

IOWA READING ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
MAY 15, 2016  
PIZZA RANCH, AMES, IOWA

- I. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by President Nancy White at 1:33 p.m.
- II. Roll call- Present were Deb Mortensen, Nancy White, Michelle Swanson, Nancy Wright, Clark Goltz, Diane Bean, Stephanie Laird and Debra Wake.
- III. Approval and/or additions to the agenda- Clark Goltz suggested we add under New Business k. Other: 1) Iowa Reading Association election results and Deb Mortensen suggested we add 2) Iowa Reading Association leader's passing. Michelle Swanson moved that we approve the agenda as amended and Diane Bean seconded. All were in favor.
- IV. Appointment of Committee to approve minutes- Diane Bean and Stephanie Laird volunteered to read the May 15, 2016 Executive Board minutes. These minutes will be sent to them for their approval before publishing on the Iowa Reading Association website.
- V. Approval of Executive Board Minutes from April 9, 2016- Debra Wake moved and Stephanie Laird seconded to approve the minutes from our April 9 Executive Board meeting. All were in favor. Secretary Deb Mortensen will not send the minutes to the webmaster until all executive board members have had an opportunity to make changes.
- VI. Old Business-
  - a. Rezoning Issues- Director of Membership Development, Diane Bean, wondered if we should wait for International to begin the rezoning process. We are set to go with the new structure. It was decided that we will wait until after the International Literacy Conference in July to proceed. By then, newly elected board member Stephanie Laird, may have some insight.
  - b. Bylaws, Policies and Procedures- Deb Mortensen presented changes to the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures. Many of the changes have to do with the role of secretary/newsletter editor. Diane Bean moved that we make policy changes as presented and Michelle Swanson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Debra Wake thanked Deb Mortensen for her time and effort in making these changes. Deb Mortensen will review the terms of secretary and treasurer and present this information to Clark Goltz so those attending Delegate's Assembly at Leadership can vote on only Bylaw changes.
- VII. New Business
  - a. Congratulations to Stephanie Laird, a new member of the International Literacy Association Board of Directors.
  - b. Meeting with Struggling Councils- Nancy White, Diane Bean and Clark Goltz met with members of Jefferson Van Buren Reading Council. They shared ideas for programs and reviewed their membership/officer list. Several officers will be attending Leadership in June. It was suggested that struggling councils consider investigating how they could offer their meetings for credit. They also met with Burlington Area Reading Council who is lacking leadership to continue as a council. They have sent emails to current members with no one volunteering to lead. It was suggested that they make a personal contact with educators in the outlying school districts. Also they were reminded to develop their council year in the summer so members are informed of the exciting programs they have

planned. Other struggling councils include Dallas County Reading Council and Quint-County Reading Council. Are there private schools in the area that would appreciate membership in the Iowa Reading Association? Would the credit option assist them in any way? Some questions to ask include "what programs would inspire your council? What classroom strategies are your members interested in knowing more about?" We also suggested that council leaders survey their members and ask if they would be willing to present. Debra Wake wondered if area librarians were being asked to join and maybe this is the time to work together with the Iowa Library Association to plan a joint conference.

