Memo from the Chair of the Board of Trustees March 22, 2020

Please share this information with your groups and service bodies.

The Board of Trustees held an emergency meeting yesterday, March 21, 2020 to consider what actions we should take regarding the impact of the current crisis situation we are all facing.

The Board looked at 2 options; and once it is clear if the current limitations on travel and meeting are lifted or remain in place for the state of New Mexico (under who’s laws we operate), a final decision will be made.

There are 2 considerations at this time for WSBC, allowing for a “Plan A and a plan B”

We cannot decide right now which to do; there are legal and financial implications for making a decision today that make this difficult situation more complicated than it might otherwise appear. As of today, the New Mexico government has precautions/emergency plans in place until April 10th. We are unable to make a definite decision until they either extend or remove those emergency conditions.

Until the state or federal government makes an announcement, this is what we are able to consider :

Plan A

If there is **not** a mandated shut down by the New Mexico government, we will proceed with conference with those who are able to attend. For delegates affected by travel bans, those delegates could have an audio feed, monitored by staff. We will determine the extent of the participation based on our bylaws. A staff member would monitor that participation. With plan A, all business motions would be considered. (As the days go by, I’m less optimistic that this plan is likely to happen).

Plan B

If there **is** a government mandated shut down we do then cancel the physical conference. In order to satisfy the state requirements for non profit organizations regarding their annual meeting, *some business* needs to be done within 13 months of our last business conference. The one main point of business which cannot wait is elections. Proposal B would include all registered delegates. We would allow for a question period of the delegates (method to be determined) for a specified time. At the end of that time, an election could take place – allowing delegates to vote for the trustee candidates. We have 5 positions and 5 candidates.

The final decision depends on the direction from the government.

We will keep you informed of decisions as they occur; keeping in mind that pandemic recommendations are changing quickly and evolving. We can only do what we can with the information available at any given moment.

Thank you for your patience, your understanding and your trust. Please know that your Board of Trustees and the staff are working toward a solution. Once a revised state announcement is made, a notice will go out to all service boards and registered delegates.

Bonnie L.