

Iowa Reading Association

Exec Board Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2023

North Prairie Room Gateway Hotel & Conference Center, Ames, IA

Submitted by Soh Meacham

- I. The meeting of the Executive Board of Directors was called to order by President Tony Pieper at 10:07 am.
- II. Present were Tony Pieper, Dani Wagaman, Megan Benson, Julie Anderson, Jill Swanson, Heidi Stangl, Wendy Matson, Nancy Wright, Sohyun Meacham
- III. Approval and/or additions to the agenda: Julie Anderson moved and Jill Swanson seconded that this agenda be approved.
- IV. Appointment of Committee to approve minutes: Jill Swanson and Megan Benson agreed to review the June 19, 2023 minutes. Secretary Sohyun Meacham will send them electronically for their approval.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Vice President search: We are still looking for Vice President and Program Chair for the 2025 conference. The Executive Board discussed possible candidates. The Board is seeking to appoint a Vice President by the end of the summer, so that the Vice President can work with the Board to plan for the 2025 conference.
- VI. New Business
 - A. 2023-24 Committee Chair Appointments approval: Megan Benson made a motion and Jill Swanson seconded that the following list of committee chairs is approved.
 1. Awards - Mary Pieper
 2. Budget - Jill Swanson
 3. By-Laws, Policies & Procedures - Laurie Weekly and Dani Wagaman
 4. Creative Writing: Short Story - Kari Straube
 5. Creative Writing: Poetry - Dawn Schechtman
 6. International Project - Tony Pieper
 7. Membership - Julie Anderson
 8. Merit Council - Heidi Stangl and Wendy Matson
 9. Newsletter, Publications - Sohyun Meacham
 10. Nominations - Nancy White
 11. Program - Megan Benson
 12. Grow A Local Council Grant - Nancy Wright

- B. Julie Anderson made a motion and Megan Benson seconded to approve the 2023-2024 Meeting Schedule. Everyone was in favor of the idea of board meetings via zoom.
1. Tentative dates:
 - August 5, 2023: 10:00 a.m.- Exec Board Only (Budget Meeting)
 - September 30, 2023: 10:00 a.m.- Full Board
 - November 11, 2023: 10:00 a.m.- Exec Board only
 - January 13, 2024: 10:00 a.m.- Full Board
 - April 6, 2024: 10:00 a.m.- Exec Board only
 - May 4 2024: 10:00 a.m.- Full Board
 - June 23, 2024: 4:00 p.m. Board Retreat - Location TBD
 - June 24, 2024: 10:00 a.m. Exec Board Only and Leadership Workshop- Location TBD
 - June 25-26, 2024: “ One World, Many Stories” Joint State Literacy Conference with Iowa Association of School Librarians -- Scheman Building, Ames, Iowa
 - June 26, 2024: Full Board immediately after close of conference
- C. 2023 Conference Helpers sign-up form was reviewed.
1. [2023 Conference Helpers](#)
- D. The Board decided to eliminate the state-only membership.
- E. 2024 Leadership Workshop location was discussed. If we use a space at Ames Public library, we can decrease our expenses. We keep being fiscally responsible.
- F. 2023 Audit forms: Jill Swanson made a motion to keep the same accounting company (Schroer and Associates P. C.). Julie Anderson seconded.
- G. Vice President is Chair of the Public Relations Committee according to the Bylaw. Emily Voss is willing to share some information regarding digital marketing with educators. Dani Wagaman will reach out to Emily Voss to schedule a meeting with the Board.
- H. Local council concerns: Attendance in the local meetings is reducing. It's hard to attract younger people. Younger people are not even joining community organizations. The Board discussed ways to improve the visibility of the Iowa Reading Association. We can create a video about our annual conference and share the video with teachers. We decided to promote the use of #IowaReadingConference2023 on Twitter.
- I. Newsletter - Soh Meacham will send the newsletter to Dani Wagaman and she will distribute it to local councils.
1. June 2023 Newsletter (submissions due June 30)
 2. October 2023 Newsletter (submissions due October 30)

3. February 2024 Newsletter (submissions due February 28)

VII. Adjournment: 11:32am