

WACYPAA Advisory Business Meeting

Date: Dec 29th, 2023

Location: Oakland, California

Attendance: Zak, Emmy, Dayna, Ian, Oscar, T-bone, Teresa, Kyle, Merrilee
Secretary: Kyle

Call to order 08:30

Open with Serenity Prayer

Reports

Zak:

- Happy to be here

Merrilee:

- As of today **\$10,005.30** in the bank
- Montana had \$69 in their account that we got
- Got a \$50 cheque from Zoom from Law Suite
- Reg in Montana on Venmo \$78.71, not ours bc of East Bay reg
- \$565 for insurance
- Paid Zak \$640 for banner
- **Pending**
 - Thersea is owed \$447
- **TOTAL: \$9365.29**

Emmy:

- spoke to Utah about a bid, but they were focused on bidding for the state conference
- spoke at ACYPAA earlier this year, and they thinking of bidding, then nothing

Teresa:

- Drove down to ICYPAA and did a bunch of outreach on the way there and back to the native community, did the treatment centre to come drum with a crew from PDX... not sure if the treatment centre is coming.
- Raise enough money in PDX native community to rent air bnb and pay for some of the gas for 6 drummers
- Outreached a bunch in PDX but not much else in other areas except for a little bit in Alaska

Kyle:

- No report

Nikita:

- Regrets (not able to attend at this time - communicated through Zak), no report

Gavin:

- Regrets (no communication), no report

Oscar:

- No report

Dayna:

- No report
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Lawrence:

- Regrets (partner just had a baby -communicated through Ian/Zak)
- Report sent via Zak:
 - Almost 800 views on wacypaa.org since the update
 - ~15 genuine inquiries that were not spam
 - The site still needs work

Tbone:

- Just heard about Colorado, talking with folks in Missoula

Ian:

- Spoke with folks in Oklahoma and Kansas

Rafa:

- Regrets (no communication), no report

Old Business:

- Dayna has [minutes](#)
 - By-laws change for Spanish-speaking liaison
 - Archive transportation, yearly review of archives
 - WhatsApp as a means of communication
 - Travel disbursements
 - Position duration for Native Liaison
 - Gavin's minutes from [MID-YEAR](#)

New Business:

- **Asking future hosts to add line items for advisory reimbursement including travel (put forward by Ian)**
 - **Ian speaks to business:**
 - Heard this is what is the norm at other conferences that the host would cover travel to a point, as having advisory there seems like a central function.
 - Consider making advisory travel part of the core expense... if we keep using the money we have in advisory we won't have any and it makes it hard for advisory to travel
 - saw something that we are not to ask host for more than \$2000?
 - **Discussion**
 - Bylaws checked and clarity provided that the \$2000 is actually \$1000 and that it is the seed money.

- members agree that it needs to happen, as WACYPAA's prudent reserve is going down
 - Several members point out and agree that the Advisory is a core function of the conference and that the conference cannot continue and we cannot do business without the Advisory present; it should be a Core Expense
 - Discussed that other conferences like ICYPAA have it
 - Ian clarified that this would not be instead of the funds already provided from the WACYPAA account, but more so as a starting point and that we would draw from WACYPAA account if travel expenses exceeded that amount. Clarified that his intent was both to help build up a prudent reserve and make it more accessible for advisory to travel
 - Discussed and agreed that the current system of figuring out who gets how much based on distance works and will remain.
 - Agreed by all that we would need to figure out how much.
 - Discussion around whether it should be a percentage or a set amount. Suggested to look at ICYPAA as a blueprint. Brought up that ICYPAA also works to negotiate free or half-price rooms for advisory.
- **MOTION**
 - Merrilee: I make a motion that starting the next conference we request Core Expenses include \$5000 worth of travel for Advisory
 - Ian and Emmy **SECONDS**
 - **Discussion**
 - Teresa requests further clarification around whether this is a base or starting point and at what point we dip into the reserve.
 - Ian clarifies that \$5000 is the base amount
 - Teresa shares that she feels there needs to be a cap to clarify what gets covered.
 - Dayna curious to know what NET we got in the last few conferences, and Merrilee looks into past budgets
 - Kyle looking for an explanation of a "claimable expense"
 - Merrilee states that at mid-year, we decide how much is needed, but that it changes every year - this year it is \$3000... \$3000 split in half, \$1500 is for the hotel is split evenly, the other \$1500 is dispersed as the crowd flies
 - Zak states that we need to take into consideration inflation, and Theresa agrees, suggesting that it should come more from them and less from us, but it should be a joint thing
 - Kyle wondering if it is worth adding the specifics to state that this is a starting point and not a cap so that it does not get misinterpreted by future Advisory
 - **BREAK CALLED 9:42**
 - **Return at 9:55**
 - **Call to vote:**

