

ISCYPAA Advisory Meeting

Date: February 10, 2024

Time: 12:30 PM

Zoom ID: 858 068 6515

Password: iscytaa

**Attendance/Introductions:**

James - Chair  
Megan G - Archives  
Meg B - TS  
Tara - Hotel  
Michelle - TS  
Tim H - Webmaster  
Bill S - TS  
Jenette R - Cochair  
Jame R - Treasurer  
Brian - TS  
Emma - TS  
Ryan - TS  
Rian - TS

**Guests:**

Peyton S - Host Chair

**Prayer**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

- Savannah: Motion to approve 1/2/24 meeting minutes
  - Brian - second
  - Motion passed

**Reports:**

- Host Representative:
  - Peyton will email report and will be pasted in once received
    - Questions:
      - Estimated registrations? - less than 300
      - Who are you working with to resolve the registration sheet issue? - Tim H is going to help out
- Chairperson (James P.)
  - Hello everyone. It has been a busy month. We are just weeks away from the conference. I have been in contact with many members of the host committee and different bids.
  - Like always, I try to emphasize that I am only giving my opinion and/or experience. I have been finding it very helpful to point them in the direction of literature from GSO. For example the ASL interpreter and PRAIRYPAA asked “upon a group vote and decision,

would we be able to use some of our committee funds to assist in travel costs to O'Fallon, IL?"

- I have been informed that Kankakee has disbanded and will be mailing a check with their remaining funds to our Treasurer.
  - I reached out to Sean from Springfield and Eric from PRAIRYPAA. Reminding them we are here to help, letting them know we are more than happy to take a look at bid books and provide feedback prior to turning them in. Also remind them to send in their hotel contracts to Tara beforehand for feedback. I will be contacting Seth from Bid 62 to do the same.
  - I will be keeping the schedule for us Advisory members the same as last year's conference, unless someone has a suggestion or objection.
    - Friday: Meet after the Main Speaker- Review Bid Books
    - Saturday: 9am- 12:30 - Bid Presentations (4 anticipated bid presentations)  
2pm - Bid Deliberations
  - We voted in the new "Structure for Site Selection" last year and I think it went well. Let me know if you have any questions or suggestions for this year.
  - Like always, I am here to serve you all. Please let me know if I can help in any way.
- Questions:
- Brian - Structure for site selection, is that in the bylaws?
  - James: yes, will send
- Co-Chairperson (Jeanette):
    - Reached out to Mari from Rockford and confirmed they are planning to bid. Did not confirm if they would be at the open.
      - Ryan - I have been working with Springfield bid and they have asked me to do a walkthrough for a hotel with them. They look like a strong bid this year
  - Secretary (Savannah):
    - No report
  - Treasurer (James R.):
    - No transactions since the last Advisory Business Meeting.
    - As of 02/10/2024 - ending balance is \$23,961.80.
    - James held a sub-committee on Dec 14th, 2023, 8-9pm, regarding making bid seed money indefinite moving forward - cover in old business; provided enough voting members are present.
  - Hotel (Tara):
    - I have been in contact in with Bid 62, prairypaa and Springfield to touch base on how all hotel negotiations are developing.
      - Only contracts have been received from Springfield
      - Did not know Rockford was still bidding until today so will reach out to follow-up with them

- James negotiated the current host hotel contract so he has been assisting host's new hotel chair with navigating the room block and the overflow hotel. I don't want to step in here as James was the initial point of contact for the hotel and I will not be at the conference. James has been keeping me in the loop with regards to developments and issues.
- Outreach (OPEN):
  -
- Archives (Megan):
  - Talked to Host Archives chair - wanted more specifics on recording and told them what we've done in the past
  - Concerned about getting literature to sell. I have a good relationship with our CSO and are able to get what they need on consignment. Host has not yet decided on what to do, but keeping it simple is advised.
    - Comment:
      - Brian - 2023 we got the lit on consignment, anything that was bought was returned to CASO, absorbed cost on the 2 big books we gave away. We had big books, 12 & 12, drop the rock, pamphlets. CASO was not willing to give us \$400 on consignment, it was closer to \$300.
    - Comment/Question:
      - James - My fear is that our old banner will be stolen from Archives room. What's the point if we don't at least put it in Archives.
        - Question: How are we going to protect the old banner?
          - Response: Something for Host to be concerned about
- Webmaster (Tim):
  - Kelsey and Katelyn have reached out wanting changes to website or having questions. I helped both of them.
  - Minutes converted to PDF and uploaded to the ISCYPAA website
- Trusted Servants (Bill, Brian, Emma, Meg, Rian, Ryan, and Michelle):
  - Meg- went to a conference in Springfield, and FIELDYPAA was doing amazing outreach and participating in merch/literature/big book study
  - Ryan - So is Springfield
  - Bill - Talking to folks from EACYPAA and they were asking about getting an outreach table
    - James: Talk to Peyton

