

IOWA READING ASSOCIATION  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Pizza Ranch  
Ames, IA  
June 21, 2015

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Deb Mortensen at 6:15 PM.
- II. Present: Deb Mortensen, Clark Goltz, Michelle Swanson, Nancy White, Megan Benson, Marlene Reece, Carol Duehr, Renee Thomas, Tammy Hoppe, Nancy Wright, Wendy Matson, Lois Van Houwelingen, Debra Wake, Heidi Stangl, Becky Pashek, and Diane Bean. President Deb Mortensen introduced Stephanie Laird as candidate for Vice President 2015-2016.
- III. Megan Benson made a motion to approve the April 18, 2015, minutes. Marlene Reece seconded and the motion passed.
- IV. Diane Bean and Megan Benson were appointed to read the June 21, 2015, minutes.
- V. Wendy Matson made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items. Becky Pashek seconded and the motion passed.
  - a. Board of Director's minutes for April 18, 2015 were presented and approved.
  - b. Zone Director reports: President Deb Mortensen commented that there were similar concerns of finding new leaders and new members.
    - Zone A- Lori Vicker
    - Zone B- Marlene Reece
    - Zone C- Julie Ortner
    - Zone D\*- Megan Benson
    - Zone E\*- Becky Pashek
    - Zone G- Wendy Matson
    - Zone H- Lois Van Houwelingen
    - Zone I\*- Renee Thomas
  - c. Committee Reports:
    1. Awards Chair, Deb Saylor named the following award winners:  
Iowa Administrator of the Year: Christopher Herrick – Midlands of Iowa  
Iowa Teacher of the Year: Tony Pieper – Hardy Reading Council  
Celebrate Literacy Award: Margo Kitzrow – Quint County Reading Council  
Iowa Service Award: Clark Goltz, Executive Director
    2. Debra Wake and Heidi Stangl reviewed the bylaws. There are no bylaw changes only policy changes this year. A discussion was held about the concerns and suggestions that Debra and Heidi addressed. Renee Thomas made a motion that Heidi and Debra make the changes in the policy bylaws per the board's discussion. Lois Van Houwelingen seconded and the motion passed.
    3. Legislative Chair Wendy Hammrich will report at Leadership Workshop.
    4. Long Range Planning/ Restructuring-Deb Mortensen has no report at this time
    5. Merit Council Chair Lois Van Houwelingen reported that six councils will be awarded a merit council certificate at the awards banquet on June 23, 2015.

6. Nominations Chair Megan Benson welcomed new Vice President Stephanie Laird. Megan reported that there will be six open positions at the end of 2015-2016-- Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Director, Zone B, C, and D.

7. Creative Writing/Poetry- Sue Schutte, Luella Heilman, Carolyn Rubsam reported that winners have been notified. Deb Saylor and Becky Pashek will be the new co-chairs.

8. Scholarship Chair Ed Starckenburg reported that the final awards will be given at conference.

9. Renee Thomas, Technology & Literacy Chair, reported that there were three winners this year. There was a discussion about giving these awards at the banquet. Debra Wake made a motion to give the Technology & Literacy chair and each of the winners of the grant next year a ticket to attend and be honored at the conference award banquet. Michelle Swanson seconded and the motion passed.

#### VI. Officer Reports

a. President Deb Mortensen informed the Board that she will be giving one more dollar to local council presidents to put into a library book for the Dollars in Books Project.

b. Nancy White, President Elect/State Conference Chair, gave the following reminders:

- The 95% Group's cocktail reception—Monday, 5-7 PM, Leadership room
- National Geographic Young Scientist Clare Fieseler-- at conference Thursday.
- Young Authors Celebration—Wednesday, 2-4 PM, rooms 260-262
- Encourage conference participants to complete and hand in evaluation and receive a "thank you" stylus pen.

c. Debra Wake and Heidi Stangl, Co-Vice President--report during Old Business.

d. Nancy Wright, State Coordinator reported about Leadership Workshop preparation, State Coordinator's report, and ILA St. Louis events. Nancy has also signed an agreement with Gateway for the 2016 Leadership Workshop and conference (June 26-29, 2016).

e. Diane Bean, Membership Director reported that she and Nancy White had a table for the Iowa Reading Association at the Early Literacy Conference at UNI in April. There will be a \$1.00 book sale at the membership table and a Plinko game.

f. Treasurer, Michelle Swanson, reported that there was \$176,423.45 in the Iowa Reading Association checking account and \$44,854.92 in a Money Market Account. Discussion about investments should be added to September agenda.

g. Carol Duehr, Secretary/Publications/ Correspondence, reported that the May Newsletter has been put on the website. She shared a thank you from Marlene Reece for the warm welcome from state officers as she assumes the Zone B position.

h. Clark Goltz, Executive Director/ Book Study reported that there were 80 participants this year. He requested that we recruit a new instructor.

