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**IJEA Board of Directors
Minutes
September 14, 2007
ISHSPA Conference, U. of I., Champaign**

Attending: Sarah Doerner, Mike Doyle, John Gonczy, Joni Paige, Jennifer Reiser, Heather Tanner, Susan Tantillo, Barb Thill, James Tidwell, Sally Turner, Cathy Wall

Absent: Lynn Holley, Linda Jones, Dan Kerns, Deb Malcolm, Kelly McBride, Randy Swikle, Stan Zoller

- I. Sarah called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm. She appointed Heather Tanner as Acting Secretary in Dan's absence.
- II. Minutes of the June 9, 2007, meeting were read and approved (Gonczy/Tantillo).

III. Treasurer's Report

Susan reported that there are 16 members who joined or renewed their membership for 2007-2008, and there is a balance of \$12,186.56.

IV. Old/Ongoing Business:

- A. The officers discussed goals for the upcoming year in an Officers' Meeting on Aug. 25, '07 in Charleston (see more details under New Business).
- B. Directors were reminded of the following IJEA Nomination Deadlines:
 1. "Journalist of the Year" to Randy Swikle, IJEA State Director (Feb. 1, 2008)
 2. "Administrator of the Year" to James Tidwell (March 1, 2008)
 3. "All State Tournament Team" to Sally Turner (March 1, 2008)
 4. "Intergenerational Student Writing Award" to Sarah Doerner (March 1, 2008)
 5. "Friend of Journalism Award" to John Gonczy (May 1, 2008)
- C. The following IHSA Journalism Contest Dates were also reviewed:
 1. Deadline for School Online Entry (Feb. 1, 2008)
 2. Deadline for Submitting School List of Participants (Mar. 24, 2008)
 3. Sectional Competitions (Apr. 19, 2008)
 4. State Final Competitions - Eastern IL. U. (Apr. 26, 2008)
- D. Reports:
 1. State Director's Report: In Randy's absence, Jennifer reported that Randy will be giving a report to the Illinois Press Association and First Amendment Center next week.
 2. IJEA Ex. Director - Sally Turner provided updates on the Newsletter/Website/J-Conference

V. New Business:

- A. Proposed bylaw changes were discussed and approved; all of the changes involved minor clarification or addition of language.

In bylaws 3.07, 4.01, and 7.04, “mid-winter” meeting was changed to “spring” meeting. In bylaws 3.18 and 6.03, email was added as an option for the president to notify the Board and members of meetings. Finally, bylaw 5.01 was changed to allow only the president to appoint committees instead of “any director.” John Gonczy made a motion to approve the proposed changes; Joni Paige seconded. The vote was unanimous.

- B. Election of Regional Board Members in 2008

The following regional directors are up for election in spring 2008: Mike Doyle, Dan Kerns, Joni Paige, Heather Tanner, Cathy Wall, and Stan Zoller.

Sarah appointed a nominating committee with Susan as chair and Barb and John as members. Susan will provide names of those who have expressed interest in being on the board to Sally by February 1. Voting will take place in April.

- C. Proposed Goals for the Year

1. Membership Drive Project

John reported that mailing labels for Illinois schools were obtained from IHSA, and each principal will receive a letter and survey for their media advisers to complete. John has a vision that every principal in Illinois will walk the letter to their media advisers and ask them to complete the survey. The IPF is cross referencing, so surveys will only be going to schools who haven't already completed them.

2. Publicity Project

Sally reported that a template for a press release was created, and information will be sent to local publications about organizations and people involved in scholastic journalism.

Sally had a new IJEA banner to make our organization more visible at events (and it looks great!).

The Web site has been moved to Eastern, where it will be updated.

A board member will be at the advisers' meeting at each IHSA regional to make us visible and help us meet advisers.

3. Resource Materials to be Developed and/or Distributed

Packets are being sent to new and renewing members on an annual basis. Currently, members will receive: a welcome letter, information about SPLC, and resources on copyright and libel laws written by James Tidwell.

4. Develop Policy Manual/Guidebook for IJEA Board Members
This will include a history of IJEA, list of board members, bylaws, regional directory, map, calendar, membership forms, regional information, and roles and responsibilities. Sarah will email board members to determine if there are other things that need to be included.

D. Ideas/Activities for IJEA 20th Anniversary Celebration

At the officers' meeting, the officers discussed having a reception at the November 2008 JEA convention in St. Louis for IJEA members.

Board members discussed having a recognition dinner in October 2008 in Champaign due to its central location and prestige of the University of Illinois. The dinner would include those who started IJEA, past presidents, and honored guests, approximately 125 people. Linda Putney was suggested as the speaker. Susan looked into some U of I venues and provided a list of other possible venues. Heather will get estimates for venue possibilities and report to John. Cathy suggested making the dinner a black-tie event. Sarah suggested the possibility of charging for tickets and posed the question of who will pay and who will be paid for. Sally suggested having a committee look into obtaining a memento for each guest, such as a mug. Susan will contact life members about the dinner. Board members came to a consensus that the dinner is a good idea and should be looked into further. A budget will be presented by the March meeting.

Another idea is to have a road show travel from region to region or do something at each regional conference in celebration of IJEA's 20th anniversary. Doing something at IHSA regionals was also suggested.

Sarah shared a whole list of additional celebration ideas for board members to consider.

- E. A Calendar of Upcoming Events was distributed. If anything needs to be added or changed, email Sally and she will add it to the Web site.

VI. Upcoming Dates:

- A. The next IJEA board meeting will be on Saturday, March 1, 2008 in Charleston.
- B. June 14, 2008 (Springfield) IJEA Bd. Meeting and All-State Luncheon