

IOWA READING ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

Pizza Ranch, Ames, IA

April 8, 2017

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Heidi Stangl at 10:10 a.m. She announced she was having a baby boy on September 15. Congrats, Heidi!
- II. Present were Diane Bean, Deb Mortensen, Julie Schuller, Rebecca Pashek, Marlene Reece, Heidi Stangl, Michelle Swanson, Lois Van Houwelingen, Debra Wake, Nancy White, Clark Goltz, Wendy Matson, Mary Daughetee, Stephanie Laird and Nancy Wright.
- III. Additions to the agenda- Nancy White asked that we add c) Questions from Beth Daniels and d) Public Relations/Conferences to New Business. Clark Goltz asked that add e) Joint Conference with ISLA (Iowa School Library Association) and f) Book Study with ASCD for the 2017-2018 school year. Diane Bean asked that we add under Old Business b) Kick Start grant/struggling councils. Nancy White moved and Marlene Reece seconded that we approve the agenda as amended. All were in favor.
- IV. Diane Bean and Wendy Matson volunteered to read the minutes from this meeting. Deb Mortensen will send the minutes to them electronically.
- V. Approval of the January 14, 2017 minutes- Diane Bean moved and Julie Schuller seconded these minutes. All were in favor.
- VI. Zone Director Reports: **Zone A**- No report. **Zone B**- Marlene Reece shared that Hardy's membership has increased 11 members. She was concerned about decreased attendance at meetings due to the book study being held outside of the council meeting. Clark Goltz said that Area I will provide a template for the credit option. Kelsey Pieper Nilles is a new officer in Hardy Council, making her a third generation, Iowa Reading Association member and leader. Debra Wake shared Midlands has meetings on different nights. This alleviates the problem with commitments on a specific evening. Hardy Council once again received Honor Council status. **Zone C**- Mary Daughetee said that READ's membership is strong. They finish their council year in December. READ achieved Honor Council for the first time. **Zone E**- Boone Story council seems strong. They are hosting their Young Author's Reception on April 20. Director Pashek is still hoping to rejuvenate Dallas County Reading Council. Diane Bean and Rebecca Pashek have visited with someone from Iowa City who may start a council in that area to participate in the Iowa Reading Association sponsored writing contest. **Zone G**- Wendy Matson's term is ending soon. Renae Wilkening is interested in holding that director position. **Zone H**- This zone participated in the book study Genre Connections by Tanny McGregor. Lois Van Houwelingen would be willing to share the discussion questions from the book to other councils interested. She said Three Rivers is struggling as a council. They are having difficulty getting officers and no one is volunteering to be Zone Director. It was suggested that we contact those teachers who had winning writers this year and encourage them to join a local council and perhaps hold a leadership role. Becky Pashek will send Clark Goltz the contact information of these teachers. Clark Goltz

was the presenter at Three Rivers Young Authors celebration. He is a willing to do this for other councils as well. He has a presentation on being a "Super Hero Writer". **Zone I- No report.**

Committee Reports:

1. Awards- This announcement will be made soon by chair Kathleen Konrardy.
 2. Creative Writing/Poetry- The Board of Directors thanked Becky Pashek and Marlene Reece for their dedication to this project. 2nd and 3rd place certificates were mailed out. The committee chairs are meeting today to discuss the format for the State winners' reception in June. Debra Wake suggested we call this committee "Creative Writing Contest" but change the categories to short story and poetry. It was suggested that instead of boy/girl that we change it to "gender _____".
 3. International Project- If any council or individual wishes to contribute to the "Africa Reads" project, please do before the summer leadership conference so that one check may be given to Ken Stamatis (the ILA project organizer), who will be at the Booksource booth at state conference.
 4. Karla Bronzynski Scholarship- Chair Lori Vicker reported that Karla's son, Kaden, will be representing the family this year. There were 4 applicants. Lori and her committee will ask the Bronzynski family if four awards can be given this year, instead of the two we have given the past two years. Photos of the winners will need to be sent to Stephanie Laird, for the program booklet.
 5. Long Range Planning- Diane Bean shared a map of possible rezoning.
 6. Merit Council- Lois Van Houwelingen told that 3 applications have been received so far. You may submit your artifacts electronically. These are due May 1, 2017.
 7. Nominations- We discussed whose terms would be ending this year. Wendy Matson (Zone G), Lois Van Houwelingen (Zone H) and Renee Thomas (Zone I). Barbara Carroll was mentioned as someone who could fill the Zone I Directorship.
 8. Technology and Literacy- Renee Thomas sent an electronic report stating Jeff Vaughn received the \$50 stipend. Jeff is an educator with the Eastern Iowa Reading Council. Michelle Swanson moved that we increase the amount to \$100. Julie Schuller seconded the motion. All were in favor. We could fund three applicants at this amount. Clark Goltz will contact Renee Thomas about changing the application form for the 2017-2018 school year. It was also suggested that we showcase past recipients of this award.
- VII. Officer Reports- Co Presidents Heidi Stangl and Debra Wake are organizing the concurrent speakers for the 2017 conference. 10 sessions will be held each time. Those speakers accepted have been contacted.

President Elect, Stephanie Laird, said Sched will be available to sign up for sessions. She is looking for several volunteers for the conference. Text Clark Goltz if you need his attention. Clark reported that 250 are registered for the conference.

Vice President, Julie Schuller said Jerry Palotta and Katie Marouse (from Chicago on digital literacy) are coming in 2018. Kate Roberts (D.I. Y. Literacy) is a planned speaker too.

The book study will be Stephanie Harvey and Anne Goudvis' new book. Debra Wake will continue to try for Mary Pope Osborne. Clark Goltz will send out Julie's logo to everyone electronically.

