

## **IGDA Board Minutes September 10, 2009**

Called to order at 2:20 p.m. EST, and adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Gordon Bellamy, Brenda Brathwaite, Tom Buscaglia, Tobi Saulnier, Coray Seifert.

### **Board Members Not in Attendance:**

Mark DeLoura, Jen MacLean, Jamil Moledina, Tim Train

**Also Present:** Joshua Caulfield, Chuck Sapp, Joe Casey

### **Agenda**

1. Minutes approval (Coray)
2. New Board Member Appointments (Tobi)
3. Finance update and action plans (Brenda, Joshua)
4. SIG Elections update (Coray)
5. Atlanta Chapter (Joshua)
6. Issues Arising

### **Motions Summary**

1. Motion to approve the August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting minutes as submitted by the secretary by Tom, seconded by Coray. Approved by Gordon Bellamy, Brenda Brathwaite, Tom Buscaglia, Mark DeLoura, Jen MacLean, Jamil Moledina, Tim Train, Coray Seifert. Tobi abstained.
2. Motion to appoint Brian Robbins, Rodney Gibbs and Erin Hoffman to the board for two calendar years.
3. Motion to appoint Rodney Gibbs to the board for a period of two years pursuant to his acceptance, by Tom, seconded by Coray. Unanimously approved.
4. Motion to appoint Erin Hoffman to the board for a period of two years pursuant to her acceptance, by Jamil, seconded by Tim. Unanimously approved.
5. Motion to appoint Brian Robbins to the board for a period of two years pursuant to his acceptance, by Tim, seconded by Gordon. Unanimously approved.
6. Motion to appoint Darius Kazemi to the board to fill the vacant seat expiring in 2011, pursuant to his acceptance, by Coray, seconded by Mark. Approved by Gordon Bellamy, Brenda Brathwaite, Tom Buscaglia, Mark DeLoura, Jamil Moledina, Coray Seifert. Tim opposed. Tobi and Jen abstained.
  - a. Update: Darius Kazemi has declined the appointment to the board so that he may pursue an elected seat in 2010.

7. Motion to adjourn at 3:55 PM by Coray, seconded by Jamil.  
(Unanimously approved.)

**Next meeting**

Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM EST; 9:00 AM PST

Submitted by Coray Seifert, Secretary of the Board

## Meeting Notes and Action Items

### Meeting Minutes Approval

- Need to clarify attachment on 8/20 meeting minutes.
- Will be sent out for email approval. **(Coray)**

### IGDA ED Report:

- The IGDA is still way behind on registrations for the Leadership forum, but a major push has begun to get people there.
- There could be some serious financial ramifications if we do not hit our goals for the leadership forum.
- In addition to the leadership forums we are looking at: partner renewals, studio renewals, and non-profit org renewals
- Joshua has unilaterally suspended the Membership card program temporarily, and engaged in more cost cutting efforts
- Talley and other vendors are being worked with to defer and reduce expenses additionally
- In the 2 months of my arrival, I have reduced expenses by roughly 30% from previous year.
- The core issue is the need for additional revenues, not continued reductions

### New Board Member Appointments

- There are a number of IGDA board seats open, due to recent resignations.
- As per the bylaws, the Board may appoint individuals to the board
- Accordingly, we will be appointing Rodney Gibbs, Erin Hoffman, Brian Robbins and Darius Kazemi to the board.
- Rodney, Erin and Brian are being appointed directly by the board, and will be serving two-year terms.
- Darius will be filling an elected seat that has recently been vacated and will be open until 2011.
- The goal is to fill seats with proven IGDA volunteers who bring skills to the board that are not currently existing on the board.
- If these individuals accept these appointments, they will join the board immediately.

### Finance Summary

- Reviewed impact of the economy on the organization.
- Due to downturn in membership revenue, the organization may face extreme financial hardship as of December if we cannot increase revenue and decrease costs.
- Joshua working with Talley to reduce or defer expenses.

- Membership cards on hold.
- Switching from iConnect to a more affordable option.
- Joshua examining additional areas to cut costs.
- We have 40 Leadership Forum registrations
- We are at 50% of our sponsorship target.
- Working with a consultant to reach out to potential sponsors.

### **Special Unemployment Rate**

- The board ratified the unanimous email vote to establish a special unemployment rate.
- We are reducing the membership rate for those Members who dropped their membership this year as a result of unemployment.
- Joshua to send out email to those members and others who indicate they have dropped their membership due to employment loss.

### **Studio Affiliate Program**

- Joshua making a push to increase benefits to Studio Affiliates. **(Joshua)**
- Potential benefits include Leadership Forum passes, Facilitated Studio Head Sessions, etc.
- Jamil will be closely supporting this effort. **(Jamil)**

### **Consumer Organizations**

- Tom to propose potential collaboration with consumer organizations. **(Tom)**

### **Educational Partner Program**

- The board of directors ratified the recommendation of the finance committee to establish an educational partner program.
- Brenda leading the charge to establish relationships with Educational Institutions.
- SCAD has already signed on and made significant contributions.

### **Atlanta Chapter**

- New Atlanta chapter spinning up that is showing a great deal of promise.
- Brenda and Joshua working closely on ensuring a smooth startup.

### **VP Elections**

- Deferred to next meeting.