



## Light Millennium Board of Directors Meeting – Final

**Date:** April 24, 2007

**Time:** 6:00 to 8:20PM

**Meeting Address:**

The Graduate Center

The City University of New York

365 Fifth Ave, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Room # 4434

New York NY 10016

**Hosted by:**

Prof. Sultan Catto, Advisory Board Member of the organization

**Board Members Present:**

Bircan Unver Culkin

Dr. Sam Paley

Burak Alpaslan

Dr. Akif Kirecci

Figen Bingul

**Present by proxy:**

Prof. Edward Foster

*Minutes taken by Figen Bingul*

The Light Millennium Board of Directors convened at CUNY, The Graduate Center, on April 24, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Minutes:**

1) Sam Paley is elected as the Meeting Chair.

2) Agenda is adopted.

3) The minutes of the June 6, 2006 meetings are approved through e-mail.

4) Review of Finance:

I-990 Form, 2006 Figures (in USD):

Total revenue	:	1,944
Total expenses	:	2,777
Deficit	:	833 (-)
Beginning of year Net assets	:	68,150
At end of year Net assets	:	67,317

APRIL 2007 – BANKING STATEMENT – Dates: March 23, 2007 – April 23, 2007:  
Figures (in USD):

Opening Balance	: 44.15
Deposits and Additions	: 390.00
Checks paid	: 12.97 (-)
(H&R)	: 350.00 (-)
Electronic withdraw (credit card debt)	: 29.95 (-)
Monthly banking service	: 15.00 (-)
Balance as of April 24, 2007	: 26.23

4) President's Report (see attachment #1).

-Cadirhoyuk proposal will be reactivated when other conditions are there.

5) Membership issue:

-Akif Kirecci moved to look for possibilities of a paid membership model for the organization. Burak Alpaslan seconded. It is approved 5 in favor, 1 abstain to look for possibilities of a paid membership.

-Bircan Unver stated that the organization's structure is not based on paid membership. She will look for the possibilities of structuring an "on-line membership."

Furthermore, she expressed her concerns regarding that the organization's basic infrastructure and mission is not based on serving a group of limited people but open to all. She also expressed her concern that having a "membership based organization" might limit the organization's wide and global target and efforts of reaching out.

-Bircan Unver suggested starting a campaign of "\$1 open membership" aiming to reach a million members in five years. This suggestion is left to be discussed in the next meeting. Burak Alpaslan did not support the idea.

-Sam Paley, Burak Alpaslan, and Akif Kirecci will search on how to establish a paid membership structure and inform the BoD about possibilities.

-Bircan Unver will resend the BoD members by-laws & Corporation Laws of the organization (She reminded the BoD that it was sent following the June 6<sup>th</sup> BoD Meeting, and is available at the organization Web site, under 501-c-3)

6) Bircan Unver summarized the 2007-Rumi Video Project. She explained that she worked on its proposal with Prof. Paley and informed the BoD about every stage of progress made in relation to it. The project is directly linked with undergraduate and graduate students. Since summer is approaching, the timeline of the project should be revised. Bircan Unver proposed that if the organization is able to secure 1/3 of the budget (estimated \$300-350 based on the proposal) in October or November 2007, the project can be officially launched in December 2007. This will be timely as December will be a time when the events for RUMI's 800<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration will be on the peak.

The budget of the project is discussed, and Bircan Unver stated that it is work in progress, and is not finalized yet. Burak Alpaslan suggested that the Key Staff part of the budget should be removed. Bircan Unver stated that, if the key staff part of the budget is removed, the project cannot be accomplished even if the rest is obtained. 1/3 of the budget or any funds for it couldn't be obtained up to date. For this reason, the project couldn't be launched officially. Furthermore, different budgeting for corporate world and foundations were suggested for this project.

7) It is agreed that the BoD should be expanded and empowered by having new members and support groups.

8) Fundraising ideas:

-A brunch is considered as a fundraising event. Burak Alpaslan suggested that it could also serve as a "member raising" event; every person attending the event could become a member of the organization, and the first year dues would be waived.

-The second week of June 2007 is set as a tentative date for the brunch.

9) Bircan Unver stated that the organization urgently needs a treasurer in order to function fully. Currently, there is no one in the BoD to volunteer for this position. Bircan Unver will ask Ed Foster if he would be willing to serve as a treasurer.

10) Monthly Statistics for April 2007 for the LM Web site:  
(See Attachment #2, April 2007 Webalizer – Stats.)

Total Hits : 1,456,629  
Total Pages : 250,642  
Total Visits : 87,111

Hits per Day : 48,554 (avg.)      62,342 (max.)

11) Bircan Unver proposed to have the election of the BoD members in the next annual meeting in Fall 2007. It is agreed to have the next meeting preferably in October.

12) Bircan Unver thanked Sam Paley for all his efforts and support role as the vice president.

13) Bircan Unver gave updates about the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Poetry Reading Program which she will be co-producing with Ed Foster.

-Venue is agreed to be DERVISH restaurant with Ed Foster and the BoD based on on-line correspondence.

-OPEN CALL is posted on the Web on April 11, 2007.

-OPEN CALL is e-distributed by Bircan Unver to the organization's e-lists and several yahoogroups.

-The poetry reading program will be in conjunction with Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi's 800<sup>th</sup> Birthday and the organization's 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The title of the program will be: "TO UNITE: THAT IS WHY WE CAME."

14) Bircan Unver also proposed another poetry reading and video-taping program which will target mainly the Queens local media at QPTV-Studio. She tentatively reserved June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 from 2:00-6:00 PM. Studio capacity is max. 40, if the project could be implemented, the Poetry Reading event will be taped for LMTV program, and this will also be a second celebration for the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Queens. The content and concept will be based on the June 8<sup>th</sup> program. Content or the participants of the program may vary based on the availability of the interested participants. She will send details through e-mail.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.