### **New Positions:**

- **Outreach**
  - James P - suggest voting a person in for 2 years +1 month

- Tim - why not just doing 1 year +1 month so that all the positions open at the same time?
  - James P: In a couple years, the cycle will get messed up again.
- James R - Clarification: If we only do 1 yr and a month, then cycle is aligned; do we want to adopt the practice of keeping it open for 2 years or just elect people in when the position is open
  - Michelle - If someone has to step down out of cycle, whoever steps in would only fill in for the remaining term? - Yes; Would the person covering the original person's term be disqualified from holding a position in the future? - No
  - Ryan - We've historically operated with a 2-yr term limit and keeping it simple with the spirit of rotation
    - James P - this is what our district and area service commitments do as well (2 yr term limit)
- Motion: James R motions that we vote on a new Outreach person where they take the next month's worth of a service commitment and then 2 years afterward
  - Seconded
  - Meg B - question: we're voting for a potential new advisory members on today - they could potentially be up for open positions starting next year/do they have to be TS for a certain amount of time? - No, they can hold positions right away
    - And they would take 2 years of outreach after? - Yes
  - James P - you're suggesting that we do it like we've always done it plus the one month gap?
    - James R - yes
  - Meg B - who do we have open today currently to take positions?
    - Meg, Emma, Bill, Brian, Rian, plus whoever is voted in
  - Vote: 12 in favor, 1 abstain - motion passes

#### Elections for Outreach position:

- Nominations:
  - Bill - qualification: was Chicago ISCYPAA host outreach chair and well over 30% of attendees came from outside of IL and have a massive understanding of what it takes to make a conference, has multiple other service commitments, willing to work with the Host to make sure the conf makes it to the finish line
    - Bill running unopposed - accepted into position effective immediately
    - Bill to be put in contact with Host Outreach
- **Archives** - term of position is effective after the 2024 conference
  - Nominations:

- Brian M - accepts; qualification: served in many capacities in local Chi, served as 2023 host Hotels chair; can adequately figure out a storage option for the “shit” (aka archives).
    - Rian - respectfully decline
  - Voting (for Brian) - 12 in favor, 1 abstains; Brian accepted as Archives chair effective after 2024 conference

## Old Business

- 8. Seed Money permanent (James R.)-
  - Subcommittee met-
- 7. Retire Banner (James P.) -

### Proposed banner designs



- 4. Tabled Item brought back by Tara:
  - **Tara is unable to attend the conference in March**
    - Bylaw reads, “Missing the conference shall be considered a resignation. Should there be a medical or family emergency, the Council shall add the agenda at the first meeting following the conference to reinstate the Council member at their request and their presence if their term is not complete”
  - A simpler way to do this - Tara is going to miss the conference. Per our bylaws, she can sit in on Zoom on Friday night, but cannot meet on Saturday. This is an automatic resignation. Do we, as a committee, want to consider her reinstatement?
    - Do nothing
    - Vote her back in at Host elections preemptively
    - Do not allow reinstatement, then plan accordingly
    - Have Tara move in as an alternate to the end of the alternates list
      - Questions:
        - Michelle - If there is a bylaw in place, why are we spending so much time figuring this out. Tara losing her job is a family emergency.
          - James - I didn't know the bylaws and this was a mistake on my part. Tara stated she wanted to sit in for the Friday

night Zoom and she is allowed to do so. Trying to manage this the best I can.

