

Next Generation Group, Eng Family Association L.A.

Meeting Minutes for Saturday, December 2, 2006, 11:00am

The meeting was held at the community Recreation Room of the Long Beach residence of Rick Eng.

Call to Order

All five of the NGG officers were present and thus achieved a quorum for a meeting. They were Lance Eng, President; Serena Ng, Vice President; and Wayne C. Ng, Vice President; Alex Eng, Chief Financial Officer; and Janice Ng, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Lance at 12:10pm.

The following NGG members were in attendance: David K. Ng and guest, and Cynthia Wu. Janice Ng also brought a guest. Representing the Los Angeles Chapter of the Eng Family Benevolent Association was Ed Ng.

Minutes for this meeting were recorded by Rick Eng.

No Record of November 2006 Meeting

No minutes of the November 4, 2006, NGG meeting were recorded, so Lance reviewed the topics of discussion at the November meeting in his President's Report (see below).

President's Report

Lance reported that at the last meeting it was agreed to adopt a Mission Statement. However the final wording is predicated on the revisions of the Bylaws under the direction of Wayne, who chairs the Legal Affairs committee. Lance reported that the Halloween Party on October 28 was a success. NGG was responsible for the decorations and activities that promoted friendly competition among the attendees. Thanks to Serena, Janice and Cynthia for purchasing the gifts and prizes for the event. The Wong Family Association held its Thanksgiving luncheon on Sunday, November 19, in Chinatown and invited members of the Eng Family Association. Six members of the Association attended. Lance also reported on discussions on ideas for activities in 2007, which was discussed under New Business.

Treasurer's Report

Alex, Chief Financial Officer, reported that there is currently \$1,600.00 in the bank account for NGG. The last donation to the group was from Wayne S. C. Ng, current president of Eng Family Benevolent Association of Los Angeles, for the amount of \$100.00. Alex indicated that he will investigate risk-free CDs to invest some of the money in order to increase the finances for the organization.

Old Business

Old business was covered by Lance in the President's Report

New Business

Fundraising Opportunities. Alex suggested that the Association look into creating a regular newsletter, which would attract sponsorship and advertising through editorials and articles focused on the issues of interest to the Association. It was suggested that any publication be a magazine format and initially released quarterly in order to build up readership interest and sponsorship. Alex believed that revenues would not only cover the cost of production of the magazine but help to fund NGG's own programs and targeted charities.

Las Vegas Road Trip. Lance reported that the “first road” trip the NGG members was discussed at the previous meeting. The destination would be Las Vegas and it would take place sometime in the early spring of 2007. David agreed to facilitate the planning of the trip.

Mentoring Programs. It was expressed by several attendees that some form of a mentoring program should be started by NGG as a way to attract younger members to become involved in the NGG. The model should be similar to the Big Brother/Big Sister programs.

Committee Reports

No Committee reports, other than Marketing/Communications and Legal Affairs, were given at this time.

Marketing/Communications. Rick will make a presentation of the membership survey results at the January 2007 meeting.

Legal Affairs. Wayne reported on his progress with the proposed revision on the Bylaws. The proposed legal status for NGG was a 501(c)(6), which applies to entities that define themselves as business leagues and/or chamber of commerce organizations. The current legal status is 501(c)(7), which applies to recreational club organizations. A 501(c)(6) organization is defined by a common business interest, which the organization typically promotes. Organizations under this category are exempt from most federal income taxes. Donations to a 501(c)(6) are not tax deductible as charitable contributions, as is the case in the 501(c)(3) category. Also, 501(c)(6) organizations may engage in limited political activities that inform, educate, and promote their given interest. They may not engage in direct expenditures advocating a vote for a political candidate or cause. Rick asked about the issue of eligibility and noticed that the proposed NGG Bylaws adopted the parent organization’s definition and qualifications. During the past months, there has been an ongoing debate within NGG about the status of membership. What defines someone who is an Eng? Are the current membership qualifications too paternal and antiquated? Because women who are Engs marry spouses with different surnames, would this disqualify their children from joining? What are the merits of full membership and a category for Associate memberships? Ed Ng expressed caution about proceeding with these proposed changes since there may be some concerns from the parent organization. Another issue raised by Ed was the precedence of governing Bylaws. In Article VIII: Miscellaneous, Section 1: Adoption of bylaws, it states: “The bylaws of the Eng Family Association of Los Angeles are hereby adopted and incorporated herein to the extent that they are not in conflict with these bylaws. In the event of a conflict, the provisions in these bylaws shall govern.” Ed indicated that the parent organization may not agree with this provision. Wayne raised important issues that could affect the direction of the NGG with regards to programs and recruitment.

Next Meeting Date

The next NGG meeting is schedule for Saturday, January 13, at 3:00pm, again at community Recreation Room of Rick’s Long Beach residence. Rick will post announcements on website and send updates to all members. After the meeting, attendees will gather for dinner in the Long Beach area.

Adjournment

With regular business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm and attendees stayed for the holiday potluck luncheon.