew Jackson Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor. The conference line will be available for our next meeting. The conference line telephone numbers are 741-1193 (local) and 1-877-214-0097 (long distance).



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