State Coordinator, Nancy Wright, is working with ILA regarding the transition. We are a nonprofit corporation. The Iowa Reading Association has its own EIN (employee identification number) and Nan Gamble (at ILA) is looking for our state charter. Officer Reports are due and READ was able to get theirs in first (Way to go!) We reviewed the schedule for Leadership Workshop, 2017 and registration has been sent out. Clark Goltz will print any handouts necessary if sent to him by June 1. Nancy will considering a nicer "gift" for those attending leadership. She will be completing the state Officers Report form. Each officer is asked to bring 4 door prizes and to complete this quote "Literacy Landmarks are...." She and Julie Schuller would also like photos of members reading at a "landmark." Nancy Wright also suggested we send interesting council programs to Literacy Today to showcase some of the wonderful things Iowa educators are doing. The Iowa Reading Association received the "Award of Excellence" for the 26th year. Nancy was sad to report that Jefferson- Van Buren Reading Council was disbanding.

Membership Chair, Diane Bean, submitted a written report. She has completed the Iowa Membership report. She would still like to visit Lee County and Burlington councils. Then she will have visited all the local councils this year. Diane has new prizes for the Plinko game. She wondered if we should have new guidelines for the "Grow a Local Council" grant (Line item 301.02). All were encouraged to bring gently used books and work at the membership table at state conference. Diane asked if local councils can be under the Iowa EIN if they let their form 990 application lapse.

Treasurer, Michelle Swanson, will email TD and T regarding our audit. She told us to submit vouchers for all International conference expenses. We have a new contact at TD & T. Deb Mortensen will write a "thank you" to Alex, our former contact.

Secretary, Deb Mortensen said newsletter articles are due May 17. She will send a spreadsheet to all involved in writing for this edition. Nancy White read a "thank you" from Deb Mortensen.

Executive Director, Clark Goltz, said 80 participated in this year's book studies. Several people will be eating lunch with authors Lori Oskcus and Steven Layne.

VIII. Old Business

- a. ILA Transition Update- Nancy Wright shared handouts regarding the transition process. We reviewed each of the three options. We have communicated with several state organizations who shared their concerns. The Iowa Transition team will present at Leadership what ILA did for us and what our options at ILA will give us. Lois Van Houwelingen suggested we have a visual with this.
- b. Kick Start grant- Diane Bean wondered if we should continue with this grant. Last year the cost was \$1,000. Diane will review the guidelines prior to leadership.

IX. New Business

- a. Wisconsin Reading Conference- Nancy White attended. She shared the program booklet and folder. Each local council in the state contributes a gift basket for the silent auction. All money raised is given back to membership. Clark Goltz will be a presenter at the Illinois Reading Conference this coming year.
 - b. Nominations- It was suggested that Nancy White would make a wonderful nominations chair, since Megan Benson is no longer on the board. Nancy White will consider this.
 - c. Early Literacy Conference at UNI- Nancy White and Diane Bean attended this conference. Beth Daniels, Booksource and Stenhouse had several questions for us. Would the Iowa Reading Association promote Lucy Calkins, if she came to central Iowa in the fall of 2017? The board agreed we would if Iowa Reading Association members were allowed to participate. We would provide no financial support.
 - d. Working with Other Organizations/Conferences- Diane Bean and Nancy White have attended the Social Studies, School Librarians and Early Literacy conferences. They promoted the Iowa Reading Association by providing information about our organization and its conference.
 - e. IASL Joint Conference- The Iowa Association of School Librarians would like to cohost a joint conference in the summer of 2018. Kady Kaufman and Sheryl Dales would be their contacts. Clark Goltz will continue to get all registrations and coordinate vendors. IASL would provide several concurrent speakers. This will be a change for them to have a summer conference. IASL would like a half day of the conference to conduct business and give their awards. Some things to consider are scheduling and the financial costs. Clark Goltz will ask the IASL reps to attend our May meeting and visit with Pat Dennis at the Scheman Center. Debra Wake moved that we do a joint conference. Michelle Swanson seconded it. All were in favor of pursuing this, beginning with the 2018 Summer Conference.
 - f. ASCD/Book study for 2018 will be Stephanie Harvey and Anne Goudvis' new book. Other suggestions included Kylee Beers Notice and Note, Beyond Carrots and Sticks by Smith, Frey and Fisher and a new book by Jennifer Serravallo.
- X. Announcements
- 1. Kathleen Konrardy and Mary Daughetee are interested in being Co-Vice Presidents next year.
 - 2. Committee Report forms are now on the website for committee chairs to fill out any time their committee has some activity and then returned to the president. These reports are found under "Forms."

XI. Dates to Remember

- a. Executive Board Meeting, Saturday, May 13, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Pizza Ranch, Ames
- b. Iowa Reading Association Board Retreat, Sunday, June 25, 2017, 3:00 p.m. Pizza Ranch, Ames
- c. Iowa Reading Association Board of Directors Meeting, Sunday, June 25, 2017, 5:00 p.m. Pizza Ranch, Ames

d. Iowa Reading Association Leadership Workshop, Monday, June 26, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
Hotel Gateway, Ames

e. Iowa Reading Association Conference “Dive Into Reading”, June 27-28, 2017 Scheman
Conference Center, ISU, Ames

f. Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, June 28, 2017, 5:00 p.m. Scheman Conference
Center, ISU, Ames

g. International Literacy Association 61st Annual Convention, July 15-17, 2017, Orlando, FL.

XII. Adjourn- Stephanie Laird moved and Mary Daughetee seconded that we adjourn at 2:30
p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Mortensen, Iowa Reading Association Secretary