

IOWA READING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2018  
PIZZA RANCH, AMES, IOWA

- I. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by President Stephanie Laird at 10:02 a.m.
- II. Roll call- Present were Deb Mortensen, Mary Daughetee, Michelle Swanson, Nancy Wright, Clark Goltz, Diane Bean, Stephanie Laird, Kathleen Konrardy, Kelly Neumann, Rebecca Pashek, Debra Wake, Renae Wilkening, Marlene Reece and Julie Anderson.
- III. Diane Bean moved and Kathleen Konrardy seconded that the October 21, 2017 minutes be approved. All were in favor.
- IV. Approval and/or additions to the agenda- We added under Committee Reports f. Nancy White-Nominations.
- V. Appointment of Committee to approve minutes- Debra Wake and Diane Bean volunteered to read the January 21 Board minutes. These minutes will be sent to them for their approval before publishing on the Iowa Reading Association website.
- VI. Regional Director Reports- President Stephanie suggested that any Regional Directors that had committee reports, wait until later to make those reports.
  - a. NE Regional Director, Kelly Neumann- nothing new to report.
  - b. SE Regional Director, Barbara Carroll- trying hard to keep Burlington Area Reading Council going but lacking leadership. This council has decided to give the remainder of their treasury to the Iowa Reading Association.
  - c. NW Regional Director, Julie Anderson- nothing new to report.
  - d. SW Regional Director, Renae Wilkening- nothing new to report.
  - e. Central Iowa Regional Directors, Becky Pashek and Marlene Reece- because these two directors do not live near each other, they communicate via email. Boone-Story Reading Council is creating a video about the importance of belonging to the Iowa Reading Association. Marlene wondered if the video created by Hardy Reading Council, several years ago, was on the Iowa Reading Association website?
- VII. Committee Reports
  - a. Awards, Deb Saylor- looking forward to receiving entries for the four state awards. These are due February 15.
  - b. Grow a Local Council Grant, Nancy Wright- Nancy encouraged us to reach out to all of our local council leaders (not just those struggling) as much as possible. We need to say "hello" and offer encouragement for all leaders in our organization. The second half of the local council grant was awarded to those councils that had a majority of their memberships submitted by October 1.
  - c. Technology and Literacy Grant, Renee Thomas- READ Council had three recipients including board members Kathleen Konrardy and Kelly Neumann. Congratulations!
  - d. Membership, Diane Bean- attended the Illinois State Reading Conference and has visited a majority of Iowa's councils. She has sent 150 letters to past Iowa Reading Association members. Diane would like to purchase the state of Iowa shaped notepads to give away. She also wondered if the local council president's reports could be compiled and sent via email so local council presidents could share ideas.
  - e. Creative Writing, Becky Pashek and Marlene Reece- Becky and Marlene presented us with a lot of questions regarding the contest. After much discussion, it was decided that many of the changes involve local council contests. These changes include 1) sending student entries electronically to local councils, but then a printed copy to state, 2) making one copy of the story

to the local council but to go on to state, you must send three copies, 3) doing a better job publicizing local council deadlines. These may be put on the Iowa Reading Association website, once the local council date has been decided and 4) removing the "region" from the application as this is confusing for some. The Iowa Reading Bylaws (p. 38) state that the Creative Writing chairs will establish procedures. We are grateful to current Creative Writing chairs, Becky Pashek and Marlene Reece for their passion for this important contest in our state.

- f. Nominations, Nancy White- Eric Schroyer and Kelsey Nilles are co-vice president candidates. Their names (and a place for a write in) will be on a ballot very soon. Both are members of Hardy Reading Council.

