

**AEE Board of Directors
MINUTES**

Name Committee Meeting: AGM Meeting Chairperson/Facilitator: Christian Itin Recorder: Liz Speelman	Date: November 5, 2011
In attendance: Christian Itin (CI), Mary Breunig (MB), Jeff Baierlein (JB), Tom Lindblade (TL), Jennifer Payne (JP), Paul Shirilla (PS), Andrew Bobilya (AB), Mike King (MK), Liz Speelman (LS), Paul Limoges – ex-officio (PL)	
Absent:	

Topic	Discussion/Outcome	Action/Follow up
Welcome Introduction	(CI) welcomed everyone to the AGM, introduced the current Board members and introduced the purpose of the AGM. (CI) also presented the agenda.	
Updated Definition of Experiential Education and	(CI) presented the new approved definition of Experiential Education: <i>Experiential education is a philosophy that informs many methodologies in which educators purposefully engage with learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop skills, clarify values, and develop people's capacity to contribute to their communities.</i>	
Updated ENDS as a part of the 2011 Annual Vision Project (AVP)	(CI) presented the updated ENDS of the Association. (Changes highlighted in grey): <i>The Association for Experiential Education exists to expand educators and practitioners capacity to enrich lives through the philosophy and principles* of Experiential Education. *as articulated on the AEE website (http://aee.org/customer/pages.php?pageid=47)</i> 1) <i>Educators and practitioners have access to a professional international learning community dedicated to experiential education.</i> a) <i>This community is inclusive of diverse peoples and professional practices and collaborative with other communities, all within reasonable means.</i> i) <i>Diverse peoples and professional practices include those that are currently under represented within AEE.</i> ii) <i>Collaborative partnerships will be formed with associations and organizations, particularly those outside of the United States.</i> 2) <i>Authoritative information for implementing and advancing the philosophy, methodologies, and practices of experiential education is accessible.</i> a) <i>Standards are identified to improve professional practice and to safeguard the</i>	

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>well being of participants.</i></p> <p>i) <i>Standards for accreditation of adventure-based education programs serve as the model for the adventure education industry.</i></p> <p>ii) <i>Standards for other methods of experiential practice are developed or adopted from existing sources.</i></p> <p>b) <i>Research about experiential education is coordinated, conducted, and disseminated.</i></p> <p>c) <i>Curricula to aid practitioners in implementing experiential education are developed, disseminated, and evaluated.</i></p> <p>3) <i>Decision-makers value and support experiential education.</i></p> <p>a) <i>Policy-makers consult with AEE.</i></p> <p>Time was allowed for questions and answers.</p> <p>Q. Can you provide an example of a policy make that we would like to collaborate with?</p> <p>A. At this time we have intentionally kept this very broad so that we can potentially explore various directions. More work would need to be done to go into specifics.</p> <p>Q. What is the difference between decision-makers and policy-makers?</p> <p>A. Decision-makers are anyone that has any power (parent, educator, donor, legislator) that wants to make a contribution within the field. Policy-makers are a type of decision-maker. Keeping in mind that sub-ends clarify the ends; they do not bring in new information.</p> <p>Q. In regards to the 250 or so organizations that were contacted, how are you doing to decide which to pursue?</p> <p>A. That will be up to Paul L and the staff.</p>	
Financial Update	<p>(PS) made a presentation. Please see AGM 2011 PowerPoint for more information.</p> <p>Time was allowed for questions and answers.</p> <p>Q. Is this is summary of cash in hand?</p> <p>A. This is all the assets.</p> <p>Q. Is there an itemized list of all pieces of the budget?</p>	

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	<p>A. Not on hand.</p> <p>Q. What are the specific plans for revenue generation?</p> <p>A. Continuing to reduce costs, donation campaign to increase cash flow, earlier registration for future conferences. Remember that this is not much different from most non-profits.</p>	
<p>State of the Association</p>	<p>(PL) made a presentation. Please see AGM 2011 PowerPoint for more information.</p> <p>Time was allowed for questions and answers.</p> <p>Q. What are some revenue generating ideas that you have considered?</p> <p>A. Different sources of funding: scholarships, donations, grants, relationships with foundations.</p> <p>Q. Has a figure been determined for the donation drive? I'm concerned about a drastic approach.</p> <p>A. We are trying to manage these changes so that it has the least impact on membership and programs for 2012.</p> <p>Member Comment: This is not just a job of the Board. The members can step in too and do their part.</p> <p>Response: Thank you. This is a membership organization and that members are the owners. We always welcome new ideas for revenue generation.</p> <p>Q. Why are we ending the fiscal year with the international conference? There is not time to bounce back from poor numbers?</p> <p>A. Maybe something we can look at.</p> <p>Member Comment: It would be helpful if the membership is more aware of the financial situation. Communication should be earlier and more open to membership. Members can make a difference but only if they are aware of the situation.</p> <p>Member Comment: We have seemed to manage to scrape through but this is the 4th year of decline. We need to see some basic changes that move us forward and major changes. The time is passed for band-aids. There need to be some drastic changes in operations.</p>	<p>*While applauding the ways in which they have already contributed, BOD members were encouraged to continue to find ways to reduce travel costs, consider personal cuts, increase donations and assist with increased membership and conference attendance.</p>

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	<p>Member Comment: Some of the regions are doing some “out of the box” thinking with new events – maybe can better share these ideas.</p> <p>Response: While there is a decline in both membership and conference attendance there are some really great things that are being done. We need to be successful both in programming and financially. The Board’s Annual Vision Project this coming year is to focus on the fiscal situation and relevancy of AEE.</p> <p>Q. I understand that perception is everything and if we are perceived as being in too tight of a situation we might lose more members. However, how do we make sure that we are more relevant to more folks and make sure people are aware of what is going on. Can the AGM be held earlier in the conference?</p> <p>Q. Is there a way to shorten some of the decision-making process so that there is a quicker response time to get more information and interaction with members?</p> <p>Q. How can we better structure the organization to make better revenue?</p> <p>Q. What are we going to do to help us in with the shortfall?</p> <p>A. We need new ideas to improve the structure of revenue. We are also looking at new committees related to accreditation of other areas of the association.</p>	
Leaving the Board	Tom Lindblade, Jennifer Payne, Mike King and Jeff Baierlein were thanked for their service to the Association as Board members.	
Welcoming New Members to the Board	Scott Robertshaw was welcomed as the treasurer-elect to the Board. Priscilla McKenney and Alison Rheingold were welcomed as new At-Large members on the Board. Drew Brennan has also returned to the Board to complete his final term as an At-Large member on the Board.	
Closing	Meeting was adjourned.	<i>(TL) made a motion that was seconded by a member to adjourn. The motion passed.</i>