

## Minutes of <u>April 24, 2010</u> The Light Millennium Board Members Meeting

Attendees:

Bircan Unver, President
Sultan Catto, Board Member
Azime Aydogmus, General Secretary
Korcan Yurdacan, Treasurer
Janet Ekstract, LM-Committee
member

Proxy: Irmak Karayal, Board

member as Youth rep. *Guest:* Selcuk Acar

**Meeting Address:** 

BARUCH College 17 Lexington Ave Room# 908A New York, NY 10010 (At the corner of the 23rd Street and Lexington Avenue)

## Minutes taken by: Janet Ekstract Reviewed and made clarification and correct references that were missing in the initial draft by: Bircan Unver

- Bircan Ünver is elected as the Meeting Chair.
- Agenda is adopted.
- Bircan informed that the minutes of the September 30, 2010 was approved online and posted to the web by Bircan. Everyone confirmed it. Reports:
- Irmak Karayal's proxy is presented to the BoDs.
- Minutes of the September  $30^{th}$  (2009) Board of Directors Meeting, approved online as well as during the meeting, and posted on the website.
- Based on the September 30, 2009 Board Meeting decision/approval, an open letter for announcing Turkish-Armenian Synergy Initiative was sent out on October 26, 2009.
- Review of Financials:

LM Financial Balance as of 9/30/10: \$129.00 LM Donations came in \$34.58 LM Donations \$1 Program \$1.00

LM - Current Budget Total: \$34.58 as of 4/24/2010

- LM needs \$350.00 to file its Fiscal Year (December 31) for 2009 (everyone please support this. If we cannot file it, we may lose our status as 501-c-3.)
- Filing Deadline is May 15, 2010
- Let's locate an accountant to do pro-bono work for LM-Request
- We're all very sorry about the sudden passing of Samuel Paley, our former vice president, and we're very grateful for all his support since he was very involved in

fundraising efforts. May he rest in peace.

- Bircan's Proposal: In Memory of Samuel Paley, we would like to do an event in his honor related to his work on archaeological excavations with the collaboration of his wife Barbara, or with Barbara's permission. We will contact her to discuss this. We would like to do this in the Fall of 2010, along with a commemoration ceremony in Sam's honor.
- Encourage your friends, relatives, and circles to become a member of LM for \$1.00 starting with the BoDs and Advisory Board members via NYCharities.Org. A direct link is available on the Lightmillennium.Org homepage.
- Please see the website regarding Bircan's Yerevan visit: "My Visit to Yerevan". Bircan had a meeting with the Turkish-Armenian Business Consul/Vice President Noyan Soyak and with Diana Khachaturian of the Civil Society Institute/CSI in Istanbul on January 12, 2010. The meeting notes were taken and will be available on the website later.
- Bircan and reps of the CSI had a meeting at the UNDP in Armenia for Turkish Armenian Synergy Initiative/TASI, but process was interrupted later on by the partner organization CSI for they decided to withdraw themselves from the TASI. And therefore LM will share the meeting notes and the proposal with the UN, Bircan said. She mentioned that Diana of the CSI indicated via e-mail that no one there wants the photos from her lectures and the TASI related programs to be published on the website, which were taken during the Yerevan trip. Bircan indicated that when it is necessary, it is the Light Millennium's right to decide whether to publish or not any photos from the TASI programs in Yerevan.
- Bircan summarized the process after forming the TASI during the Sept. 30, 2009 Board Meeting. The joint announcement signed /approved by both the LM and CSI was sent out on October 26, 2009, and published on both organizations' websites. Following this, another joint letter for supporting the Turkish-Armenian Protocols from the point of the TASI's vision was sent out during the first week of December 2009. As a result of the second joint letter <a href="http://www.lightmillennium.org/tasynergy/open\_letter\_dec6\_09.html">http://www.lightmillennium.org/tasynergy/open\_letter\_dec6\_09.html</a>, Diana and Maya Barkhudaryan of CSI invited Bircan to Yerevan to further discuss joint ideas/projects as well as launching the TASI along with a proposal to Bircan to give four lectures in Yerevan.
- As a result, Bircan went to Yerevan from Istanbul, and between January 25 and 31, 2010, she gave 4 lectures in middle and high schools in Yerevan and other cities in Armenia along with two public presentations at the CSI in Yerevan.
- Bircan stated that the related documents regarding the two joint announcements by LM and CSI for TASI, the TASI programs in Yerevan, and also Bircan's trip to Yerevanare available on the organization's website.
- Bircan presented a power point presentation in Yerevan, which she had posted to the website prior to her presentation in Yerevan.
- Korcan indicated that he approved the TASIbefore, and he will do so again if the "Associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations effective on December 12, 2005"

LM could reactivate it with a new partner.

- Bircan Unver gave a lecture titled, "Public Access TV & Alternative Media" on December 17, 2009 at the Eastern Mediterranean University/Communication Department, Famagusta, Gazimagusa, North Cyprus., During her lecture, she presented a demo of LMTV as an example of the capacity and usage of the Public Access TV in the U.S. for promoting the "freedom of expression" and the "accessibility" to produce television programs by anyone who wishes from all walks of life.

