

4/6/2008

Unicorn Users Group International (UUGI) Business Meeting, April 6, 2008  
Detroit

Meeting was called to order at 10:28 by UUGI Chair, Mark Andrews.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the 2007 UUGI Business Meeting as written. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved with only one nay vote.

Current UUGI officers were introduced and thanked by Mark.

The UUGI treasurer's report was presented by David Slater.

Balance at end of SC 2007	\$39,351.89
2007/08 income	\$32,638.34
2007/08 expenses	\$10,695.85
Current cash on hand	\$61,294.38
Total conference/preconference income	\$20,245.00
Total conference/Preconference expenses	\$23,593.42
Projected balance after conference	\$57,945.96

It was moved and seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented. There was no discussion. The report was approved.

Mark thanked first time presenters at the conference and announced that they could pick up baklava at the registration desk which was provided courtesy of Lissa Potter.

Nominating committee chair Coleen Neary announced the election results for new UUGI officers. The new officer's terms begin immediately and run until the next user group conference in Dallas in April of 09.

Pat Nicholls – Treasurer (2 year term)  
Debbie Martin – Secretary  
Merry Bortz – Member-at-Large  
Brian Sherman – Chair-Elect  
Shawn Carraway – Program Chair  
Michael Bowden – Program Chair  
Karen Eggert – Nominating Committee (chair)  
Coleen Neary – Nominating Committee  
Karen Oster – Nominating Committee

Additionally Carla Clark is now Chair and Mark Andrews is Past Chair.

Mark gave an overview of the meeting held on Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> between the UUGI Executive Committee and various SirsiDynix (SD) executives. Chair-elect Carla Clark had grouped the approximately 70 user submitted questions into broad categories for discussion with SD. UUGI Execs will have several of these issues/items as a focus for next year. They will also work with SD to pursue resolution to the issues and establish action items and timelines when appropriate. The broad categories were: future of the

corporation, end user search products, improved communications in all directions, pricing/billing, staffing (client care turnover, billing, sales territory/realignment), and product specific questions. A written summary of this meeting will be posted on the UUGI website by April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mark gave an update on conversations/progress on the client care site and documentation. Mark held several discussions with Chet Wright at SD. Help files and some other documentation files are available. The client care site has PDFs. There is a wiki and it could be expanded to be more productive. More improvements are needed. Mack Lundy reminded people that there is a link on the client care site to the sys admin wiki and that there is a list of listserv commands.

Carla gave an update of the 09 joint UUGI/CODI conference which will be held in Dallas in April of 09. A CODI/UUGI conference planning meeting will be held later today.

Carla reported that CODI/UUGI preliminary merger discussions have begun. One group will be able to have a unified voice in discussions with SD. The committee will keep the membership informed and will seek input from the users. It is hoped that a merger can be accomplished prior to the 09 joint conference.

Mark Andrews transferred the chairmanship of UUGI to Carla Clark.

Carla recognized several people who assisted the executive committee in various ways throughout the past year. These people were Merry Bortz (UUGI webmaster), Rob Brown (assisted with 09 conference planning), Ranny Lacanienta (discussions with CODI on merger), Shawn Carraway (nominating committee), Stephen Luchetti (preconference ideas and support), Natalie Palermo (preconference program planning), Kristen Valyi-Hax (member-at-large for part of the year), Debby Conrad (past UUGI chair), and Holly Gordon (UUGI chair for part of the year).

At this time the floor was opened for any business or discussion from the membership.

Tim McGeary and J. David Bavousett presented a motion (see below) concerning UUGI turning over the SuperConferences to SD; UUGI dedicating their time and resources to the Regional Users' Groups; and UUGI developing other services for the benefit of the users of Unicorn and Symphony. The motion was made & seconded. Discussion was held.

WHEREAS, UUGI's purposes, as stated in the Constitution and Bylaws, are focused on the users, not the vendors, and

WHEREAS, SirsiDynix is contributing a significant percentage of the content and presentations in the Users' Program which compete by-and-large with presentations by UUGI Members and are largely protracted sales presentations, and

WHEREAS, SirsiDynix is running a concurrent Executive conference during the Users' conference, and

WHEREAS, the UUGI officers have, for several years, allowed the takeover of the Users' conference, and

WHEREAS, we, the makers of this motion, believe that a proper Users' Conference should be executed by and for the users of the Unicorn/Symphony software, not by or for the vendor, and

WHEREAS, the Regional Users' Groups have grown substantially, and their various groups of officers have not allowed SirsiDynix or any other vendor to subvert the purpose of a Users Conference, keeping their content at conferences current, relevant, educational, and useful to users of the Unicorn/Symphony software, as well as conference costs low, and

WHEREAS, costs at the "SuperConference" have continued to prohibit attendance by large numbers of users, while Regional Users' Groups conferences have kept their costs low to encourage attendance by other than managerial staff, and

WHEREAS, future SuperConferences will include a merger with CODI membership which will further decrease the influence of the UUGI Executive Committee on future SuperConference programs and increase the size and cost of the SuperConferences, it is therefore

MOVED, that the Unicorn Users' Group, International, immediately cease the pretense of having control of the "SuperConference," and turn over the SuperConference to SirsiDynix to have full sway over its content, bearing the full costs of its execution, thus freeing up the UUGI officers from donating their time and labor and UUGI resources to a vendor for the vendor's benefit, and that the Unicorn Users' Group, International, dedicate its' time and resources to the support of the Regional Users' Groups, by providing coordination and a venue for collaboration between them, financial support, a clearinghouse for speakers and presenters who are willing and able to travel, or other services for the benefit of the users of Unicorn and Symphony.

Summary of the Motion:

- 1.) UUGI turns over SuperConference fully to SirsiDynix
- 2.) UUGI dedicates time and resources to Regional Users' Groups by
  - a.) providing coordination between Regional Users' Groups
  - b.) providing venue for collaboration between Regional Users' Groups
  - c.) financial support to Regional Users' Groups
  - d.) a clearinghouse for speakers and presenters who are willing and able to travel to Regional Users' Groups conferences
- 3.) UUGI develops other services for the benefit of the users of Unicorn and Symphony

J. David Bavousett  
Abilene Library Consortium

Tim McGeary  
Lehigh University

Tim and David gave further clarification of their issues of concern. Carla Clark provided some additional information such as SD does not (with very few exceptions), vet the user presentations; at the current conference there are 75 user presentations compared to 45 SD presentations (of which there are only 29 unique sessions); and UUGI has signed contracts for the 09 and 10 conferences already. Carla also stated that the committee wants to hear the user concerns and is committed to better communication with all, including the SIGs/RUGs. Several members of UUGI from the audience spoke concerning the pros and cons of the motion. After discussion there was a call for the question. A vote was held and the motion failed. Carla said the concerns would be brought forward however.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Debbie Martin, UUGI Secretary.