11/29 GSO Constitutional Committee Meeting

Members Present: Gary Roth, Vicki Gloer, Dean Weld, Genevieve Kane

Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m. Agreed ending time is 6:30 p.m.

Gary’s meeting agenda is unanimously approved with an amendment to prioritize discussion of how to post our documents and who should have access to them

Minutes from 11/20 meeting are unanimously approved

Group unanimously agrees that after this meeting, all relevant electronic documents will be sent in PDF form to the executive board with a request for posting on the GSO website

Gary wants to formalize the keeping of minutes. Vicki motions that Dean be secretary (i.e. “minute keeper”). Genevieve seconds. Unanimous approval.

Discussion of the role of each document.

Vicki suggests that the constitution (which is harder to amend) contain the formal structure and central procedures of GSO along with election information, and that bylaws contain more of the day-to-day operating procedures (which may change more frequently).

Gary writes on the board that the constitution should contain information about: elections, officers, central principles, and amendment procedures; and that bylaws should contain nuances, details and specific duties. Gary points out that election information in the constitution must also include contingency plans when positions become vacant in between elections. Gary also suggests that financial information be included in the by-laws (and the group is in agreement on this).

Vicki wants to make sure that at least two people sign off on all expenses, and suggests that this be included in the constitution because it is essential to the functioning of GSO.

Genevieve and Gary think that GSO would benefit from having a financial committee.

Genevieve wants to request of the assembly that a judicial board be appointed immediately. Gary agrees, but wants to table this issue for now because it is unrelated to discussing the central mission of each document.

Vicki mentions that it is problematic for the GSO treasurer to be deciding what money is to be spent and also approving expenditures. This will need to be clarified in the documents later.

Gary motions for adoption of his write-up stating the specific purpose of each document. Gary has the text of this on his computer, available upon request. Group discussed some changes to the specific text and unanimously approved the final version. Gary will send Dean the text.

Discussion about signatures for financial obligations. Gary wrote a requirement about signatures that was unanimously approved. Gary has full text available upon request.
Unanimous approval of Gary’s motion to recommend to the executive board that a judicial board be appointed immediately pursuant to the recommendation and rules of the Constitution. Gary will send the text to Dean.

Gary proposes a motion that the committee recommend to the executive board that all non-time sensitive motions be submitted in writing a week before each assembly meeting. Group unanimously agrees.

Much agonizing discussion about how to present our goals and plan to the assembly. Group unanimously agrees on Gary’s text, which he will send to Dean.

Next meeting on Dec. 6 at 5:30 p.m. (tentative)

Meeting adjourned at 6:50.