- **MOTION:** Starting the next conference, we request Core Expenses include \$5000 worth of travel for Advisory
- **In favour:** Emmy, Dayna, Oscar, Ian, T-bone, Kyle, Merrilee
- **Opposed:** Teresa
- **Minority voice:**
 - Teresa: I'm not opposed to including this as a Core Expense, just not in favour of the amount, I think it is too much, especially depending on where it is going. I would be in favour of a lesser amount and to also include the language "to offset the amount" so that it clearly explains that
- **Re-vote for change of heart.**
 - Seeing none, **MOTION CARRIES**
- **ASL Accessibilities for future host committees. The possible new position on the Advisory Council (put forward by Teresa)**
 - **Teresa speaks to business**
 - It was a cluster this year, but considering the priorities, I understand, but that it would be prudent to have that position right off the bat.
 - Happy to train someone on that and the culture of the deaf community.
 - Sent Daniel a description of what the new position would look like - see duties HERE ...
 - More attention to Access needs to be paid by us if we want to see if reflected in the Host
 - **Discussion:**
 - Clarity around whether it would be a liaison or chair position - Teresa clarified it would be the liaison.
 - Discussion around how Advisory is already short on people with several essential positions remaining unfilled.
 - Merrilee states this may speak to a bigger issue of people on Advisory making Advisory a priority - Merrilee states there is something else core that needs to be discussed.
 - Teresa says she hears what is being said about priority, and having that position doesn't mean it would get it filled over other positions, but just having it there shows that it is a priority to us. Reiterates the problem being that it is not happening early enough.
 - Dana shares she also sees the need but wonders what happens if we make it a requirement and ask it to be emphasized in the bid packet
 - Kyle asks if we could make it broad to the extent of asking bid committees to include an "Accessibility Plan" that is reflective of the community in which it operates in
 - Merrilee asks if maybe the bigger conversation speaks to what goes into requirements and restructuring the bid package
 - Discussion about regardless of it being in the bid packet, that someone on advisory is holding Host accountable to their

commitments, and that it needs to be a best practice across the board.

- Discussion around the difference between a chair and a liaison (refer to by-laws)

- **MOTION**

- Teresa: I make a motion to add an Access Liaison to our advisory council, fulfilling the duties outlined above, and that they are an umbrella for access with a focus on the deaf communities., and that this position would be filled in order by a) someone who has served on recent Host, b) someone who has served on Host at all, or c) a member at large

- Kyle **SECONDS**

- **DISCUSSION**

- Kyle speaks to this being an essential position to the effect that no one's identity or the way they access communication ought to be an after-thought, and that having this position shows we as Advisory value this and make it a priority
- Teresa asks if the only barrier is that other positions need to be filled first.
- Emmy asks if adding this position would impact the quorum
- Teresa states that if it was a liaison position it would not - it would be a placeholder with nothing in the bylaws saying that needs to be filled
- Dayna asks if we create a position like this then are we going to need to create a committee to support it?
- Theresa states that this position would be there to encourage the creation of this committee on host and that they have a plan

- **CALL TO VOTE:**

- Ian, T-bone, Teresa, Oscar, Kyle in favour
- Dayna, Emmy, and Merrilee opposed
- no abstentions

- **MINORITY VOICE**

- Dana shares that she thinks we should wait until after the elections, as we don't even have someone to write by-laws which means there is no plan to carry them out
 - Merrilee and Emmy agree

- **Re-vote for change of heart-**

- T-bone, Teresa, and Kyle in favour
- Emmy, Dayna, Oscar, and Merrilee opposed
- Ian abstains
- **MOTION DOES NOT CARRY**

- **Digital registration form (put forward by Zak)**

- Zak created a [Jot Form](#) to make taking online payments easier and make it easier to track registrants right after a new Host is announced, as it takes

info on the back end of things and creates an accurate list of people and names of people who have registered. There will be a QR code to provide to the new Host.

