

## **Evangelical Press Association**

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS April 14, 2020**

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held via Zoom videoconferencing as a result of the annual convention and in-person board meeting being canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Directors Present:**

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

#### **Directors Absent**

None

#### **Staff Present**

Lamar Keener, executive director

The group had a season of prayer for EPA members.

#### **Call to Order**

Carol Pipes called the meeting to order. A quorum of directors was present.

#### **Approval of minutes of fall board meeting**

Motion by Marquita Smith: To approve the minutes of the Board Meeting of November 9, 2019.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

#### **Director's Report**

Lamar Keener presented a detailed report to the board.

#### **Old Business**

#### **Bylaw changes**

The board voted unanimously to ratify a motion, passed via email vote on Nov. 20, 2019, that changed certain bylaws regarding membership categories and board quorums, as had been discussed at the Fall 2019 board meeting

Motion by Marquita Smith: To amend the EPA Bylaws by deleting and amending current language in Article I, Section 1; Article I, Section 2; Article III, Section 3; Article XI, Section 1; as referenced in document EPA Bylaws REV 04.20 DRAFT2.doc.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

The bylaw changes will be presented for adoption to the full membership at the next full-membership meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Convention Cancellation**

The board discussed the implications, including financial impact, of canceling the 2020 Colorado Springs convention due to the COVID-19 pandemic and national lock-down.

### **Disaster Aid**

Motion by Terry White: To approve the participation in the Paycheck Protection Act and the Economic Injury Disaster SBA Loan (EIDL) created by the US government in response to COVID-19.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

### **Webinars**

The board reviewed the series of webinars scheduled for this spring and discussed the idea of hosting virtual conferences in the fall.

### **Conventions**

The board discussed the idea of moving conventions to the fall and directed Lamar to survey members about the best time for conventions.

### **Sponsors**

The board discussed the challenge of recruiting sponsors for the conventions.

*Carol Pipes temporarily exited the meeting.*

### **HDI**

Lamar introduced a proposal from Humanitarian Disaster Institute (HDI) for a COVID-19-related virtual summit. The board determined we are not inclined to pursue their proposal.

### **MTI**

The board reviewed a report submitted by Magazine Training International (MTI) documenting the participation of EPA members in MTI training events.

### **Tyndale Grant**

Lamar Keener reported on the status of the current Tyndale grant and the prospects for another grant currently under review.

*Carol Pipes returned to the meeting.*

### **Scholarships**

Motion by Dan Stelzer: To award the Jerry Jenkins' Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 to Lily Journey and the Douglas J. Trouten Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 to Maggie Noble. An additional scholarship of \$1,250 is to be awarded to Catherine Nolte.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Lamar reported that Jerry Jenkins has agreed to extend the funding of his scholarship for another five years.

### **Awards Contest**

The board reviewed a report of the 2020 awards contest and discussed adding new categories.

Motion by Rick Knoth: To add three new Higher Goals categories: Infographics, Photo Use (Digital), and Podcasting.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

### **Honorary Membership Candidates**

Motion by Dan Stelzer: To grant honorary membership status to Mark Galli (former editor of *Christianity Today*) and Sharon Mumper (director of Magazine Training International).

Seconded.

Motion carried.

### **Membership**

The board reviewed the membership report and an attrition report.

### **Financial Review**

The board reviewed various financial reports, including the remote office allowance, income/expense and balance sheet reports, and the proposed budget for 2020-2021.

Lamar presented a membership-dues-increase proposal. The board recommended tabling the decision until the fall board meeting.

### **Board elections**

In light of the inability to vote in new board members this spring as a result of canceling the convention and business meeting due to COVID-19, the board had previously voted, in a March 19 video conference, to invite Rick to stay on as treasurer for another year until an election can be held. While Marquita was also invited to continue, she will be ineligible due to her change of employment. The board agreed to leave her seat vacant until an election can be held. Terry and Sandi agreed to extend their terms on the board by one year to 2022 in order to maintain the normal rotation of board terms.

### **Executive Session**

Lamar excused himself while the board moved to executive session, which ran from 2:50–3:18 CDT, at which point Lamar returned.

Motion by Rick Knoth: To approve the preliminary budget as submitted, subject to changes at the fall board meeting.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

The board expressed its appreciation for Marquita's long-standing service on the EPA board.

Motion by Marquita Smith: To adjourn the meeting.

Seconded.  
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 PM CDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Glahn, Secretary

*Approved Nov. 17, 2020*