

IOWA READING ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

Pizza Ranch Ames, IA

April 18, 2015

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Deb Mortensen at 10:10 a.m.
- II. Present: Deb Mortensen, Clark Goltz, Michelle Swanson, Nancy White, Megan Benson, Marlene Reece, Carol Duehr, Wendy Hammrich, Renee Thomas, Julie Ortner, Lori Vicker, Nancy Wright, Wendy Matson, Lois Van Houwelingen, Debra Wake, Heidi Stangl
- III. Addition to the agenda requested by President Deb Mortensen. IX.) c) Iowa author Megan Benson made a motion to approve the agenda; Julie Ortner seconded; and the motion passed.
- IV. Nancy White and Julie Ortner were appointed to read and approve the April 18, 2015, minutes.
- V. Lori Vicker made a motion to approve consent agenda items; Wendy Matson seconded; and the motion passed.
 - a. Board of Director's minutes for January 17, 2015, were presented.
 - b. Zone Director reports:
 - Zone A- Lori Vicker reported at meeting.
 - Zone B- Marlene Reece reported at meeting.
 - Zone C- Julie Ortner reported at meeting.
 - Zone D- Megan Benson reported at meeting.
 - Zone E- Becky Pashek submitted a report.
 - Zone G- Wendy Matson reported at meeting.
 - Zone H- Lois Van Houwelingen reported at meeting.
 - Zone I- Renee Thomas reported at meeting.
 - c. Committee Reports:
 1. Award's Committee Chair Deb Saylor's report indicated that the 3 award winners will be recognized at the Conference Banquet.
 2. 2016 Conference Co-Chairs Debra Wake and Heidi Stangl asked for some discussion about bylaws. This request will be added to Executive Board agenda.
 3. Legislative Committee Chair Wendy Hammrich reported that legislation has been very frustrating. An early literacy initiative might be something IA Reading Association could support since we are all reading teachers not just classroom teachers.
 4. President Deb Mortensen had no report for Long Range Planning/Restructuring.
 5. Merit Council Committee Chair Lois Van Houwelingen reported that Merit Council books are coming in.
 6. Megan Benson reported that Zone A replacement for Lori Vicker is Tammy Hoppe and Becky Pashek will continue as Zone E Director. Nominees are still needed for vice president and secretary. There was discussion about current Co-VPs staying as President for two years. Deb Mortensen was going to contact ILA to ask about having a conference chair. Wendy Hammrich nominated Deb Mortensen as secretary. Deb's name will be entered on a ballot for a member vote.
 7. Creative Writing/Poetry Committee members Sue Schutte, Luella Heilman, Carolyn Rubsam submitted a report on the status of the Young Writers' presentation at conference. The group of three are resigning and Deb Saylor and Becky Pashek will be the new committee co-chairs.

8. Scholarship Committee Chair Ed Starkenburg's report said that there were 5 nominees and 2 scholarship winners were chosen. This is the last time scholarships will be awarded due to a change to Council Growth Grants to assist struggling councils.

9. Technology & Literacy Committee Chair Renee Thomas reported that there were three awardees.

Megan Benson made a motion to accept committee reports; seconded by Julie Ortner; and motion passed.

VI. Officer Reports

a. President Deb Mortensen shared a story about a student's excitement upon finding a dollar in a book from the Dollars in Books Project.

b. President Elect/State Conference Chair Nancy White

--shared a draft of the conference program at a glance

--updated roles of local councils at conference

--explained that a stylus pen will be given for every attendee who turns in their program evaluation

--went to UNI Literacy Conference as a vendor to promote the IA Reading conference

--reported that IA Council for Social studies would like IA Reading members to present on a literacy in Social Studies Strand in Ankeny on Oct. 6

--explained Dr. Donald Bear's conference role—Keynote speaker, 2 breakout sessions, host a cocktail hour, Leadership (local council President induction) and Board breakfast

c. Co-Vice Presidents Debra Wake and Heidi Stangl reported that they are considering Doug Fisher books for state-wide book study.

d. State Coordinator Nancy Wright shared her communication with Iowa's local council officers and board members:

--informational letter mailed in February, with a paper copy of an officer report

--"Save-the Date" postcards mailed for the June 22, 2015 Leadership Workshop

--Leadership Workshop invitation letters and RSVP forms emailed

--Emails from ILA Council Advisors Angela Rivell and Tiffany Sears shared

And shared the following communication with International Literacy Association

--Hardy Council and Eastern Iowa Council awarded Honor Council Status 2014-15

--Iowa Reading Association has qualified for "The Award of Excellence"