- Megan - Motion: Allow the bylaws to play themselves out and preemptively vote Tara back in now so that she is back on Advisory on Monday after the conference
  - Brian seconds
  - Argument - Megan - if I had a family emergency, I think to respect her and her time, I think this is the right thing to do
  - Jeanette arguing for - dropping position on the committee is not the right thing to do so keeping your commitment is the right thing to do if you are able to do that
  - Bill - I am against this as a matter of principle - how can we guarantee that somebody's circumstance will change after the conference so I urge the group to vote no
  - Emma - I have had a family emergency like this before and still fought to have ppl keep their position. I don't think it is a kind or fair thing to do to drop them. I am for this motion.
  - Jeanette - that principle aligns - she's giving us notice, her plan is to stay on the committee; saying it is unclear is not a question to me
  - Michelle - I asked Tara, "do you want to stay on advisory" and she said "yes absolutely, exclamation point"
  - Bill - I want the opportunity to have other people be considered
  - Tara - to clarify - I opened this can of worms again because I didn't want the conference to come and have the committee scrambling about what to do and wanted there to be a plan in place. Any other weekend, it would not have been an issue for me. I hate the fact that because I cannot participate for 36 hours that I would lose the opportunity to serve on this committee.
  - Tim - call to question
  - Voting - 12 in favor, 1 against
    - Minority opinion - if people took out the automatic election of Tara, I would be in favor.
    - Motion carries.

## New Business

1. Should we have a "What's a bid?" info session at the conference and when? (token bids still taken after this)

- WHEN:
- Friday
  - 5pm
  - 10pm
- Saturday:
  - 9am
  - 12pm
  - 4pm
  - 11:30PM (doing it the way we've always done it)
- Motion:
  - Brian - Motion that we make 11:30PM Saturday night of the conference the time slot for the "what is a bid" info session
    - Tim - seconded
    - Argument for: We're already meeting the individuals interested in the info session to begin with and it is the info they need to potentially start a bid anyway so it makes sense to just combine them
    - Voting: 13 votes in favor
- What should they put on the program: "What is a bid" session, just generally after the main session

## 2. How many alternates should we have Host vote in?

- James P - suggest doing 4 alternates because we always run out of alternates; talked about how many alternates we have
- Motion: Tim motions that we have 4 alternates for 2024 (which is 7 total people)
  - i. Ryan seconds
  - ii. Argument - what James said about running out of alts
- Voting: 13 in favor

## 3. Host members voted on the Advisory.

- 21 total Host Committee members:
- 6 meet all of the requirements to go to Advisory.
- 7 that are only missing one requirement. That breaks down as follows:
  - 5 are only missing the age requirement
    - These people are 40, 42, 50. 52. And 57 years old, respectively.
  - 2 are only missing the sobriety length requirement.
    - They will have 1 yr. and 4 mo. and 1 yr. and 3 mo. respectively at the time of elections.
- 8 that are missing more than one requirement. That breaks down as follows:
  - 3 are missing 3 of the requirements.
    - These are age, sobriety length, and length of time on the committee.
  - 5 are missing 2 of the requirements. That further breaks down as follows:
    -

- 1 is missing the age and sobriety length.
  - This person is 45 years old and will have 1 yr. and 1 mo. sober at the time of elections.
- 3 are missing the sobriety length and length of time on the committee requirements.
  - One of these people will have 2 mo sober at the time of elections and has been on the committee for approximately 2 mo.
  - One of these people will have 2 mo. sober at the time of elections and has been on the committee for approximately 1 mo.
  - One of these people will have 1 yr. and 9 mo. sober at the time of elections and has been on the committee for approximately 2 mo.
- 1 is missing the age and length of time on the committee requirements.
- This person is 52 years old and has been on the committee for approximately 2 mo.
- Discussion:
  - Michelle - while I believe the requirements are important and valid, why wouldn't we trust host committee to use their discretion with who they want to roll onto advisory if they know someone is dedicated and experienced, that their support or concern would be reflected in their vote; I believe in the power of the group conscience, we're looking at logistical info on paper, the committee is meeting together and has more info on who would be a fit for advisory
  - Meg - is it us making the exception or Host? - it is Advisory allowing the exception, if we allow it
  - James P - In the past, we left them the way they were. What are we going to waive and when are we going to waive it? After everyone speaks, we'll start taking options. I would say, waive the sobriety requirements, since they both have over a year (Michelle is offended)
  - Brian - Motion
    - Motion that we waive the 2 year sobriety requirement and if that is not enough for them to sufficiently nominate ppl who accept the nominations, then we waive the age requirement.
      - Megan seconds
      - Argument - basic math, we have 7 positions - 3 active advisory with 4 alternates; they only have 6 qualified folks on Host. There is a certain age range that makes sense for a young person's conference but if we don't have enough ppl to be on advisory
      - Discussion
        - Tim - agrees
        - Michelle - If we're going to set aside one, why wouldn't we just set aside all that are conflicting... pass
        - Bill - I respect the spirit but there's the situation we're in. Would you be willing to amend the motion to waive the age restriction on the alternates
          - Meg/Brian do not agree