#### VIII. Officer Reports

- a. Stephanie Laird, President- Stephanie gave all present a book for the "Book Fairy" project. These books are to be put in places that children frequently visit. Her thought is to publicize the Iowa Reading Association. She also gave us stickers so we can do the same thing with our own books.
- b. Debra Wake, Past President- Both Deb and Heidi would like to do more as past state presidents. Currently they are to review Bylaws and wonder if we should look at the reorganization of our state.
- c. Julie Schuller, President-Elect/Conference chair- Julie was absent but a card was passed on the death of her mother. Executive Director, Clark Goltz, shared some frustration with the leaders of the IASL. Their lack of timeliness is a big concern. Becky Pashek is hoping to communicate with some of their leaders. There will be lots of vendors at the 2018 conference. Proposals for concurrent speakers are due to Stephanie Laird by March 1. Clark Goltz will send an email blast to remind both organizations to submit these. The "Literacy Landmark" photo contest is showing up on social media. Cori from Iroc web design has updated the webpage. Some contracts for keynote speakers have been sent and returned. Clark Goltz suggested that all conference handouts be available to those in attendance instead of for all to have access to via our website. He will visit with our webmaster as to how this is done.
- d. Kathleen Konrardy and Mary Daughetee, Vice Presidents- The theme for the 2019 conference is "Reading Rockstars." The conference will be June 25-26, 2019. Mr. D (Fake spelling test) has been secured as one of the speakers.
- e. Nancy Wright, State Coordinator- Attended the NCTE conference in St. Louis. She saw Jan Burkus, author of "Who's Doing the Work?" This year there will be no Monday night meal after Leadership so we can all attend the IASL sponsored author event. The Gateway hotel will cost \$124/ night. Nancy also reviewed the other costs for Leadership. She thanked all who helped Iowa achieve the "Award of Excellence". She would like us to help with this year's award by submitting all local council events we attend (place, date, event) between July 2017 and June 30, 2018. Debra Wake volunteered to do more to promote our organization via social media. Becky Pashek stressed that the Iowa Reading Association does so much to fulfil Iowa Teaching Standard 7- Professional Development.
- f. Michelle Swanson, Treasurer- Michelle emphasized the need to be cognizant of our spending. She will email T D and T, regarding our audit.
- g. Deb Mortensen, Secretary/Newsletter Editor- Articles for the spring edition of the newsletter are due February 14.
- h. Clark Goltz, Executive Director/Book Study- 35 registered for Strategies at Work (Harvey and Goudvais) and 56 registered for Igniting the Passion (Layne) with 91 registered for book studies during the 2017-2018 school year.

#### IX. Old Business

- a. ILA Transition- Clark Goltz has hired a lawyer from Decorah to help us work with the transition with ILA. A big "thank you" to Clark for completing all the forms necessary to make this transition a smooth one. Avery, at ILA has also been helpful. Next year there will be a fee to participate in the awards program with ILA. If a council wants to participate (Honor Council or Award of Excellence), this fee will be paid by the Iowa Reading Association. Nancy Wright suggested we discuss this transition at our Board Retreat to be held in June. Diane Bean also shared some discounts offered by the International Literacy Association.
  - b. International Literacy Association membership- Our POLICIES state you must be a member of ILA if you are a state board member or regional director (formerly Zone Director). This will be discussed at our April board meeting. The costs may be increasing.
- X. New Business
- a. Bylaws, Policies and Procedures- Debra Wake, Heidi Stangl and Nancy Wright will examine this document prior to our April board meeting for proposed changes.
  - b. Three Rivers and Regional Director- Renae Wilkening mentioned the Three Rivers Council is three hours from her home. She is unable to attend any of their council meetings. She suggested we add this council to Central Iowa's region so Becky Pashek can be that council's representative. Diane Bean will change the map to illustrate this change to central Iowa and the SW regions.
  - c. Northwestern College and Viterbo credit options- Northwestern College (Iowa) and Viterbo (based in WI) both wish to offer credit for the Iowa Reading Conference. Discussion was held and the Northwestern credit option is too expensive for our attendees. Michelle Swanson moved and Mary Daughetee seconded that we continue with Viterbo for graduate credit. All were in favor. There are satellite sites for Viterbo in Iowa.
  - d. Debra Wake moved and Marlene Reece seconded that we award the stipend to the three recipients of the Technology and Literacy grant. \$225 was awarded this year. Renee Thomas will complete the vouchers. Renae Wilkening moved and Kelly Neumann seconded that we continue the Technology and Literacy grant. All were in favor of both motions.
- XI. Adjournment: Marlene Reece moved and Diane Bean seconded the motion that we adjourn at 12:25. All were in favor. Our next board meeting is Saturday, April 7.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Mortensen, Secretary  
Iowa Reading Association