--IA Reading intent to apply for an ILA Achievement Award – Empowering Teachers

--Paperwork for another term as State Coordinator for Iowa Reading Association

submitted and was accepted for a 3-year term

e. Membership Director Diane Bean sent a report. Membership booth will have a Plinko game with prizes. Present membership of 608 members is comparable to last year.

f. Treasurer Michelle Swanson shared that there are 2 membership line items with overages. Marlene Reece made a motion to approve overages to transfer from the line item of the membership deposits into membership refunds; to transfer from exhibitor income into supplies/conference; and to establish Karla Bronzynski Scholarship contributions \$5,810 (Line item 407. 50). Carol Duehr seconded and the motion passed. Michelle also reported that she signed a contract with TD & T for accounting services for 2015-2016.

g. Secretary/Publications/ Correspondence Carol Duehr had no correspondence to share. Nancy Wright shared correspondence from Gateway Hotel.

h. Executive Director Clark Goltz had nothing to report.

VII. Old Business

a. A three-year contract with Iowa State Center, Ames will freeze costs at \$41,553.50 annually for 3 years for audio visual, equipment, and room rental. Clark will check

- on dates for the next 3 years. Michelle made a motion to approve 3 year contract; Renee Thomas seconded; and motion passed.
- b. International Project Co-Chair Deb Mortensen shared she has been communicating with Allison McGhee. Some councils are just giving monetary donations.
 - c. Iowa Council for Social Studies Conference (see Conference Chair report)
 - d. State Coordinator Application (see State Coordinator report)
 - e. Executive Director Clark Goltz shared that Megan Benson was the first person to register on Eventbrite.
 - f. Eleven board members are going to International Convention in July 2015. They should pay everything and turn receipts in after the Convention.
 - g. 990 Online Filing- Clark Goltz and Nancy Wright explained that if councils do not report officers to International each year their ILA status is dropped.
 - h. New Local Council grants is a policy change not a bylaw so it does not need to be brought up at Assembly.
 - i. Karla Bronzynski Reading Scholarship committee of Lori Vicker, Deb Mortensen, Julie Ortner, and Marlene Reece will choose from 5 teachers who have been in their current position less than 5 years. Deb Mortensen moved that we increase Barnes and Noble gift card amount from \$200 to \$250; Lois Van Houwelingen seconded; and motion passed. There will be a table close to membership and Viterbo area to allow participants to choose some of Karla's books for a donation.
 - j. Wired Webinars from the Illinois Reading Association- Clark Goltz -- Tabled.
 - k. Marc Kleven comments regarding Creative Writing contest—Clark has responded to parent Marc Kleven comments regarding the Creative Writing contest by suggesting ways to become involved as a member. Lois Van Houwelingen shared other correspondence with this parent.
 - l. Co-Vice President Heidi Stangl shared Board Recognition forms and will send to members who are not here.
 - m. 2016 Conference “The Power of Reading” Co-Chairs Heidi Stangl and Debra Wake had no further information to share at this time.

VIII. New Business

- a. Leadership Workshop/Conference Registration current numbers were shared.
- b. Secretary Carol Duehr shared May 1 date for May newsletter submissions.
- c. Deb Mortensen reported a \$290 check from the Iowa Consortium of Educators will be used to assist in continuation of Karla's scholarship.
- d. In closed session, Lori Vicker made a motion to increase the Executive Director's salary to \$1,000 a month for 1 year; Deb Mortensen seconded; and motion passed.

IX. Discussion Items

- a. Award of Excellence received from International Literacy Association will be accepted by President Deb Mortensen at International Conference.
- b. Miscellaneous—nothing at this time
- c. Iowa authors--Don Ortman, a past president of the Iowa Reading Association, has written and published a children's book called The Fourth of July. It is for sale and can be autographed by the author. View www.tatepublishing.com for more details.

X. Announcements

- a. Executive Board Meeting, Saturday, May 2, 2015, 1:00 p.m., Pizza Ranch, Ames
- b. Board of Directors Retreat, Sunday, June 21, 2015, 3:00 p.m., Pizza Ranch, Ames
- c. Board of Directors Meeting, Sunday, June 21, 2015, 5:00 p.m., Pizza Ranch, Ames
- d. Leadership Workshop, Monday, June 22, 2015, 10:00 a.m., The Hotel at Gateway, Ames

e. Iowa Reading Association Conference, June 23-24, 2015, ISU, Scheman Conference Center, Ames, IA

f. International Reading Association Convention, July 17 -20, 2015, St. Louis, MO.

X. Wendy Hammrich moved that the meeting adjourn at 12:35; Wendy Matson seconded; and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:

Carol Duehr, Iowa Reading Association Secretary