

# LCS Board Meeting



10:00 AM, Thursday, September 16th 2021

By Zoom Teleconference

## Members Present:

President - Stephen Irvin Balfour (1<sup>st</sup> term to 2022);  
Treasurer - Andrew Timothy Boardman (2nd term to 2023);  
Secretary - George William Radford (2nd term to 2022);  
Director - Brian Thomas Dalziel (2<sup>nd</sup> term to 2022);  
Director - Richard Joseph Chase (1<sup>st</sup> term to 2022);  
Director - Yolanda Martínez Llamas (2<sup>st</sup> term to 2023).  
Director - Hunter Lee Johnson III (1<sup>st</sup> term to 2023).  
Director - Larry John Barnhardt; (2nd term to 2023).  
Director - Michael Ross Searles (1<sup>st</sup> term to 2022);  
Director - Christy Carter Caldwell (2nd term to 2023);

## Members Absent:

none

## Vacant positions:

Vice-president  
Director - (1<sup>st</sup> term to 2023).  
Director - (2<sup>nd</sup> term to 2022);

## Also Present

Luis Francisco Pacheco Camara, Executive Director  
Past President - Carole Jeanne Wolff.

### 1. Call to Order: Steve Balfour, President, at 10:08 AM.

### 2. Determination of a Quorum:

There was a determination of a Quorum with ten of ten voting members present.

### 3. Adoption of Agenda:

**Motion:**. M/S/C Steve Balfour/Larry Barnhardt to approve the September 16th, 2021 agenda. The Board unanimously approved. **Motion carried.**

### 4. President's Report: Steve Balfour

- **Motion:** M/S/C Michael Searles/George Radford that the Board pass a Vote of Confidence Resolution on the leadership and contributions of Steve Balfour to the Lake Chapala Society. The resolution acknowledges the multiple

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contributions in both time, resources and money contributed by Steve Balfour both in his previous role as Executive Director and in his current role as President of the Board of LCS. The Board unanimously approved. **Motion carried.**

- **Motion:** M/S/C Michael Searles/Christy Caldwell that additionally the Board pass a Vote of Confidence Resolution on the leadership, management and fundraising contributions of Luis Francisco Pacheco Camara, Executive Director, to the Lake Chapala Society. The Board unanimously approved. **Motion carried.**
- **The Concerts in the Park** events continue to be the major contributor to LCS revenue. The concerts are the largest form of fundraising that benefit LCS at this time despite recent limitations imposed by the Delta flareup and inclement weather.
- **Board member compensation:**

**Motion:** M/S/C Michael Searles/Yolly Matinez to appoint an Ad Hoc committee for the purpose of establishing a policy or policies, as appropriate, related to reimbursement(s) to Board Members for extraordinary expenses on behalf of LCS. The committee should also explore a policy related to compensation of Board Members. Discussion. The Board unanimously approved. **Motion carried.**

- **Molinari Property** - The sale is expected to close at the end of September 2021. **Motion** M/S/C Steve Balfour/ Tim Boardman to re-establish the Campus Committee to rationalize and recommend the best use of LCS properties including the new Molinari facility. Members appointed include Larry Barnhardt, Rick Chase, Christy Caldwell, George Radford, Steve Balfour and Lus Camera. Discussion. The Board members unanimously approved. **Motion Carried.**
- **Don Aitken Recognition** - The Open Circle has asked to place a commemorative plaque recognizing Don's significant contributions to the Lakeside community on the LCS grounds. The Campus Committee was asked to come up with a recommendation.
- **Board Meeting Recording** - To assist the Secretary, future Board meetings will use the Zoom recording option
- **Annual Giving:** The campaign continues as an important source of revenue for the LCS.

## 5. Secretary's Report: George Radford, Secretary

The Minutes of the Board Meeting on August 19th, 2021.

- **Motion** M/S/C George Radford/ Tim Boardman to approve the minutes of the

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August 19th Board meeting. The Board members unanimously approved. **Motion Carried.**

- Minutes of the March, 2021 AGM meeting, have finally been processed in Mexico City for protocolization and will be available for pickup.

### 6. Treasurer's report: Tim Boardman, Treasurer.

#### August, 2021

Effectively a break even month. Membership, Programs & Fundraising continue to beat budget estimates. Expenses are roughly as budgeted.

Year to date [YTD] Membership, programs and Fundraising are all above budget and are going strong. Admin expenses are very close to budget, other expenses are in line with the increased levels of revenue. Buildings/grounds reflect the additional repairs and maintenance that has been required. Unrestricted cash is at \$1,264k or close to 3.5 months of operations. Restricted funds shows the receipt of \$445,993 donations towards the Molinari property purchase

**Motion:** M/S/C Tim Boardman/Rick Chase to accept the September, 2021 Treasurer's Board Report, Balance Sheet and other financial reports. Discussion. The Board unanimously approved. **Motion Carried.**

A public report is available in the LCS office.

