

Meeting Date: 11/13/2014

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1) **Welcome: Twenty members in attendance**

2) **Minutes: moved to Approve, passed**

3) **State meeting in Anaheim 11/12/14:**

We began with Rich discussing his experience attending yesterday's meeting. The conference for Officers and Presidents began with a 3-hour closed-door Board meeting of all attending Chapter Presidents.

Mike Chernoc was MC of the open session. Rich complimented his handling of the group during the discussion portion. Mike had discussion go around the room. Various thoughts included:

- explore having audit
- did not have financial support in the leadership area
- All Director's passed - would not speak to the subject or any other comment
- many people felt there was change needed
- San Diego and San Francisco chapters were in favor of change
- Rich wished to hear how the Board did not know there was this kind of problem - what did they learn from this experience?
- They seemed to want "to move forward" - Rich suspects it's more that they just want to get past the problems - and do back to same old ways
- A State person, Marsha (did not note her last name), wanted Marin to give up training. Orientation OK, but she said State should be doing training. It's how they get money - and what they use as their reason for being. They are paid by the counties.

However, it was pointed out that the Court's responsibility is concerned with getting proper training. They have been happy with the way Marin has performed. All parts of training are reviewed by Kim Turner and current Presiding Judge - and approved by them. Betty and Catherine instituted Train the Trainer concept to the process. We may want to add a section to the training scheduled to discuss what the State offers to chapters

What do our Bylaws say? - all need to review them. We might want to have a mini-conference to discuss all the issues. Big plus for Marin is that all Heads of county govt in Marin are introduced to the current grand jury every year. Great strength. Rich called for those who are interested to be part of a new review group.

General info about the Directors - personalities - how people work together. But no one director agreed that we need to make changes. Another Conference in 2 months - form a committee to work on ByLaws to include more consensus building - not so much top down.

4) **Regional Meeting issues:**

Question: sponsoring of the regionals is the MRC of the State  
CGJA information regarding the 11/22 meeting

5) **Committee Chairs Check-In**

a. **Social: Nancy**

Nancy comments on our last Luncheon with Judge Wood.  
\$250 setup fee and \$200 for use of room II Davide has been willing to waive these charges due to the nature of our group. It was suggested that it would be good to space luncheons so they are not in the week of Monthly meeting.

**b. Outreach: Nadine, Jean**

Report from Nadine re Senior Faire - went extremely well - lots of attendees. Flyers - and other "advertisements" were handed out. Speaking engagement pending for Villa Marin.

How to get our name out in the Community: establish an Annual Award? Rich wants to give out awards from our Association - not wait for the State to do it. Could be an article in the paper - we evaluate our own reports based on the impact in the community. OPEB is a good starting choice. After Blue Ribbon report, include 2 or 3 additional Honorable Mention. Criteria could be: Impact on the Community.

We need to "grab" the public's attention. We can have different, multiple categories: eg: impact on the community, best written, a report that can be demonstrated as having inspired a change. Any report is eligible as long as you can document the impact.

Nick commented: We could talk with Dick Spotswood - not always directly from recommendations - but he has supported the "fall-out effect". Primary result should be: **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

**c. IRC: John, Tom**

Updated Report Tracking Worksheet updated by Rich, better understanding - by both current GJ and Association

Newest Idea and project for the committee by Rich: Summary of GJ Reports since 2000 Impact of reports and investigations - some degree of impact and results of all these reports. We want to show in such a way that people can say - Wow - they do a lot for the community. IRC is gradually going to fill in - by members of the IRC and anyone else who wants to participate.

**d. Communications: Gene**

Gene - newsletter updated and on the Website. He is not going to include current controversy. Link to latest Newsletter - send out email that one is now ready. Nick suggests if you have an active news column - you don't need to regularly produce a Newsletter. Rich asked: is anyone collecting all news articles - ? - link to reports, newsletter.

**e. Membership: Owen**

Please send him email if any errors.

**6) Officer Check-Ins (2 minutes each)**

**President: see first item**

**Secretary:** POBox issues

**Vice President:** no comment

**Treasurer:** \$8K in the bank

**7) Open Mic -**

Rich: suggests forming Education Committee: primary purpose: Award for HS seniors - they would write a paper on the Grand Jury system - it's history and purpose.

We also would like to find a way to get a college student on a GJ.

**Albert/Owen - M/S - Let's Adjourn!! - all in favor: AYE!**

Submitted:

M.J.Boyden, Secretary