

IOWA READING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
JANUARY 17, 2015  
PIZZA RANCH, AMES, IOWA

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Deb Mortensen at 10:10 a.m.
- II. Roll call included: Deb Mortensen, Wendy Hammrich, Nancy White, Heidi Stangl, Michelle Swanson, Diane Bean, Nancy Wright, Marlene Reece, Julie Ortner, Megan Benson, Rebecca Pashek, Lois Van Houwelingen, Renee Thomas, and Clark Goltz.
- III. Approval and/or Additions to the Agenda: Under consent agenda, C. Committee Reports add #9. Technology and Literacy Grant and under New Business add H. State Coordinator. Wendy Hammrich moved and Diane Bean seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.
- IV. Appointment of Committee to Approve Minutes: President Deb Mortensen appointed Megan Bensen and Julie Ortner to approve the minutes.
- V. Consent Agenda: Megan Benson moved and Lois Van Houwelingen seconded to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from October 18, 2014, Zone Director Oral and Written Reports from zones B, C, D, E, G, H, I, and Committee Reports from Awards, Bylaws, Legislative, Merit Council, Nominations, Creative Writing and Poetry, Research and Scholarship, and Technology and Literacy. Motion carried. Deb Mortensen moved and Julie Ortner seconded to award the Technology and Literacy Grants to three applicants. Motion carried.
- VI. Officer Reports
  - a. President's Report/Dollars in Books Project: President Deb Mortensen noted that she has received the program proposals for the concurrent sessions for the 2015 conference and is very pleased with both the quantity and the quality of the proposals. The deadline for submitting proposals is Feb. 1. Deb encouraged Board members to carry out the Dollars in Books project she is promoting.
  - b. President Elect/State Conference Chair's Report: Nancy White submitted a written report and also gave an oral report updating Board members on the 2015 Conference. Nancy reviewed the roles of each local council during conference. An email blast has been sent out to members that registration is now open. Nancy has developed a draft of the "Conference at a Glance". Names of those members enrolled in one of the three state-wide book studies were drawn by Board members to have the privilege of having a private complimentary lunch with Kelly Gallagher on Tuesday, June 23 or Jennifer Sarravallo on Wednesday, June 24 at Scheman. Nancy will mail letters along with a conference registration form and the three page conference preview to each of the 14 lucky winners.
  - c. Vice President Report: Heidi Stangl reported that she and Debra Wake will bring suggested bylaws and policy changes to the April Board meeting.
  - d. State Coordinator's Report: Nancy Wright gave an oral report. Leadership Workshop will be held on Monday, June 22, 2015 at the Hotel at the Gateway Center in Ames. Nancy hopes to have demonstrations on the use of technology incorporated into Leadership this year. Nancy asked Board members to send her a quote about "What is the Power of Reading?" by May

1. Nancy has submitted artifacts for the Award of Excellence. She has let IRA know of our intent to participate in the Council Poster Session at the IRA Convention in St. Louis in July. Nancy completed a questionnaire from IRA regarding her work as State Coordinator in Iowa.
- e. Membership Director's Report: Diane Bean submitted a written report. Clark Goltz reported that Iowa Reading has 590 members including 16 statewide members and 28 sustaining members. Diane showed a map of Iowa on which she had dots marked for each Iowa Reading member. Discussion of zone restructuring was discussed. It was then tabled until the Executive Board meeting.
- f. Treasurer's Report: Michelle Swanson gave an update on our current assets, CD's, and fixed assets. It will be filed for audit.
- g. Secretary/Publications/Correspondence Report: Iowa Reading received a thank you note from Heidi Meyer for the scholarship she received at the Awards Banquet in 2014. She is pursuing a doctorate degree in Literacy, Language, and Culture at the University of Iowa and appreciated the scholarship to be used toward tuition. Iowa Reading received a Christmas card from the Gateway Hotel staff.
- h. Executive Director/Book Study Report: Clark Goltz reported that 78 members are enrolled in one of the three book studies offered.

