

Meeting Minutes August 5, 2021

Present: Bobbie Ticknor, Jessica Warner, Daniel Lytle, Carlos Rojas, Arelys Madero

Absent: None

Recording Secretary: Arelys Madero

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a Lytle/Warner motion, the minutes from the meeting on July 6, 2021, were unanimously approved, without changes.

Updates on Registration

Ticknor provided an update on the current numbers. At this time, there have over 30 people registered to attend the conference and a lower number of abstracts have been submitted at this time. Board members have been disseminating the call for abstracts to their contact lists and will continue to do so. The numbers will continue to be monitored closely as the deadline for abstract submission approaches. The next board meeting will be devoted to reviewing the numbers. This information will inform possible changes to the conference structure, if needed.

By-Law Changes

Lytle and Madero (co-chairs of the *Procedures Sub-Committee*) provided an overview of the changes being proposed to the by-laws. These include a new clause under the “name and purpose” of CrimCon to reflect our ongoing commitment to dissemination of research in a manner that is supportive of diversity, equality, and inclusivity. A second change was to remove references to Directors by name, as this information will change periodically. A third significant change was to include a new clause to reinforce our commitment to transparency and privacy. This clause reads “Any transaction that entails a Director engaging in research activities that are made possible or facilitated by the Director’s status in the Corporation, shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors”.

Other more minor changes reflect restrictions on offices and tenure—namely, that no two offices to be held by the same person, as well as a new term limit of no more than three (3) consecutive terms. A new clause requiring for bylaws to be reviewed every five

years was added as well. The remainder of the changes proposed entail re-organization of some sub-sections for easier flow.

With a Lytle/Madero motion, the proposed changes were voted on, as a block. The board voted unanimously in support of amending the bylaws as above. The changes become effective immediately.

Additional discussion focused on the new Code of Ethics for CrimCon. Lytle and Madero reviewed the Codes of Ethics from the two major professional organizations. A main distinction is that these organizations enforce them based on membership affiliation, whereas CrimCon is not a member organization. This would make enforcement difficult. It was proposed that the new Code of Ethics could become an Appendix to the bylaws, thereby making it applicable to Board members. The consensus was that there needs to be minimum professional standards. It was agreed that an alternative suitable to CrimCon's no-membership model is to make the provisions in the new Code of Ethics part of a "Terms and Conditions" clause that individuals have the option to agree to, while in the process of registering for the conference or submitting an abstract. This would not be applicable for this year's conference because abstracts and registrations are ongoing already.

On a Lytle/Warner motion, it was unanimously decided that the new Code of Ethics will start next year. The *Procedures Sub-Committee* will work on a draft of the new Code of Ethics to present at a future board meeting, after this year's conference.

Treasurer Report

Ticknor and Rojas provided a review of the current funds available for the conference. The banking company that is currently being used, BlueVine, specializes in online companies banking and is free of fees. They have announced that they will become a new company. The board will begin looking for a new bank to set up a business account. The board agreed to transfer the funds from BlueVine into that new company. As of today, there are \$871.89 in the BlueVine account. There have been no new donations since the last meeting.

Fundraising Committee Report

Warner/Rojas provided an overview of possible mechanisms to raise funds for this year's conference. This included reaching out to individuals on the listserv; social media blasts; pop-up messages for CrimCon viewers visiting the website; and reaching out to past donors. There is currently a donation page inside the website and the goal is to amplify the message in other platforms as well. Other proposals for fundraising include sponsorships, with the caveat that it will require careful consideration of who is allowed to advertise and what content is included. For next year's conference another option is to create a job-exchange site hosted within the main website and charge a nominal fee for employers to post their job ads there. T-shirts or other swag for sale, are another option for fundraising that could be added as a section inside the website. The board discussed the advantages and disadvantages of these proposals, in light of the timeline

with the conference coming up in less than three months. After considerable discussion, the main action item that was decided to implement for fundraising was to push for individual donations, starting with pushing out more social media messages with the donation link.

Next Meeting

A date for the next meeting was set—**Wednesday, September 1st at 11:00 a.m.**

Meeting was adjourned on a Warner/Lytle motion at 10:50 a.m.