### 7. Executive Director's Report - for August, 2021. Luis Francisco Pacheco

The LCS is still in Phase one of the Operational COVID Strategy and will continue operating under those conditions. Mandatory use of masks, social distance and outdoor activities are still important practices.

#### Campus maintenance

85 square meters of grass were replaced last month.

The central processing system of the Security cameras is now fully operational and the IT team is working to get all cameras on line and active. Three of the cameras are down and need to be repaired. Also, the main office server needs to be replaced and the post life server was replaced with Tim's Boardman's CPU donation. .

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The Annual Tequila Testing event took place on September 10th with 139 tickets sold.

### Education Programs.

Spanish in action: The new semester has started. There are 5 groups with 37 student's total. Level 3B is now open. The Wilkes Center is being used for some of these classes.

The Driver's license courses, Mexican Manners and Intro to Lakeside continue. Four more courses are offered: Salsas mexicanas, Corn tortilla, Holy Mole and Aguas Frescas.

As part of the ESL program, a workshop for 32 TecMM Students is being offered. They are being operated by LCS volunteers on Saturday morning at Wilkes Center. The opening of the rest of ESL classes is being carefully planned due to COVID. Many volunteers are still not comfortable with reopening.

The LCS is starting a new joint program between Semanario Laguna and Lake Chapala Society: Todos English. The aim is to improve relations between the Mexican and the foreign communities in Lakeside by giving them a common source of information. Volunteers have been invited to create and manage a team to translate Spanish stories into English and post on the Laguna website every week.

The for-profit business Semanario Laguna and the non-profit LCS share a mission in bringing together the Mexican and Expat communities closer together, LCS operates a number of programs, including English and Spanish instruction to help the two communities understand and interact. Semanario Laguna launched an English page to bring Spanish news to Expats, who have said in a survey they want it.

Todos English is a joint non-profit/for profit partnership project which benefits both organizations. There is no cost to LCS, and Semanario Laguna will continue to support LCS through project sponsorship and its annual business membership. The content on the Todos English website, being developed by Laguna, is originally created by paid reporters and will be translated by volunteers. Headlines and story summaries will be provided for free to anyone; Some full stories will require a subscription, which will help defray some of the cost of building and operating the Todos English site.

A series of videos are being prepared to promote and expose the public to the student aid program. The first of 10 short interviews have been done for student aid program

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participants.

## Conecciones Magazine:

Because of September being the Will month in Mexico, the Development Manager used the cover letter of the August issue to appeal for donations in order to print September's magazine. The issue was printed. September digital edition was sent to 8,024 e-mail contacts, and the mail was opened by 28% of recipients. 35 people clicked on the donation link and 67 followed the link for buying tickets. It has been read online by 651 persons and downloaded by 193.

## Membership

Membership numbers are being maintained.

## LCS Annual Directory

The LCS has started the process of selling ads and has set sales indicators and deadlines to complete the process on time for printing this fall.

### **8. Audit Report: Brian Dalziel, Chairperson.**

- Planning for the 2021 External Audit has begun.
- After months of using Board member's licences for Zoom, Brian Dalziel recommended the LCS acquire its own licence for use by the Board, staff and volunteers. George Radford will follow up with Luis Camara.

### **9. Mexican Advisory Council: Yolly Martinez, Chairperson**

- The Mexican Advisory Council meeting scheduled for September 9th was rescheduled for Sept 23rd due to member absences.
- Committee members are finalizing recommended projects and a plan to the end of the year.

### **10. Board Development: Hunter Johnson, Chairperson**

- The skills makeup of all Board members is now complete.
- The Committee is examining the LCS confidentiality and

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conflict-of-interest policies for possible updating.

- The next meeting of the Committee will take place Tuesday, November 2nd.

### 11. Old Business:

### 12. New Business:

**Motion:** M/S/C Steve Balfour/Yolly Martinez to appoint Michael Searles to fill the vacant Board of Directors position of Vice-president on a temporary basis until the next elections in March, 2022. Discussion. The Board unanimously approved. **Motion Carried.**

### 13. Adjournment:

M/S/C Michael Searles/Richard Chase to adjourn the meeting. The Board unanimously approved adjournment at 12:23 P.M.

**The next board meeting date will be Thursday, October 21st, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.**

**Note: the next meeting will be held in person on the LCS campus so that a Board photo can be taken.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Approval: October 21st, 2021  
George William Radford, Secretary

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Stephen Irvin Balfour, President