

GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE CONSORTIUM
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 22, 2017

Call to Order. The Board meeting was held via conference call. The meeting began at about 1:05 pm EST.

Confirmation of Members. A quorum was achieved with participating Board members Jerry Murphy, Clancy Mullen, Melissa Lindsjo, Nilgun Kamp, and Carson Bise. Dan Gennari of VenueQuest and Kathleen Ball from the Planning Committee were also on the call.

Approval of Minutes. The minutes for the May 25, 2017 Board meeting were approved without changes.

Treasurer's Report – Nilgun had distributed the 2016 conference reconciliation and current financial report prior to the meeting.

2017 Conference. Dan reported that we have 4 room-night hotel reservations so far. Clancy asked whether the hotel or an outside vendor would be providing audio-visual equipment, and Dan said that he was looking at both options. Either way, we should be able to request a sound mixer box that would have a jack that would accept a plug from a professional-grade camera, which Clancy said would have an XLR cable, according to his wife who works in the film business.

Future of the Organization. The remainder of the meeting consisted of a conversation about the future of GIC. Clancy started it off, reminding everyone what he has said in previous emails about believing the organization needs to rethink its mission and role, because the old guard is running out of steam and we have not succeeded in expanding our reach and getting new people interested. He suggested that we take a year off from putting on a national conference next year, and instead work on our web site, get a blog and discussions about our future going on there and on our Facebook page (GIC Growth and Infrastructure Consortium) that others can also participate in, get more online content like videos of this year's conference, and consider hosting regional or state-level conferences, using our unlimited annual non-profit subscription as an AICP continuing education credit provider, etc. He said he doesn't think there's enough energy on the Board and Planning Committee to do both.

Carson liked the idea of going to a two-year cycle for the national conference, noting how much effort it takes to put on and that we tend to get the same core of participants along with only a few new faces each year. He suggested that we could put on webinars, perhaps quarterly, when we are not doing a conference. He was skeptical about sponsoring regional conferences, noting that it would take a lot of work on the part of the Board to manage multiple conferences. He said we should rethink our mission and role – is it to put on a national conference, or to be a resource that's mostly online?

Kathleen liked the idea of taking a year off from putting on a national conference, thinking it would give us time to rethink our role. She noted that many of the people she has talked to in Arizona are not going to be able to go to the conference in Florida this year, due to budget constraints, and liked the idea of having regional gatherings. In response to Carson, she said it didn't have to be a formal conference, and could be just a day or an afternoon. When Carson said very few would show up, she said she already had a list of about 20 who were interested.

Jerry suggested that we weren't going to come to a resolution on this today, and should put out a doodle poll to schedule a date to continue the discussion. Clancy said he thought it would be better to have the conversation publicly, in a blog or on Facebook. Dan interjected that it would be better to have a Facebook group rather than a page, so you would need permission to join the group, but could then post or comment. Melissa said she has administered Facebook groups, and it take a lot of time. She thinks we should keep our Facebook page, and just delete any inappropriate comments that pop up.

Jerry said we will forgo scheduling the next meeting for now, and continue the conversation via email.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at about 2:00 pm EST

Minutes prepared Clancy Mullen, Secretary, June 22, 2017.