

Evangelical Press Association

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 6, 2019

held at Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Directors Present:

Eric Thomsen, president
Carol Pipes, president elect
Rick Knoth, treasurer
Sandra Glahn, secretary
Marquita Smith, advisor
Terry White, advisor

Also Present Were:

Lamar Keener, executive director

Call to Order

Eric Thomsen called the meeting to order. A quorum of directors was present. Eric led a devotional on hope from the Book of Jonah.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the fall 2018 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

Director's Report

Lamar Keener presented a detailed report to the board. An item of note for the future was that Lamar is aware of and working on the need to increase diversity of the EPA convention speaker lineup. Sandi volunteered to, if necessary, raise funds to cover extra costs to fly in keynote speakers. The board discussed the Tyndale Foundation grant and the international recipients in attendance at the convention.

New Business

Future Conventions

Future convention locations were announced:

- 2020 Colorado Springs – Cheyenne Mountain Resort
- 2021 Mid-Atlantic

Scholarship Contest

The board reviewed the scholarship contest report prepared by Lamar.

Douglas Trouten Scholarship — \$4,260 available

It had been previously determined that the funds donated specifically in the launch of the Doug Trouten scholarship should go to University of Northwestern-

St. Paul applicants, provided they merited the award. The lone applicant from UNWSP did not score well with the judges this year. The board agreed that the award should not go to an unworthy recipient.

Motion by Carol: To award \$2,000 to Seana Scott from DTS for the Jerry Jenkins Award; \$1,000 to Tyler Cleveland from North Texas University for the Doug Trouten Award; \$500 each to Natallie Rocha from Point Loma Nazarene University and Catherine Nolte from John Brown University using funds out of the Doug Trouten Scholarship Fund.

The board members from John Brown and DTS recused themselves from the vote.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

The board discussed grad vs. undergrad students. It was agreed to determine winners on a year-by-year basis, but to be conscious of graduate students having an advantage over undergraduate students.

Contest

The board reviewed the statistics for contest entries. 2019 was a record year.

The board discussed the challenge of digital entries, which come in three iterations.

Motion by Rick: To eliminate the e-Newsletter membership category in the Awards of Excellence and create a Higher Goals category in which any digital publication can enter their e-newsletter.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Honorary membership

Motion by Terry: To bestow honorary membership on John Lindner with *Advancing Native Missions*.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Motion by Terry: To bestow honorary membership on associate member Osborne Buchanan, who worked for years on the editorial side of a number of mission boards. Seconded.

Motion carried.

Membership 2019

The board reviewed membership reports prepared by Lamar. EPA is lagging a bit on renewals for 2019. Yet, fiscal-year revenues are likely to meet or exceed the

last fiscal year, due to the 2018 dues increase now in full effect for all members. Attrition is, however, improving.

Convention

The board reviewed convention attendance and revenue reports prepared by Lamar. Paid registrations are about the same as last year.

Financial Review

Software

Lamar has been using outdated software. He asked for EPA to cover 50 percent of an upgrade (only half requested, because he also uses it for personal use).

Motion by Eric: For EPA to cover the full 100 percent of the cost of an annual subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud. Seconded.

Motion carried.

Review of financials

Lamar provided a comprehensive update on EPA's current financial status as well as a forecast for the future

Approval of preliminary budget for 2019–20

Lamar submitted a proposed budget for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Motion by Rick: To accept the proposed budget.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Board travel expenses

The board discussed the option of having board members bear part of the cost of meeting semi-annually. It was decided that while we are in a time when the budget is balanced, such a measure is unnecessary.

Discussion Items

2020 board elections

Next year the board will replace Rick (treasurer) and Marquita (advisor). The board reviewed a list of committed EPA members to keep in mind for nominations.

MTI (Magazine Training Institute) board invitation

EPA often partners with MTI. They have invited Lamar to serve on their board.

Lamar asked the EPA board's permission to take on this commitment as well as covering the expenses for him to attend one meeting per year in person.

Because such a decision involves additional expenditures, it was determined that the board would discuss this in executive session.

Recruitment for members from underrepresented groups

EPA received \$700 from CET toward recruiting members from underrepresented groups. Lamar invited suggestions.

Executive director succession plan

Lamar provided a document to outline instructions for succession. Each EPA president is to pass on the information to the next president, and one password unlocks all the others.

Associate members

Eric and Lamar led a discussion about extending full membership benefits to associate members. Carol agreed to draft proposed wording for the board. Marquita volunteered to help.

Next Board Meeting Date

Lamar will coordinate the next board meeting date for fall.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned into an Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Glahn, Secretary