

Minutes PCUN General Meeting

October 26, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm,

by Zoom

<https://psu.zoom.us/j/6102855127>

1. Welcome. New attendees introduced themselves.
2. Roll Call of NGOs. There is a quorum.
3. Moment of Silence.
4. Standing Committee Reports and Updates
 - a. Advocacy – Rachel, Kim, & Peyman. Rachel Buxbaum reported on a letter Efrat passed, calling for release of child hostages to be endorsed by the PCUN and then send it on the NGOs making up the coalition. She also reported on a statement by PCUN on the implications of the conflict to vulnerable populations. The procedure for advocacy statements is that PCUN releases a statement once the NGOs approved it.

Ani Kalayjian spoke of the Armenian plight, and the disappointing lack of response. David suggested to incorporate it into existing statement. Peymen suggested the advocacy will start working on it once Ani will send materials. Ani said she has just returned from Armenia and is too overwhelmed, but will send materials.

Gabe Twose wondered if the statements should target UN bodies. Informed by what our discipline knows of trauma, inter-generational transfer, etc. Rachel said the statement could have several versions for different purposes. Sheri Levy suggested to tie the statements to the 75th anniversary of human rights declaration. Michelle Bell was also in favor of connect events to over-arching issues.
 - b. Finance – Harold, Elaine O., Michelle. Harold re-iterated that we have two accounts, one of PCUN and the other being PD. In the black. Michelle asked that if new people are in charge of finance in the NGOs, pls inform her. Harold thanked Michelle. Dues will be collected from the NGOs this November. Harold also notified that there will be an in-person gathering on Nov 1st.
 - c. Outreach. David M and Vera.
 - i. Social Media –Peyman, Maya. Peyman reported on recent activity, asked to be provided with input. All content is encouraged. Mara reported on plans to create content (newsletter, grey papers, etc.).
 - d. Program – Janet, Efrat.
 - i. Psychology Talks. Planning an in-person event in December. Title is 'rebuilding trust between nations, within....'. There is a concept note, idea on speakers, at the stage of approaching missions asking for space.
 - ii. Psychology Day 2024. Carolina Corrales is the second co-chair. The committee will speak of potential themes. Speakers will be sought from

around the world. Elaine asked when the PD will be, and Janet said it will probably be in April. Janet invited interns to join.

e. Publications – Elaine C., Harold, Kim.

i. Book Series/Grey Paper Series.

Elaine reported book 4 is in print. There will be an in-person event inaugurating the book. The content of book 5 is still discussed.

Grey papers – Kim reported that 2 papers are completely 'done', and on a third which is on its final review. The team will then begin to disseminate the papers between our organizations. The overall aim is to spread the word on psychological knowledge.

5. Ad Hoc Committee Reports and Updates.

a. Bylaws – Corann, Vera, Leslie, Mat.

Leslie reported that only one minor response/change was suggested. Thus it's possible to have a vote on the new bylaws. Leslie read the proposed change. Janet thanked and congratulated the committee. There was a vote, and the new bylaws were approved by all NGOs representatives.

b. Documentary: Psychology at the United Nations – Stephanie D. asked for people to join the project (planning the interviews, conducting interviews, working on the footage of the film). Some interviews were already conducted. Stephanie's mail: slynn471@gmail.com

6. Announcements. Kelly O'Donnell reported on world federation on mental health meeting in November. Also in November - 'General week of peace' with about 100 events over a week.