

Summary of SIA Board Meeting

November 16, 2021 and December 2, 2021 (Continuation Meeting)

November 16, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting

President Kazuko Morita recognized Board Member donations to SIA and the Dream Big Campaign. Before September 1, all members of the Board were donors, with a combined donation of over \$158,000.00USD to support our program impact. At the time of the meeting, nearly all the 2021-2022 Board had contributed to the Dream Big Campaign.

Secretary/Treasurer Bobbi Enderlin moved, and the Board approved the ratification of the results of previous mail ballots.

Dream Big Campaign Committee Chair Diane Thompson and Director, Donor Relations Erica Cheslock led the Board in a conversation regarding the Dream Big Campaign. They outlined lessons learned regarding our ability to raise funds for the capacity campaign, what additional resources are needed to reach the Dream Big Campaign Goal, and recommendations for immediate actions.

The Board reviewed the temporary pause to date and the modified pause in place. The Board voted to:

- Permit holding 2022 region conferences in a face-to-face format, following the filing of a declaration form at least forty-five (45) days in advance of the conference, and following the most rigorous COVID-19 mitigation standards (national, state/provincial, or local) in effect at the conference location at the time of the conference.
- Update SIA Procedure F.4. subsections a. and c. to remove the strike through in face-to-face formats for holding region conferences and transmitting other region business.
- Modify the travel ban to permit Board members to travel to any Soroptimist event at their own risk by submitting a travel declaration form.

The Board discussed the 2022 Convention in Seoul, South Korea. When presented with the current travel restrictions and other pandemic-related issues that could be a barrier for members to attend a face-to-face convention, the Board voted to move the 2022 Convention from face-to-face to virtual. The Board also reviewed the proposed fee structure for the virtual convention and moved to further discuss it at the December 2, 2021, meeting.

President-Elect Stephanie updated the Board on the documents received from SI regarding SIA hosting the SI 2027 International Convention. The Board then voted for SIA to host the SI 2027 International Convention.

The Board then recessed to continue the meeting on December 2, 2021.

December 2, 2021, Board of Director Meeting (November 16, 2021, Continuation Meeting)

The Board was reminded of their decision to move the SIA 2022 Convention from a face-to-face format to a virtual format. At the November 16 meeting, staff was asked to revisit the proposed pricing model and fee structure to reduce the fees where possible. After considerable cost-cutting and contract negotiations, the staff was able to reduce the original fee structure contingent upon the Board approving the SIA 2026 Convention to be held in Seoul, South Korea. The Board voted to host the SIA 2026 Convention in Seoul, South Korea, the proposed virtual convention program, a \$375.00USD mandatory convention club fee for SIA clubs, and the revised registration fee for the two-day 2022 Virtual Convention as follows:

Early Registration Rate (applicable from the launch of registration through April 30, 2022)

\$149 SIA Members in Good Standing

\$199 Non-Members of SIA

Regular registration rate (applicable from May 1, 2022, through the event date)

\$199 SIA Members in Good Standing

\$249 Non-Members of SIA

Laws and Resolutions Chair Deb Cook and the Board reviewed the proposed amendments to the SIA Bylaws. The Board voted to direct Laws and Resolutions Chair Deb and staff to prepare for the January 2022 meeting a final proposed bylaw amendment for Article XII. This provides for the ability of the Board to propose amendments to the SIA Bylaws as may be necessary, with appropriate notification, time for clubs to comment, and to reorder the remaining sections of the article to place the section on mail ballots immediately after Section 12.03 Voting.

Laws and Resolutions Chair Deb Cook and Program Director Jacklyn Schrauger facilitated a discussion among the Board regarding a proposed SIA Procedure change to help clubs navigate questions regarding gender clarity in their respective communities. The Board then approved the proposed update to SIA Procedure N. Programs and Awards by adding a new section 4 to read: *SIA defines women and girls based on their gender identity*. If a potential program participant states that they identify as a woman or girl, they are eligible to participate in the program.

The Board was presented with a recommendation to pause the Healthy Region process and requirements until it have been revisited, and a new process/requirements have been launched. This was in response to

key stakeholder feedback on the current process. The Board voted to pause the Healthy Region process as recommended.

President Kazuko closed the meeting by thanking the Board for their hard work and discussion. She wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. The Board will meet again in January 2022.