

IJEA Board Meeting Minutes

10:30 a.m., Feb. 28, 2009
Gregory Hall, University of Illinois

- I. Call to order at 10:42 a.m. by President Sarah Doerner. Attending: Stan Zoller, Barb Thill, Carol Smith, Sarah Doerner, Heather Snapp, Sally Turner, Dan Kerns, Linda Jones and Joni Paige. Cathy Wall joined at 11:45.
- II. Approval of minutes from Sept. 26, 2008—note Sarah’s name misspelled on p. 3. Minutes accepted as presented with the correction.
- III. Treasurer’s report
Sally presented the report for Susan Tantillo. Sally has one bill yet to submit for about \$40 for printing of the newsletter. She indicated James Tidwell does not think the copier at EIU does a good enough job at duplicating the newsletter, so the newsletter is now printed by an outside agency. She will also have a bill for food for board meeting. Report accepted for file.
- IV. Old Business:
 - a. Update on IJEA Awards
 - i. Journalist of the Year—6 entries. Discussion followed on when to present the award—at the awards luncheon or at the school. Barb indicated it would be nice to present the award plaque at the school in front of peers in recognition of the recipient's efforts and the award check at the luncheon. Presenting the money at banquet may serve as motivation for coming to the banquet. It was decided to present the student's plaque at the school and give the money at the luncheon.
 - ii. Administrator of the year—no entries as of yet.
 - iii. All State Journalism Team—Discussion ensued about some turning in late entries. Sally indicated that she would take entries for the next couple of days.
 - iv. Friend of Journalism. Heather indicated that she has not received any entries as of yet. Discussion followed on who might be nominees. Sarah will talk to John Gonczy to get a list of those nominated last year that are still in the file. Sarah noted that on the IJEA webpage May 1 is listed as the deadline on the calendar; nomination award form indicates June 1. Webpage needs to be corrected to reflect June 1 deadline.
 - b. IHSA Journalism Contest dates
Sectional sites: seven sites. There was discussion on the change to Friday for the final competition and the challenge and positives of the change. Sally discussed having adviser meetings run by IJEA board members and the importance of those. Linda announced that students from the Chicago area would be able to ride a bus that is being paid for by SPAC,
 - c. Reports and updates
 - i. No report from Lynn Holley. Will get the date for the 2009 ISHSPA conference.
 - ii. Executive Director's Report attached. Sally also talked about the Teacher Resource Fair (attached). Sally discussed High School Multi-Media Training and provided a 1/2 sheet outlining the workshop (attached). Newsletter is almost done and will be out within the week. Sally discussed a "Teacher of the Year" idea and the award would be given in conjunction with EIU. Sarah recommended the committee drafting the Hall of Fame criteria also look at the notion of TOY award. Finally, Sally talked about the letter “The Value of Scholastic Media” from ASJMC. Sally will send this out to the board electronically. Discussion followed on additional outlets to send this letter to.

- iii. Randy Swikle's report attached. Student directive learning was discussed as far as passing some type of prior review legislation. If not now, when? Discussion ensued about the topic. Dan Kerns suggested inviting Pat Quinn to our June banquet. President Doerner will extend an invitation to Gov. Quinn to attend after checking with Kim. Heather brought up Randy's two questions from his report. It was decided that our qualifications mirror JEA's qualifications.
- iv. Regional groups. Stan Zoller presented information about KEMPA's workshops. They will have two workshops this year. Flyer attached. Winter advisers' program is next Friday. Linda mentioned the March 19 SPAC workshop; Sally announced the EIU student workshop July 5–18. Barb mentioned NISPA's meeting April 24 at College of DuPage. Cathy Wall reported on the SISPA conference held Feb. 24. She noted that Herman Albers, current SISPA director, was retiring from his teaching job at the end of the current year.

