

## ISCYPAA Advisory Meeting

Date: May 4, 2024

Time: 10:00 am

Zoom ID: 858 068 6515

Password: iscypaa

### **Attendance/Introductions**

1. James P - Chair
2. Janette R - Co-Chair
3. Savannah P - Secretary
4. Tim H - Webmaster
5. Bill S - Outreach
6. Brian M - Archives
7. James R - Treasurer
8. Meg B - TS
9. Katelyn TS
10. Michelle D - TS
11. Murphy R - TS
12. Peyton S - TS

### **Guests:**

### **Prayer**

### **Anniversary & Birthdays**

- James P had his 40th birthday

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- **Savannah** - Motion to approve the business meeting minutes from 3/29/24
  - Brian - seconds
  - Motion carries

### **Reports**

- Host Representative.
  - N/A
- Chairperson (James P.)
  - Welcome everyone to the first business meeting of the 2024-2025 ISCYPAA year!!
  - Let's welcome our new members!
  - I am here to serve you. If you want me to do something different, please let me know. I answer to you.
  - I will do my best to keep us on track and away from rabbit holes. Because of the beautiful structure of AA service, everyone has a voice. My main objective as chair is to make sure everyone is heard and informed when we make decisions, PLEASE do not hesitate to stop me if you are confused or unaware of something. Clarifying questions are always welcome.

- **Monthly business meetings going forward will be 1st Thursday of the month at 8PM**
  - Understanding bylaws
    - New changes include hotel contract votes requiring  $\frac{2}{3}$  of entire committee
    - We will be paying more attention to attendance this year
  - Feedback
  - Bid/Host contact
    - If we have an opinion on something as a member of Advisory, we need to start putting this into our reports and bringing it to the committee, not taking it to Host as individuals. This caused confusion/frustration from Host for XLI.
  - There is a long list of New business items. What do you want to discuss this year? See New Business at bottom of Agenda
- Co-Chairperson (Jeanette):
    - Will likely be running Host elections.
    - Have been seeing the reports come in from Host and need to start reading those. Not sure what we are supposed to be doing with those reports.
    - Want to start working on learning more about the bylaws and more sessions throughout the year for our bid committees (about anything and everything)
      - Will start putting some structure around this and bring to our next business meeting
  - Secretary (Savannah):
    - I am working on compiling Advisory's bid committee feedback from ISCYPAA XLI and will be sending out to the respective groups this weekend
  - Treasurer (James R.)
    - As of 03/29/2024 - ending balance is \$24,393.20
    - On April 4 - we deposited PRAIRYPAA bid proceeds of \$269.19.
    - On April 4 - we deposited Rockford bid proceeds of \$290.86.
    - On April 17 - FIELDYPAA zelled bid proceeds of \$1,297.59.
    - As of 05/04/2024 - ending balance is \$26,250.84
    - Working on getting the ledger together and closing out the former Host Committee bank account and disburse any proceeds accordingly
    - James P - brief everyone on what's going on with our Accountant and filing taxes
      - What we've been doing is filing our taxes with just our Advisory ledger (cash flows and bank statements)
      - We're setting up a meeting with our CPA to confirm if that is sufficient or should we be filing our returns with all of the bank info/transaction reports with the Host Committee. Trying to determine what is the best/legal course of action to make sure that we're filing our taxes the right way and not creating any liability for Host.

- I have called MICYPAA for some guidance, everyone has different nuances. Reaching out to other conferences for more info.
  - James P - Questions we are asking the CPA:
    - Is Host allowed to use our tax ID for tax exempt status? Right now, Host cannot do this unless it is for something we are directly signing. There are a lot of implications to this that would make more sense to address separately and bring back to the group for discussion.
    - Does the IRS see us as one entity or two?
  - James P - Info: After the night of the conference - we gave Host and James R the right of decision on how to decide what to do, and right after that, we had the issue come up with the EIN. For now, we're having the new Host use our Advisory bank account in the meantime and suggest telling them to continue to do it that way. Then we take the money for pre-regs/whatever comes in and keep pushing the money to Host from our bank account on a regular basis.
  - **Peyton: I would like to see the regulation that requires the complexity for handling our taxes/EINs separately**
    - **James R to provide as a takeaway**
  
- Hotel (Tara):
  - Notified that would not present, no report
  
- Outreach (Bill):
  - Bid Elections coming up
    - SILYPAA
    - PRAIRYPAA
    - Champagne
  - Reaching out to some other groups
    - Peyton - Has Quincy reached out about elections yet?
      - Bill - I have not heard anything from Quincy yet.
      - James P - I think I got something from Bloomington from Ralph C. Provided bid packet to him from Advisory email and gave him my number and Bill's number (chair and outreach).
    - Peyton - Happy to reach out to Toby Chambers.
  - If anyone else knows anyone on the bid committees, please reach out to them and help with outreach for ISCYPAA
  
- Archives (Brian):
  - No report, but I will be having a subcommittee to discuss Archives storage and establish a stipend for storage costs.
  - James P - removed from New Biz and will do subco
  
- Webmaster (Tim):

- ISCYPPA website has been updated and added everything from last year to digital archives.
- Please let the bids know to send me events they are hosting so I can add them to the ISCYPPA website
- Trusted Servants (Mike, Meg, Rian, Michelle, Katelyn, Peyton, and Murphy):
  - Peyton - Bid Contact: Someone from Bellville reached out to me asking about elections and what the agenda should be. Told her a member of advisory needs to be there and helps to run it. They need to elect a Chair and then their Chair runs the rest of it.