- c. Creative Writing/Poetry Contest- Rebecca Pashek had several questions regarding the state winners and their celebration at state conference. Mylar balloons will be purchased as decorations by the committee. Deb Mortensen moved that medallions and the author's books be given to each of the creative writing/poetry winners. Debra Wake seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- d. Board Retreat on June 26 at 3:00- It was decided that we will brainstorm ideas to help struggling councils. Ask yourself, "What motivates you to belong to the Iowa Reading Association?" We will also review the "Top Ten Reasons to belong to the Iowa Reading Association." If you have any other suggestions for the retreat, let President Nancy White know.
- e. Summer Leadership Workshop-"Buck" Wilder will be our speaker at lunch on June 27. He may give a book to all in attendance. Check out Buck's website. He will also be speaking on June 28 at conference. State Coordinator, Nancy Wright, presented a tentative agenda for the Leadership Workshop. The theme will be "Dive into Reading" and she would like all board members to respond to the following phrase "I dive into reading when I \_\_\_\_\_". Nancy Wright is also asking each board member to bring 4 door prizes and give her a list of meetings you have attended and what the subject was for that meeting. This information is used for the "Award of Excellence". Diane Bean will send the application for the "Kick Start" Grant and "Local Council President Expectations" electronically to Clark Goltz to include in the Leadership participant's packet.
- f. 2016 Conference- Debra Wake, conference co-chair, reported that all contracts have been sent out. She will send Michelle Dekker (Ames Visitor's Bureau) a list of the keynote and concurrent speakers so the "thank you" bags can be made. Once the program booklet is complete, Debra Wake or Heidi Stangl will send the proof to Deb Mortensen and Nancy White to proofread before printing. 400 are registered so far with 37 vendors. Debra Wake and Heidi Stangl plan to write the next email blast about vendors and their importance at the conference.
- g. Awards Banquet- The Social Hour sponsored by McGraw-Hill will be from 4:30-6:30 on Tuesday, June 28 at the Scheman Conference center. Vouchers have been submitted so the recipients of the Karla Bronzynski Scholarship can receive their gift cards from Barnes and Noble. 3 state awards will be given this year as there was no one nominated for the Iowa Service Award. In the future, we may have the awards committee be members from the four quadrants of the state. This will provide us with more candidates and the judging will be more impartial. There are many worthy candidates for these awards and we need to recognize them.
- h. 2016-2017 Committee Chairs- All roles have been filled except Poetry Chair and we will ask at Leadership if anyone is interested in serving. We

also considered setting a **local council** due date for poetry/creative writing to help those who need to submit through a local council. This date would be on our website for those with questions.

- i. 2017 Conference- Stephanie Laird, conference chair, has secured all keynotes. She will be presenting a power point at Leadership with conference highlights. Pernelle Ripp is confirmed and others are Danny Brassell, Mike Graf and Cynthia Lord. The book study will be Reciprocal Teaching at Work K-12 by Lori Oskus, who will also be keynoting at the 2017 Iowa Reading Conference. Clark Goltz is organizing the book study and plans to share the details at the 2016 Leadership Workshop. Stephanie Laird is working with Heartland AEA to get notepads, business cards and a flier to publicize the conference.
- j. 2016 ILA Convention in Boston- The Executive Board discussed details of the convention and several activities we plan to participate in while there. We all plan to attend the Award Recognition event held on Friday evening.
- k. Other- 1) Iowa Reading Association Election results- Julie Schuller has been elected Vice President of the Iowa Reading Association. A card was passed and signed by all congratulating Julie on this honor. Other cards were passed for other board members elected earlier.  
2) Iowa Reading Association member's passing- Former board member, Marilyn Eberle passed away and an article was written for the Iowa Reading Association newsletter. Deb Mortensen, editor, wondered what the protocol should be when this happens. We'll continue to acknowledge when we know of things like this. We will acknowledge anyone with service to the state board of directors.
- l. Miscellaneous- Nancy White will invite Mary Daughtee, new Zone C Director, to our board meeting and retreat on June 26, 2016.

#### VIII. Announcements:

- a. Board of Directors Retreat, Sunday, June 26, 2016, 3:00 p.m, Pizza Ranch, Ames
- b. Board of Directors Meeting, Sunday, June 26, 2016, 5:00 p.m, Pizza Ranch, Ames
- c. Leadership Workshop, Monday, June 27, 2016 at 10:00 a.m, The Hotel at Gateway, Ames
- d. Iowa Reading Association Conference, June 28-29, 2016, Scheman Conference Center, Iowa State University, Ames
- e. Iowa Reading Association Board Meeting, Wednesday, June 29, 2016, 5:00 p.m. at Scheman Conference Center, ISU, Ames
- f. International Literacy Association 61st Annual Convention, July 9-11, 2016, Boston, MA

- IX. Adjournment: Diane Bean moved and Debra Wake seconded the motion that we adjourn at 4:25. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Mortensen, Secretary  
Iowa Reading Association