## VII. Old Business

- a. Change of NWIRC Leadership: Nancy Wright sent out the updated officer list when she sent out the printed state-wide directories.
- b. Multi-year contract with Iowa State Center: Clark with work with Pat Dennis regarding our concerns with technology in the Scheman Building. By signing a contract we will be able to freeze the price at Scheman for 3 years.
- c. International Project-Deb Mortensen/Julie Ortner: Julie Ortner shared information about the Haiku for Haiti project.
- d. State Only Memberships: Discussion was held.
- e. Conference Event Insurance Proposal-Clark Goltz informed the Board about our general liability coverage. International Reading suggested we also have a conference cancellation policy and one to cover directors and officers. This item was moved to the April Board meeting.
- f. Spring 2015 Mini Conference-Nancy Wright: Nancy has contacted Staff Development Workshops, Inc. and Stenhouse Publishers about possible speakers for a mini-conference. After discussion it was decided not to pursue holding a mini-conference at this time. Clark Goltz reported that Kim Hackett from the Iowa Council for the Social Studies contacted him about their interest in holding a literacy strand at their conference and asking if we'd be interested in being involved. The conference is October 6, 2015.
- g. "Eventbrite" or some form of online payment: Clark Goltz has been working with our webmaster Cori Peterson to enable online registration for conference. There would be a convenience fee for this which would be added to the cost of the registration. Group discounts would still need to be done via paper. Cori Peterson will make a live link on our homepage for this online registration.
- h. Attendance at 2015 International Convention:Wendy Hammrich compiled a list of Board members interested in attending the International Reading Association Convention July 17-20 in St. Louis, Missouri. There is \$8,200 allotted to this line item in the budget. Conference registration cost is \$399 this year.

- i. State Secretary/Newsletter Organizer's Retirement: Carol Duehr's term of office is up at the end of this year so Iowa Reading will need a new officer to serve as secretary and newsletter editor.
  - j. Scholarship vs. Local Council "Angel" Grant: Discussion as to the pros and cons of each was held. It was then moved to the Executive Board meeting.
- VIII. New Business
- a. Approval of 2013-2014 Audit: Diane Bean moved and Lois Van Houwelingen seconded to accept the audit. Motion carried.
  - b. 2016 Conference "The Power of Reading"-Debra Wake and Heidi Stangl: Heidi announced that keynote speakers will be Doug Fisher, Donalyn Miller, Kenn Nesbitt, and Shannon Miller. They are in the process of choosing books for the state-wide book study.
  - c. Board Recognition-Debra Wake/Heidi Stangl: They will be sending out a form for Board members to indicate if they wish to have a letter of recognition sent to their supervisor(s).
  - d. 2014-2015 Budget Amendment re: addition of Karla Bronzynski Reading Scholarship Award: There has been \$4838 donated to this award. The new line item number will be 407.50.
  - e. Karla Bronzynski Reading Scholarship Award Update: This award will be given for a classroom library for a relatively new teacher. The deadline to apply for this award will be April 1. The committee will consist of Marlene Reece, Julie Ortner, Deb Mortensen, and Lori Vicker. The award winner will receive \$200 of books for their classroom library. This award will continue to be in existence for 10 years.
  - f. Creative Writing Contest entries from those not near a council/State Only members: Renee Thomas moved and Michelle Swanson seconded to accept co-authors for the creative writing and poetry contests. Motion carried. Clark Goltz will contact the state committee chairs.
  - g. Awards nominees by State Only members-policy change?: This item was tabled.
  - h. State Coordinator: Renee Thomas moved and Diane Bean seconded to renew Nancy Wright's term as state coordinator for 2016-2019. Motion approved.
- IX. Discussion Items
- a. Struggling councils and "The Year was 1968": President Deb Mortensen led a discussion about struggling councils and how Iowa Reading could assist these councils.
  - b. Renewing memberships from last year: Clark Goltz volunteered his sister to compile a database of email addresses of last year's attendees. When this database is complete, our webmaster will send out an email e-blast inviting them to this year's conference.
  - c. Miscellaneous: Due to Easter on April 6 this year, the April Board meeting will be moved from April 4 to April 11 in Ames.
- X. Announcements:
- a. Iowa Reading Association Board of Directors Meeting: Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Pizza Ranch, Ames, Iowa
  - b. Iowa Reading Association Executive Board Meetings: Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 2, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Pizza Ranch, Ames, Iowa
  - c. Iowa Reading Association Board Retreat: Sunday, June 21, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at the Pizza Ranch, Ames, Iowa
  - d. Iowa Reading Association Board Meeting: Sunday, June 21, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at the Pizza Ranch, Ames, Iowa

- e. Iowa Reading Association Leadership Workshop: Monday, June 22, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at The Hotel at Gateway Center, Ames, Iowa
- f. Iowa Reading Association Conference, June 23 and 24, 2015, Scheman Conference Center, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa
- g. Iowa Reading Association Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at Scheman Conference Center, ISU, Ames, Iowa
- h. International Reading Association 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: July 17-20, 2015 at St. Louis, Missouri

XI. Adjournment: Diane Bean moved and Lois Van Houwelingen seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 1:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy White, Secretary Pro Tem  
Iowa Reading Association