#### VII. Old Business

a. A three-year contract has been signed with Iowa State Center, Ames. The dates for upcoming conferences are June 23-24, 2015; June 28-29, 2016; and June 27-28, 2017.

b. President-Elect, Nancy White, reminded board members that the Social Studies Conference will be October 6, 2015, in Des Moines. Nancy and Diane Bean will

- have a booth in the exhibit at the Social Studies conference to promote Iowa Reading Association 2015-2016 conference.
- c. Clark Goltz reported that almost \$9,000 came in on line to “Eventbrite” and will be directly deposited into our account.
  - d. International Convention payment and travel plans, July 2015, reminder that attendees can submit vouchers now for registration only.
  - e. President Deb Mortensen reported that “Grow a Local Council Angel Grants” will be replacing Studies and Research grant. Deb questioned if we need to change the bylaws to reflect this change. It was decided to table until a later meeting. It was suggested that the name be change to “Grow a Council Grant” with the deadline of September 10.
  - f. Karla Bronzynski Reading Scholarship/ School Supplies- Chair Lori Vicker will be awarding 2 awards Tuesday night. There will be a table with Karla’s school supplies in the exhibit area for attendees.
  - g. Board Recognition idea- Debra Wake/Heidi Stangl- It was suggested that each board member write a news release for another board member next year.
  - h. 2016 Conference- “The Power of Reading”- Debra Wake, Heidi Stangl—new dates conflict with another conference so some of the presenters needed to drop out but new presenters are being booked.
  - i. Disbanding of Dallas County Reading Council\*- Becky Pashek and Nancy Wright asked for future discussion about what procedure should be followed to disband.
  - j. Possible 2016 Convention Scholarship in honor of a deceased friend of Debra Wake.

#### VIII. New Business

- a. International Leadership Workshop/Conference Registration/LEADER reception, Booksource or McGraw Hill on Saturday night? Executive board officers have meetings they must attend: Council Leader Session & Poster Session.
- b. Iowa Consortium of Educators at one time had hoped to have a conference and Iowa Reading had given a donation to support their effort. Since the Consortium was never able to have this conference they have gifted donors with monies from their fundraising efforts. Diane Bean made a motion to put the \$2,611.73 gift into general fund. Renee Thomas seconded and the motion passed.
- c. Iowa State professor, Jim Lohr, requested if it would be possible to attend just a couple sessions on special topics and pay a \$30 fee. Deb Mortensen told them that it was not possible.

#### IX. Discussion Items

- a. Past Conference themes- Stephanie Laird requested past themes for ideas.
- b. Conference Chair timeline by Don Ortman- Nancy Wright and Deb Mortensen have revised.
- c. Summer Newsletter Submission date/ Possible new columns Deb Mortensen will share suggestions for ideas at Leadership Workshop.
- d. Miscellaneous

#### X. Announcements

- a. Leadership Workshop, Monday, June 22, 2015, 10:00 a.m., The Hotel at Gateway, Ames
- b. Iowa Reading Association Conference, June 23-24, 2015, ISU, Scheman Conference Center, Ames, IA
- c. International Reading Association Convention, July 17 -20, 2015, St. Louis, MO.
- d. Iowa Reading Association Board Retreat and Meeting, Pizza Ranch, Ames, Sunday, June 26, 2016, beginning at 3:00 and 5:00 respectively
- e. Iowa Leadership Workshop, Monday, June 27, 2016, 10:00 a.m., The Hotel at Gateway, Ames
- f. Iowa Reading Association Conference, June 28-29, 2016, ISU, Scheman Conference Center, Ames, IA

X. Megan Benson made a motion to adjourn and Marlene Reece seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol A. Duehr, Secretary  
Iowa Reading Association