V. New Business:

- a. All State Journalism Team Luncheon prices will be \$15 per meal. Motion by Joni and seconded by Linda to pay an additional \$5 for IJEA contribute if needed. Motion carried. Sarah will talk to Kim Filson in regards to contacting Gov. Quinn, to see if it would be appropriate for him to extend a few words or not, if he can attend.
- b. Teacher Resource Day was discussed during Sally's report. She encouraged advisers to bring others from their school—from other departments.
- c. IJEA mentoring program. Mentoring was discussed and how can we expand the number of mentees into the program. Also discussed was the need for more mentors throughout the state. Question arose about how we identify potential mentees—perhaps through regional groups, workshops and teacher fairs. Barb suggested sending information to coordinators of mentoring about new teachers in the individual districts. Sarah asked "how do we select the mentees once names have been submitted"? Stan asked about Yearbook mentors and Sally explained that yearbook advisers get help from yearbook company representatives.
- d. Censorship issues: Cathy Wall discussed her censorship issues. She indicated that she had never been contacted by an administrator but that her case went right to executive session and decisions made by the board were never voted upon by board in open session. Barb Thill overviewed her case. Many parallels were noted in the two cases. Sally indicated that we need to have a plan in place to help advisers and students in cases such as this. Stan suggested that each region should have a "disaster pack" in place with the name of a person who would be the "go to expert" to assist and represent the interest of the IJEA, the adviser and students. Stan suggested the following three items. "Develop a rapid response team", "introduce legislation" and "continue to support Cathy and Barb." Sarah appointed the following individuals to follow-up with support. Rapid response: Stan Zoller and Randy Swikle; reintroduce legislation: James Tidwell and Sally Turner; Support for Barb and Cathy: Sarah and Sally. A letter to the board of education and administration from Sally and Sarah on behalf of IJEA will be sent. Sally will run it by James Tidwell. Also the letter will go to the local press. It was suggested that IJEA purchase the Quill and Scroll book to distribute to all principals and superintendents.
- e. "Value of Scholastic Media" was covered under Sally's report.
- f. Membership Goals for year—directory— It was suggested that Sally talk to Susie Knoblauch and suggest that it would help for contact purposes if the IHSA would make it mandatory that the athletic directors make it a part of their reporting duties to include the names of the journalism teacher/adviser names on their IHSA report. It was felt that unless the directory by IPF could be published each year, because of the turnover in advisers, many would be missed. Printing yearly would be expensive.
- g. Recognizing retiring advisers—Sally suggested recognizing longtime advisers that have not been on the board. Lifetime Achievement awards are given to individuals who have served the IJEA board in a committed fashion. Sally suggested that the board make an additional service award that would recognize advisers throughout the state for dedicated service. Difficulty would be to

- identify retirees. Sally suggested the regional groups. Several names were mentioned of people who are retiring. A pin or a nice pen was suggested for retirees. A pen was decided upon with an inscription on the side. A motion to establish an award to honor retiring Illinois advisers for dedicated service was made by Cathy Wall and seconded by Stan Zoller. Motion passed. The award would be given at the June awards luncheon and include an engraved pen and certificate with a press release to local newspapers. Sally compiled a list of names of known retirees.
- h. TOY award discussed and Sarah will refer the award to the Committee on the IJEA Hall of Fame for it to establish guidelines.
 - i. Additional Celebration ideas - The idea of license plates was discussed. Sarah will contact Jesse White's office for details on costs and procedures involved. It was discussed that plates might be too expensive. Also talked about IJEA bookmarks. Sally will look into the cost of bookmarks. Joni will look into license plate frames (metal) costs. All will report back at the June board meeting.
 - j. Review status of IJEA directors- Sarah presented a list of those directors whose terms expire this year. There was discussion on how to recruit board members. Sectional and State might be a good place to gather names. Sarah appointed Sally and Heather to the Nominating Committee. Joni will assist Sally in obtaining a nominee for Region 1. Ballot will go out in the newsletter. A motion was made by Stan Zoller and seconded by Dan Kerns to accept the following director slate nominees for three year terms as presented: Barb Thill, John Gonczy, Jennifer Reiser, Sarah Doerner, Carol Smith, (with a name to be obtained for Region 1). Motion carried. Officers will be elected at the June meeting.
 - k. Other—Received two thank you notes (Heather Snapp and Mrs. Swikle). Notes were read to the board.
- VI. Upcoming dates - Reminder that the awards luncheon and IJEA Bd. meeting are scheduled for June 6 in Springfield.

Meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Submitted by Dan Kerns