### **New Positions**

- None

### **Old Business**

- Advisory Alternate List (Tim)
  - Proposed Motion, “When someone resigns or is removed from the council for any reason other than an ethical reason, then they will be moved to the bottom of the alternate list from the conference that they were elected from.”
  - This is to ensure that we don't lose the ability to call up qualified people who were elected from the conference at which they served. Although it is important that we move on from someone because they are unwilling/unable to serve, and thus offer someone else an opportunity, it doesn't override their committee's decision that they should be able to represent their committee.
    - Tim: The reason I would not include the sobriety issue in my motion is that when somebody relapses, it doesn't mean that everything they've learned in their time sober goes away. We've all done our work in our committees and on Advisory and that experience doesn't go away.
    - So moved.
    - Seconded (Brian)
  - Discussion:
    - Tim: no extra comment
    - Murphy: Clarification: The proposed motion as it reads on the agenda - is this different than what is in the guidance currently? Is there something that is not working that prompted this motion?
      - Tim: For instance, Tamara, because of her inability to make the conference this past year decided that she needed to step down. Right now, technically, she is not on the alt list for the future and we've had instances for multiple years where Host committees did not have representation on Advisory because of people resigning - some of those people would still have qualified to serve later if this were a permitted way of handling alternates.

- Michelle - Question: When we're discussing bringing people up to Advisory, what kind of voting is involved? Asking because in the motion, when it says "ethical reasons", it sounds like it is based on our opinion, so if we were to call someone up, do we have the most opinions from the committee before bringing them on.
  - Tim: The alt list is just a list and James calls those people when there is an opening on Advisory (based on how they were voted in as alternates). Regarding "ethical issues" - For example: if I stole money from Advisory, and you guys voted and said, "hey, Tim stole money and he should be voted off the committee" - that would be something we'd bring to Advisory to vote on.
  - Michelle - So your motion is to have Advisory members added back to the alt roster because of life stuff. I don't want to put a restriction on sobriety, a length of sobriety can be acceptable to one person.
  - Savannah - A break in sobriety is considered a resignation.
  - Tim - the gray area is that a relapse as an alternate is not accounted for; or if they were elected as an alt and had a break in sobriety and were called up to Advisory, we don't have a way to handle that
- Peyton - As a bylaws issue, the motion as stated, doesn't address the issue at hand. Savannah had stated this before me, but a break in sobriety counts as a resignation, which means you are no longer qualified to serve on Advisory. This happened to an Alternate who was elected from Host XLI. I'm not opposed to this motion, but ultimately why I am okay with it is that, even if a person is added back to the alt list, that doesn't mean that they have to accept being called back up.
- James P - Advisory Council Structure-#5-f
  - When the character of an Advisory Member is called into question, relating to controversial situations outside or inside the confines of the Advisory Council, any Council member may bring said situations to the attention of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall inform the Council Member of their discussion and shall determine whether or not the situation should be added to the following meeting's agenda for the full Advisory Council's knowledge. The member has the right of explanation of said situation should it be added to the agenda.

  - Because there are holes in the clarity of the language, I think we should table this. Like if you step down, I think there are some holes in that. Right now we just call it to a vote. I think the motion should be amended to address the holes.
- Bill - This only applies within the 5 conference window.

- James P - The alternates only apply to the conference window they served on.
    - Jeanette - Questions for subco: **What if someone resigns early in the 5-year span, they relapse and come back and have 2 years again, therefore technically qualify again?** As an alternate, I don't think you can resign by relapsing. Someone newly returned needs to focus on their program. **Is there going to be a cap with people resigning and coming back?**
    - Michelle - Suggest adding a clause to the motion that says "qualifications will be discussed prior to rejoining the committee/being called up". I like the motion but if we need to hammer out details, we can do that.
    - James P - I would amend the motion to add a clause to say if the alt has resigned or if their qualifications have changed, then it would be called to a vote with Advisory. The ones that Host voted in automatically come up to serve. If I call up an alt and ask them if their sobriety/qualifications have changed, I would come to Advisory. If an Advisory member resigns and is added to the bottom of the alt list, and their qualifications do not change, then...
      - Suggested amendment: Any member that has previously resigned or their qualifications have changed, they will need a  $\frac{2}{3}$  council vote.
    - Jeanette: If Tamara, for example, wants to come back, then we can discuss. Need to make sure the expectations are set.
  - Peyton - Motion to table
    - Seconded (Bill)
    - Votes - 5 in favor; no against
    - Motion tabled
  - Comment from Meg - For the newer members: Don't be shy with subcos. The discussion we just had was great and made good points, but this is the type of thing that a subco should be used for to make our actual biz meetings more efficient.
- \*\*\*Getting Host to share Google Doc of Financials (Tim)
  - Have this added to the Host Committee packet would allow us to look at the finances whenever we need to (as opposed to asking the Treasurer of Host to share the document with us).

## New Business

- Link to full list of New Business backlog - [New Business Items](#)
- Social Media (Brain) - Plan subcommittee
  -

- Schedule info sessions/ Workshop - Jeanette will host a subcommittee
  - for the year for the bids and host committee on various topics like event planning, keeping a budget/balance sheet, getting hotel contracts, etc. (Jeanette)
  - advisory to go through our resources like bylaws, Robert's rules, maybe even concepts to help us all grow this year in our service. (Jeanette)
  - Budget Workshop (James P)
  - Concepts of World Service Workshop (Murphy)
- Advisory Bylaws Chair (Peyton) - bump until at least July

### **Guest Q&A**

### **Announcements**

Bill - MNYPAA is next week in Brooklyn, MN

- HACYPAA upcoming
- ICYPAA is July 4th weekend in Austin, TX

**Our next business meeting will be Thursday, June 6th at 8PM**

Motion to close. So moved (Brian) Motion carries.

Meeting closing time: 12:15PM