



California State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind
Board Meeting Materials
Monday, April 17, 2017
1:00 p.m. – Completion of Business
Teleconference Phone Number: 1-866-692-3158
Participant Code: 99686782

MATERIALS

1. Call to order and President's welcome
President Holm called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone to the meeting both in person and via public teleconference and established the rules of the meeting.
2. Roll call and Establishment of a quorum
EO Skewis took roll noting 6 members present and a quorum was established.
3. Approval of the February 13, 2017 meeting minutes
Member Marelli motioned to approve the meeting minutes dated February 23, 2016.

Vice President Delgado seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 5 ayes, 0 no's, 2 abstention (Gomez, Carlton)

4. Acceptance of the March 29, 2017 and March 30, 2017 Arbitration Special Committee meeting minutes
Vice President Delgado motioned to accept the meeting minutes dated March 29, 2017 and March 30, 2017.

Member Marelli seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 7 ayes, 0 no's

5. Executive Officer's update
 - a. Sunset Review Process Update
EO Skewis explained the sunset review process and the steps that the Board's sunset extension bill will undergo.

b. Budget Update

EO Skewis updated the Board on expenditures, revenue, and projections to year end.

c. Legislative Update

EO Skewis outlined AB 1705 (Low, et al.) and AB 1569 (Caballero), the content of each bill, and their current statuses in the legislative process.

6. Practice Task Force update from March 21, 2017 meeting

a. Recommended changes to ownership laws

EO Skewis presented the Task Forces recommended changes to guide dog ownership laws.

General Board discussion took place regarding the suggested changes.

Member Patche motioned to accept PTF recommendation regarding ownership laws

Member Carlton seconded the motion

Public comment was made asking if it was appropriate to approve one section without hearing the second component of the agenda item.

Board considered and decided to move forward.

Motion Passed: 7 ayes, 0 no's

b. Request for clarification regarding suggested changes to the arbitration process

EO Skewis outlined the Task Force's request for clarification regarding the scope of the arbitration program. The Task Force would like to know if the arbitration program would apply to all clients of California schools, or just those clients residing in California.

Member Carlton motioned to apply arbitration to only California residents receiving their dog from a licensed California school and to re-refer all article 2 draft language to the PTF for consideration.

Member Marelli seconded the motion

Motion Passed: 7 ayes, 0 no's

7. Discussion and possible action regarding AB 1569 (Caballero) regarding amendments to provision of the Unruh Civil Rights Act (Gov. Code § 54.1) and reasonable accommodations regarding animals in housing. EO Skewis summarized the content of the bill

Legal Counsel Barker explained some concerns with the bill from a legal perspective

Board discussion took place regarding a position on the bill

Vice President Delgado motioned to authorize the Board President and EO to draft a letter of opposition and provide direction to the author's office. The letter of opposition shall be based on how the existing language will unintentionally and negatively affect guide dog users and a request to refocus the bill to provide more clarity on who the bill applies to and not to refer, by stated omission, to guide, signal and service dogs that confuses the distinction of legitimate service animals.

Member Brown seconded the motion

Motion Passed: 7 ayes, 0 no's

8. Discussion and possible action regarding the effectiveness of holding Board meetings telephonically. EO Skewis outlined the item and opened the item up for Board discussion.

Board Member discussion took place regarding the impeding of business for canceling and rescheduling meetings and the financial concern regarding people's time. Generally, members were in favor of teleconferences and the ability to have effective and flexible meetings

Legal counsel Barker explained department policies regarding the appropriateness of venue for public noticed locations.



President Holm motioned to continue to teleconference when necessary, look at department guidelines and the Open Meeting Act while applying good judgement and common sense regarding meeting accessibility and attendance.

Member Gomez seconded the motion

Motion Passed: 7 ayes, 0 no's

9. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
No Comments Made

10. Agenda Items and Meeting Dates for Future Board Meetings
No Comments Made

11. Adjournment

Member Carlton motioned to adjourn at 3:42 p.m.

Member Patche seconded the motion

Motion Passed: 7 ayes, 0 no's