

DRAFT #3 – 2-13-23

Qigong Connection Board of Directors  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
February 9, 2023

The Qigong Connection Board of Directors' meeting was held via [www.FreeConferenceCall.com](http://www.FreeConferenceCall.com), 1-267-807-9495, ID 637972#

Meeting opened at 7:41 pm by Lu Bjornoy

Attendees - Lu Bjornoy, President; Mary Zelmer, Executive Director; Margaret Berrisford, Treasurer ; Maryellen Mueller, Secretary; A Person of Interest – Linda Mattson.

1) Meditation – by Lu B.

2) Executive Director position, application of Anthony Carter – Lu B.

Discussion – Margaret B. Maryellen M, Lu B., Mary Z.

Motion: Vote on **Christopher Anthony Sawyer** for Qigong Connection's Executive Director; Motion by Lu B., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Margaret B. Yes – 3 votes, approved by unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEM – Lu B will send Anthony an email with the result.

3) Executive Director job description addition – add expense account for no more than \$500 per event. Discussion led by Mary Z. – expense account is currently \$400, adjusting for inflation is \$500; used for classes, and paying speakers before an event; does the Program Director need a budget?

Motion: “I move to add to the Executive Director's job description the following wording – ‘The expense account for the Executive Director and Program Director will be no more than \$500 per event. The Executive Director is accountable to the Program Director and Treasurer. Any amounts more than \$500 must be approved by the Board of Directors.’”

Motion by Maryellen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Margaret, approved with 3 yes votes.

4) Annette communication – Mary Z.

Annette decided to withdraw her application to the Board. Ashley withdrew her application to the Board. When asking someone to be on the Board of Directors, have a specific position in mind, and the job description. Be clear.

Right now the Board has open positions in Vice Chair, and At Large Member.

5) Vice Chair recruitment – Lu B.

Discussion – think about it between now and the April Board meeting. Tabled until April Board meeting.

6) Linda Mattson withdraws as A Person Of Interest to the Board of Directors. Her new position is with **Anthony Sawyer's** support team to the Board of Directors.

7) ACTION ITEMS – documents **Anthony Sawyer** needs; a checklist of all the papers; the Board member job descriptions; latest financial report; the Conflict of Interest form; dates of the 2023 QC Board meetings.

8) Closing comments by Maryellen Mueller

"My guides instructed me to give this observation:

'Our Qigong Connection Guides and Masters, with all due respect, this Executive Director situation feels like a manufactured crisis. The process we've gone through is pointless if nothing changes fundamentally.' “

9) Closing comments by Mary Zelmer

("My guides instructed me to give this observation:

'Our Qigong Connection Guides and Masters, with all due respect, this Executive Director situation feels like a manufactured crisis. The process we've gone through is pointless if nothing changes fundamentally.' “)

In response to some of the Board members questioning what needs to change, here is the information I received for them.

Yes, in regard to what is basic and essential, the Board needs to change and evolve.

I have worked with the QC Boards since its conception, some Boards were quite supportive and served from their heart. Some Boards held fears and served from their heads. It is time for the Board to set a precedent of serving from the heart out of love.

Personally, I agree with this statement and here is why.

The path I took by resigning as ED was a result of the Board not supporting me and thus, I believe and now understand that this was a manufactured crisis that was created by the lack of Board leadership. Due to the immensity of my workload, I needed an assistant to help me carry out my responsibilities and I put this request forward to the Board during the meeting when the new Treasurer was voted in. It had been placed on the agenda at least three times and because the meetings were not organized and led well, it kept getting added to the next agenda.

Finally, after one particularly chaotic and alarming meeting, where many basic protocols for meeting management were broken, I realized that the integrity of the Board was questionable and thus it was not

in the position to support me and I was guided to resign. This path was not my first choice nor do I believe the it was the best outcome for our community.

Now I am disheartened because I see other patterns emerging, one being the Boards leadership making disingenuous comments about our new ED. These patterns are made to hurt and serve some hidden purpose which is not meant to serve the greater good.

I understand that the energies that work with this group serve those who are here to serve the greater good. These energies are kind, loving, forgiving, and powerful. I can now see at a spiritual level, why this has become a manufactured crisis. Our new Ed will be facing the same challenges that I did in relation to this Board and its leadership. I believe Maryellen was given this message because she is serving for the highest good.

I want to add that the work by our past Treasurer, went beyond what was required of her, she was here to serve and after ten years of service, left disheartened with our current Board leadership.

10) Comments by Linda Mattson, A Person of Interest, and Mentor

I thank you all for the unanimous vote for Anthony tonight.

As one of the 444 members of the Qigong Connection community I would like to thank Mary Zelmer for her years of exemplary service to our organization serving as Executive Director. I believe at this time we should all be ready to congratulate her on her promotion to Program Director. I have no idea why our board would not be making this kind of statement to her. This actually hurts my heart.

I was present at the interview process this morning for our new Executive Director candidate, Anthony Sawyer. I was shocked, and alarmed to hear these statements made in reference to him in the discussion before the vote;  
"the bubble wrap guy" ...  
" I don't want to have to parent him, kids in this generation".....  
" he is just trying to load his resume".....

It is my deepest wish, going forward, that all board members will stand in service as an effective team to our new Executive Director, Anthony Sawyer. Thank you.

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Linda D. Mattson

11) Final comments by Mary Zelmer

"I feel that the QC is a living viable healing presence. It has weathered many storms and has grown exponentially, not for the benefit of a few but for the empowerment of the many.

Under my time as Executive director, we have weathered many storms, attempts by others to take over the QC, to end it, to control it and use it for personal gain, to sabotage it and attempt to cause harm within the community. I have weathered attempted character assassinations, bullying, attempts at discrediting me, rumors, and so on.

Regardless of these things, this community continues to grow powerful because of its heart, because of its love, because all these healing energies are inclusive and accessible.

Sue Vivant, our spiritual channeller, had told me many years ago that this group needs a leader. A leader to help guide, protect and nurture. I stepped into that role at that time and will continue to do so until I am guided or asked by the community to step out. I will also be serving as the Program Director.

I am very excited about our new ED, Anthony, he brings such light and possibilities to our group. We are blessed to have him. I have been blessed to have been able to serve the QC in the ED role since the non-profit conception. From all areas of my heart I wish to thank all the volunteers for their support in helping me be the best I could be and I wish to thank all our attendees who show up to create a better world for themselves, their families, their communities and this planet.

Thank you.

Mary Zelmer  
Executive Director  
QC Leader"

12) Meeting adjourned 8:32 pm.

Maryellen Mueller,  
Secretary