- Zak states that it does however take 4.4% in processing fees... Zak asks, how do we feel about this? Should we tack on 4.4% on the front end or do we eat the 4.4%?
 - After discussion, it is decided to eat the cost as it is small and less than tax.
- Merrilee shared that some of the background was that when we were in Montana and East Bay tried to use Venmo and it was a cluster fuck
- A new email has been set up where all registration will go wacypaaregistration@gmail.com
- Discussion around support for this idea:
 - Would allow for more registration
 - Help alleviate the fear of money being taken
 - Regs are automatically tracked
 - Money deposited weekly
 - Easy to change the price
- Discussion around whether it would take away paper reg - the idea is for this to happen eventually and for Host to encourage online, with suggestion to table discussion around going cashless.
- Discussion around using it this weekend as proof of concept
- **MOTION**
 - Zak: Motion to use the digital registration form - as is - this weekend for the new host committee for a proof of concept
 - Merrilee **SECOND**
 - **Discussion**
 - WACYPAA just eats the fee
 - Discussion around the first 20 people is \$15 but it is going up tomorrow
 - **VOTE - ALL IN FAVOUR, motion passed**
- **Take a break at 11:11- 11:20**
- **Setting clear requirements and expectations for bid committees (put forward by Zak)**
 - Discussion around how some committees knew about when to have the package in, while others did not.
 - Zak stated that he sent a message on Oct 30th to one point person on each committee and that there was communication at Mid-Year that the final bid pockets needed to be printed and to an advisory by 9 am
 - Ian shares he did tell Colorado that we would be going paperless so doesn't feel we can penalize them
 - Discussion around how this discussion is really two parts: clarity around bid requirements and reviewing bid requirements in general
 - Discussion around how to make expectations more clear. Dayna suggests doing a mandatory Info or Q&A session, Zak shares that we need to set our expectations a little higher

- **MOTION**

- Merrilee: Motion that three months before bids are due, [bid committees] are required to set up a Zoom call with advisory, go through questions, etc, then bid packets are due to ADvisory electronically weeks before the conference

- Ian **SECOND**

- **DISCUSSION**

- Dana asks if bid committees can make changes after the digital copy is submitted
- Emmy adds that this would be important especially because hotels sometimes change things

- Theresa suggests a friendly **AMENDMENT**

- Amendment to include that edits can be made after the digital copy is submitted, but that all final edits must be included in the printed copies, and the printed copies must be to each member of the advisory, plus one additional copy for archives

- **Discussion**

- Merrilee asks where the information around this expectation could go where do we put that info so people can access it?
- Theresa - I feel like the zoom part might be a separate motion... the chair should receive a welcome to bidding letter and have it outlined there but it should also be in the requirements
- Ian - posting it on the website on the website, very clearly, here is your timeline and here is all the shit you have to do
- Theresa - Friday amendment - can we remove the zoom part now and make it a separate motion
- Merrilee - to me these are not separate requirements, as tired of getting incomplete hotel contracts... it is super important that bidders get to know us and are comfortable with us

LUNCH 11:55 am - 1:15 pm

- **Discussion of the amended motion on the floor continues**

- Ian agrees with the Zoom call portion and would like to also see a calling of a subcommittee to review bid requirements struck
- Dayna suggests waiting until after the elections so that we have the structure and people to carry out a subcommittee and Zoom meeting, etc.
- Teresa would like to have a motion with just days and times bid packets are expected, everything else is extra

- **Motion on the floor tabled until Merrilee returns**
 - **Kyle SECOND**
 - **Vote - passed**
- **MOTION**
 - Teresa: Motion to remove all the recently added mid-western states from our map.
 - Ian **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION**
 - Teresa presents that we don't have the person-power to outreach to them and they don't come to our conferences
 - We haven't seen a bid since Texas and they have created their own conference since we added them
 - Emmy states that geographically, are those states considered Western and should be considered. Presents that this discussion plays into making space for marginalized communities, especially those communities who live in those states
 - Teresa puts forward a **MOTION** to table this discussion to the next business meeting but wishes to have it in the minutes that it has been proposed
 - Dayna **SECOND**
 - Zak **READS RULE ON TABLING** - we must have $\frac{2}{3}$ majority
 - **VOTED: All in favour, motion tabled**
 - **Return to the discussion of MOTION:** *three months before bids are due, [bid committees] are required to set up a Zoom call with advisory, go through questions, etc, then bid packets are due to [Advisory] electronically 1 week prior to the conference with printed copies to [Advisory] no later than the 9 am the morning of the business meeting*
 - Merrilee: we are getting ahead of ourselves with the sub-committee and puts forward a motion regarding the motion on the floor
 - **MOTION** to table until after elections
 - Emmy **SECOND**
 - Discussion **NONE**
 - **Vote - all in favour, PASSED**