- Jeanette - question: what about the amount of time served on the committee (b/c this would affect some of the people in the 3rd group of people on Host)?
  - Brian -
    - Motion to amend motion to be: Keep all requirements until all options are exhausted and at that point we open to missing 1 of the requirements for advisory elections (we would elect if they chose to be elected the 6 that meet full requirements and then open the floor to those who are missing 1 of the requirements).
      - Meg accepts the amended motion
    - Bill - does Host get to decide to agree with this on their own? - No
    - James P - Clarification: There are 6 ppl fully qualified; if all 6 accept, we've exhausted all options, then we open up waiving 1 requirement and all 7 of the ppl not meeting just 1 requirement can stand for nomination
    - Michelle - It is important that we add that this is just for this year. - Yes, it is just for this year because it is not a bylaw change.
    - Tim - We don't know how many of the 6 and then the 7 who are interested in serving. What if we are still at 6 people after waiving 1 requirement?
      - James P - if this happens, we'll pause and have our own meeting and then come back
  - Voting: 12 in favor, 1 abstains - motion carries
- Do we call someone else up to vote during the conference in Tara's place?
  - Do nothing, go in with 13
  - Bring someone up temporarily
  - Bring someone up and have 16 people on Advisory next year
  - Rian: Motions that we bring someone up immediately and have 4 representatives from SWSYPAA on Advisory for the remaining term (which is 3 years).
    - Bill seconds
      - Rian - for the sake of fairness, allow them to stay on
      - James R - is 13 people low? - it is suggested we do not go under 10; we've gone back and forth for years
      - Megan - what happens if someone steps down?

- Ryan - against the motion because I don't think we need to do anything; I'm not sure whos spot we'd be filling because we just filled a vacancy
- Tim - SWSYPAA came from all over... fine with whatever the group decides to do. If we do nothing, I read the bylaws as we'd call an alternate up.
- James P - Object to Tim's interpretation. If Tara were to call in with a family emergency on Friday morning. I don't want to do 16, it is complicated. Keep 15, 3 up 3 down, the way the committee was created.
- Bill - in favor of the motion because it corrects the favoritism and wrong of the previous motion - would rather have a full participant
- Michelle - job of an alternate is to fill a space where an advisory member once was and can no longer serve - right now we're talking about using an alt, not because we're losing a member, but because we're losing a vote and I don't think that is appropriate and I don't agree with that
- Rian strikes the motion.
  - Bill agrees, requests tabled until March

Brian motions to close the meeting

- Seconded
  - Michelle - question - how does us not finishing this default to?
    - We will figure out next meeting. We have a month to figure it out.

Announcements

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Motion to Close:

- So moved, passed

Impromptu motion (during Advisory elections): James R motions to waive all requirements to qualify for Advisory to fill alternate positions 6 and 7.

- Point of information-This came up because the 7 people who didn't meet 1 requirement who were in attendance during the 6th round of voting all declined. 2 of those individuals were not present during the first 5 rounds of voting
- Motion seconded by Ryan
- Voting - 10 in favor, 1 abstain, motion carries

Next meeting: March 5, 2024 at 7pm on Zoom

Meeting closing time: