

Board Meeting Agenda, October 11, 2023

Call to Order

Check-In and Announcements

- Around the room for introductions and any announcements.

Reports from Officers

President

- Same as last meeting, work load is less than in the past; we are keeping up with letters and have had some time to work on a system for helping with housing resources for people releasing. Also have started doing general objections to deficient PREA audits.
- Any questions for the president about activities since last meeting?

Secretary

- Provided: minutes from June 14, 2023 meeting.
- **Action:** Questions, comments, and approval of minutes from February 2023, meeting.
- Any questions for the Secretary about activities since last meeting?

Treasurer

- Reports provided: bank reconciliation detail and summary reports for September 30, 2023.
- Since June 1, we have received \$34,000 from Borealis, \$25k for general operations and \$9k for “organizational development.”
- Any questions for the Treasurer about activities since the last meeting?

Committee Reports

Fundraising Team

- No new activities for the period.
- Any questions about the Fundraising Team work?

Action Team: Prison Support

- We are still able to keep up with the prison letters, backlog less than 45 days.
- TPI has filed three complaints against PREA auditors who don't contact us (per PREA requirements) or include our data (new auditor tool) in Texas audits when we have some level of data that would have contributed. The purpose of the complaints is also to bring up additional deficiencies such as failure to properly evaluate the use of involuntary protective custody and gender based activities, including searches.
- TPI is involved in a national discussion group between attorneys doing prison advocacy for trans rights. A separate group/committee in the main group are considering asking the DoJ to provide a definition of gender for searches, which is not currently defined, meaning trans

persons are pretty much always considered the gender of the unit where they are housed for search purposes. There has been no activity so far, and when Nell gets time, will probably try to push this some.

- Project 103 (see 103.tpride.org)
 - Discussions still slow; nothing new since last board meeting.
 - The attorney that quit responding for about two years has said he could contact us to discuss releasing documents he alone has and releasing TPI's \$3k retainer fee. It has now been about four months but no response.
 - Current plan is to try to prompt some cases to be filed to prod the Texas AG office into intervening, eliminating the technicality for the dismissal of the first suit. One person has filed on their own.
- Any questions about the prison committee work?

Action Team: Healthcare Committee

- Parkland Discrimination Project
 - Amazingly, HHS still refusing FOIA request, although they said in August last year they would respond. Request is still "in progress."
 - Will request review by FOIA Ombudsman at National Archives in coming months.
 - TPI may consider legal action if they continue to refuse. Board will be consulted before doing so.
- Any questions about the healthcare committee work?

Other teams and committees

- No reports; any questions?

Unfinished Business

- Per agreement at the April 19, 2022, board meeting, the status of a search for a Secretary will remain unfinished business until someone is identified to replace Max and fill the position.
 - There has been no interest in filling the Secretary position since the last board meeting. If anyone has any suggestions, please let Nell know.
- Any ideas about how to add programs so that we can put our funds to use rather than just sitting on them.
- Any other unfinished business that needs to be discussed at this time?

New Business

- Set time and date for next meeting.
- Any new business that any board member wishes to bring up for consideration?

Open End

- Any other open end discussion?

Adjourn Board meeting