- **Discussion around Advisory who have not shown, sent proxies, or provided reports (Zak)**
 - If Gavin or Nikita wanted to stay on, they would have to take an operating position, but neither of them had been available for some time. Gavin was at mid-year virtually, Nikita at neither.
 - Daniel stepped down from his position as he moved to New York.
 - Rafa has not responded, as not at mid-year and not here.
 - As per by-laws, it can be determined that Nikita, Gavin, Daniel and Rafa have resigned

Elections

- Advisory members without positions: Kyle, Dayna, Oscar, Ian, T-bone
- Theresa would like to stand for Archivist
- **MOTION**
 - Merrilee: Motion to wave the by-laws stating that if you have not served a full year and done a conference yet you cannot run for a position, as the pandemic has created circumstances that have not allowed that for some of Advisory members
 - Theresa and Ian **SECOND**
 - Discussion - **NONE**
 - **VOTE - All in favour, passed**
- **MOTION**
 - Teresa: Motion that we allow standing by proxy, given the Lawerance has sent regrets, a report, and stated interest in standing for a position.
 - Merrilee **SECOND**
 - Discussion **NONE**
 - **VOTE - all in favour, passed**
- *Zak reads out each role description as positions are voted on*
- *Each person who stands and is available reads their service resume*
- **Treasurer**
 - Oscar is available
 - **MOTION** to acclaim
 - Dayna **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION** none
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
 - **OSCAR is acclaimed as Treasurer**

- **Co-Treasurer**
 - Ian available
 - **MOTION** to acclaim
 - Teresa **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION** none
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
 - **IAN is acclaimed as Co-Treasurer**
- **Secretary**
 - Kyle available
 - **MOTION** to acclaim
 - Teresa **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION** none
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
 - **KYLE is acclaimed as Secretary**
- **Bylaws**
 - T-Bone is available
 - **MOTION** to acclaim
 - Merrilee **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION** none
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
 - **T-BONE is acclaimed as By-Laws Chair**
- **Archivist**
 - Theresa is available
 - **MOTION**
 - Ian: Motion to suspend the discussion of an Archivist being brought in at Mid-Year and bring on an Archivist now
 - Merrilee **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION** none
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
 - **MOTION** to acclaim
 - Dayna **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION** none
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
 - **Theresa is acclaimed as an Archivist**
- **Web Chair**
 - Lawrence is available
 - **MOTION** to acclaim
 - Emmy **SECOND**
 - **DISCUSSION** none
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
 - **LAWRENCE is acclaimed as Web Chair**
- **Spanish-speaking Hispanic Liaison**
 - Emmy nominates Nelly
 - Dayna was asked but declined as she does not speak Spanish

- Teresa speaks to her experience as Spanish-speaking and not being a Spanish speaker
- Nelly called into the meeting for further discussion and shared service resume
- **MOTION** to acclaim
- Dayna **SECOND**
- **DISCUSSION** none
- **Vote** - unanimous in favour, passed
- **NELLY is acclaimed as Spanish-speaking Liaison**
- **Indigenous Liaison**
 - Tameem is available, Victor is available
 - Third legacy voting
 - **Vote** - unanimous in favour of Tameem, passed
 - **Tameem is voted in as Indigenous Liaison**

RETURN TO TABLED MOTION

- **MOTION**
 - Merrilee: Motion that ~~three months before bids are due, [bid committees] are required to set up a Zoom call with advisory, go through questions, etc, then~~ bid packets are due to [Advisory] electronically 1 week before the conference with printed copies to [Advisory] no later than the 9 am the morning of the business meeting
 - Merrilee takes Teresa's friendly amendment to remove the section about Zoom
 - Ian **SECONDS**
 - **MOTION ON THE FLOOR NOW READS:**
 - Motion to make it a requirement that bid packets are sent to advisory electronically 1 week before the conference and that printed copies are provided to the advisory council by no later than 9 am the morning of the advisory business meeting with copies for each advisory member and one for archives.
 - **VOTE - passed unanimously**

Last items to discuss

- Merrilee would like to form a hotel sub-committee to share historical knowledge and upskill other Council members on how to thoroughly go through contracts. No problem leading it, and open to anyone else who wants to learn.
 - **ACTION:** Merrilee commits to having more info and invites out the first week of January,
- Zak goes over what is needed for bid Q&A and the rest of what the night will look like
- Round tables
 - Discussion around how long 10 minutes per table
 - Zak pairs of members for round table
 - T-bone and Teresa
 - Merrilee and Kyle

- Emmy and Dayna
- Zak, Ian and Oscar

MOTION

- Merrilee: Motion to close the meeting
- Emmy **SECOND**
- **VOTE** - all in favour, passed

Meeting adjourned 15:43