Bircan also gave another lecture at the Marmara University, Communications Department/Public Science -- one of the biggest state universities in Turkey-- on December 24, 2009. On her lecture, Bircan focused particularly onthe concept of "public benefit media," explaining her experience with The Light Millennium among other examples from the U.S. She explained that this concept encourages publishing ideas from all walks of life, which cannot be beought bycommercial advertisements.

Janet mentioned that her brother, who is a website expert, may be able to volunteer his services to make suggestions to update some things on the LM website. The existing software is Dreamweaver, but Bircan said she would like to adopt more web-based programs.

"RESET: Iran, Turkey, and America's Future" book launching program with Stephen Kinzer: Bircan sent the proposal on February 17, 2010 to ATAA/DC, Turkish Counsulate/NY; did not receive a response yet. Response is due April 28, 2010. She informed that there is an engagement already made with the SETA Foundation of DC for June 15, 2010, and she is also in communication with the Turkish Mission to the UN in order to obtain their support to organize a program with Kinzer at the UN.

Still, New York is the main concern and she is not sure of the dates, venues, and collaborators yet. Proposed dates are: June  $10^{th}$  or  $11^{th}$  depending on the schedule of ATAA.

Bircan mentioned that she needs to get Kinzer's new book RESET from the publisher for the book will be available on June 8, 2010.

Bircan mentioned that during her meeting with the Deputy Ambassador Fazli Corman at the Turkish Mission, she asked for the Turkish Mission's support for proposingthe UNDPI to host Turkey UNNGO Conference for 2012. And, if that happens, LM likes to take part in its planning process, and will go to Turkey for the conference. Bircan said, "at least, this time I got their attention."

"2015 and Beyond in Science Arts" program is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup> 2010 at the Baruch College: We are still taking participant applications for the program and Sultan Cattowill commit himself.

Isikbinyili.Org, which is the counterpart of The Light Millennium in Turkish, was introduced with the LM since the beginning and e-published under it. Now, its status has changed as of January 10, 2010, and it has become an independent association according to the Turkish Legal Code with an "independent governing"

body", yet it is a "sister organization" with the LM according to its ByLaws.

Now, we have a greater capacity to apply for grants to Turkey from the EU through Isik Binyili. Now, as a legally independent organization, yet with LM's mission adapted as an additional dimension, Isikbinyili.Org, is also "a social development" association as well as it's a multi-media and culture organization. This was a need for Turkey, in particular, for the least developed parts of the country.

Isikbinyili.Org has a small office in Cagaloglu, Istanbul provided by Say Publishing company. Cagaloglu is in between Sirkeci and Sultanahmet.

LM will elect a new Vice-President for the next Board Meeting – Bircan and everyone agreed on that we need someone with influence, who is business savvy andcan helpmove LM forward financially .

Bircan sent to the BoD & Advisory board the SETA documents about the D.C. program on April 21, 2010, and also about the LM's upcoming program "2015 & Beyond in Science and Arts.

TurkishGreekSynergy.Net website is no longer on the web since the beginning of the first quarter of this year. It was opened as a sub domain under LM for the TurkishGreekSynergy/TGS, but that is not active either.

There had not been any financial support/funds, volunteers, or sufficient content contributors for the TGS. Therefore, Bircan mentioned that any ideas that were submitted in relation to the TurkishGreekSynergy, she posted those onto the Lightmillennium.Org.

Janet said she would ask Dr. Habibeh Rahim of St. John's University if she wants to be on the Board of LM.

Janet offered translation services from Turkish to English only.

Bircan reemphasized the LM is the only multi-media focused NGO at the United Nations and that LM's place is unique at the UN and we're recognized as well.

LM is the only Turkish rooted Non-Governmental organization that is associated with the United Nations based in NY and the U.S. since 2005.

Janet proposed a marketing PR piece for LM and will send Bircan questions to answer, so Janet can devise a short one-page piece that speaks to LM's unique qualities as a nonprofit.

Bircan spoke about dedicating the next LM website issue to "Global Security for All" as a  $10^{th}$  Anniversary issue, and all agreed that Janet would do the interviews and the article on this. Due in three weeks. Bircan wants to focus on President Barack Obama's statement: "A world free of nuclear weapons," as the theme.

Selcuk Acar attended his first meeting on 4/24/10 and all approved his seat on the Board of Directors.

Selcuk Acar is now on the Board of Directors – he's from the Turkish Press and Turkish Journal. Com, whose brother is the famous painter Ismail Acar. He might be willing to do a collaborative project with the LM.

Bircan proposed Janet to be the "Special Project Coordinator", in particular in "Women" and/or "fundraising" related events.

Janet is looking into Afghan grant alert that Bircan sent.

Bircan said that all Board Members have to read the ByLaws of the LM under "501-c-3" page< <a href="http://www.lightmillennium.org/501\_c\_3/list.html">http://www.lightmillennium.org/501\_c\_3/list.html</a>, "LMTV FORM 1023.pdf", Corporations ByLaws, Corporation Purposes, Envisioned Activities (2001).

Janet has proposed a future fundraising event that she wants to collaborate on with another organization and is formulating a theme to be mentioned within four weeks.

Discussion: Corporate sponsorships for events.

A proposal for the next LM meeting is for the first week of June 2010.

The meeting was officially closed at 5:10pm on 4/24/10.