

Evangelical Press Association

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 11, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held in person at the Lancaster Marriott in Lancaster, PA.

Directors Present:

Dan Stelzer, President
Sandra Glahn, President-elect
Leah Pickard, Secretary
Warren Maye, Advisor
Ann-Margret Hovsepian, Advisor

Directors Absent:

Danny Conn, Treasurer

Also Present:

Lamar Keener, Executive Director

Call to Order

Dan Stelzer called the meeting to order after a time of devotion and prayer. A quorum of directors was present.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Ann-Margret Hovsepian: To approve the minutes as distributed from the November 11, 2022 Board Meeting.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Director's Report

Lamar Keener gave a detailed directors report to the board.

EPA Convention Report

The Director presented a brief update on 2023 EPA Convention attendance and sponsorships.

New E-Trade Account

The Director gave an update on a new brokerage account that will allow people to donate stock to EPA.

Defining Honorary Membership/Legacy Council/Lifetime Achievement Awards

The Director outlined the terms of the Legacy Council, honorary membership, and the Terry White Lifetime Achievement Award.

Motion by Leah Pickard: To ratify renaming the Joseph Bayly Award to the Terry White Lifetime Achievement Award to recognize those who, during their lifetime, have made exceptional contributions to the field of Christian journalism; and to recognize Joyce Ellis and Sharon Mumper as recipients of the Terry White Lifetime Achievement Award; and to appoint Terry White, Diane McDougall and Mark Winz to the EPA Legacy Council.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

Discussion on Continuing Membership for Publications with Controversial Content

The board revisited the topic of EPA members who produce content that doesn't seem to align with EPA's doctrinal statement, values and belief.

EPA Website Rebuild

The Director reported on the launch of the new EPA website.

2023 Convention Report

The Director gave an overview of the conference ratings, attendance, and sponsorships for the 2023 Lancaster Conference. The board reviewed convention profits and loss charts for the EPA Conference.

The Director gave the 2023 convention preview for keynote speakers, activities, and sponsorships. Future convention locations were also discussed.

DigitalMediaCon 4.0

The board discussed suggestions for speakers and topics.

Scholarship Contest

The board discussed how to award the 2023 Scholarship Contest winner(s).

Motion by Ann-Margret Hovsepian: To award the \$2,000 Jerry Jenkins Scholarship to Anna Catherman of Houghton University and to award the Douglas J. Trouten Scholarship in the amount of \$750 to Samantha Leon of Taylor University.

Seconded.

Motion carried.

2023 Contest Report

The director gave an overview on the three-year trends for the contest entries.

Categories for Freelancers

Discussion to add more award categories for associate members and podcasters for future contests.

Motion by Sandra Glahn: To allow associate members to submit podcasting entries for award consideration.

Seconded.
Motion carried.

Best In Class

The director discussed the participation numbers for this summer contest and agreed to continue another year.

Clarifying Award Categories

The board discussed changing the division for PDF-formatted publications in the Awards of Excellence from digital to print.

Motion by Leah Pickard: to combine print format and PDF/digital format into a single Awards of Excellence division called Traditional and to retain the Digital publishing division for content-driven websites.

Seconded.
Motion carried.

Contest Entry Fees

The board discussed adjusting the award entry fees and judge compensation.

Motion by Sandra Glahn: To change entry fees to \$55 for Awards of Excellence and \$30 for Higher Goals.

Seconded.
Motion carried.

New Format for Compiling Winning Entries

The board discussed creating a compilation for winning entries and designs to include links and actual assets for members to use as a reference document.

EPA Membership Report

The board reviewed a summary of membership statistics including attrition numbers, new members and membership breakdown.

Dues Increase

The board discussed current and future EPA membership rates and potential auto renewal for various EPA members.

Motion by Sandra Glahn: to increase the membership rates as proposed by the Director.

Seconded.
Motion carries.

Honorary Membership Recommendations

The board discussed appointing new honorary members.

Motion by Ann-Margret: to appoint Joyce Ellis, Carolyn Curtis, and Jim Uttley with honorary memberships in EPA.

Seconded.

Motion carries.

EPA Budget Review

The board reviewed the EPA annual budget.

Other Financial Document Review

The director discussed other EPA financial documents. The board reviewed the remote office allowance report, the financial investments, 75-for-75 Anniversary fundraising campaign, the profit-and-loss comparison, and balance sheet comparison sheets.

Executive Session

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 3:14 pm (EST).

General Session Called Back to Order

Dan Stelzer called the general meeting back to order at 3:30 pm (EST).

Budget Approval

Motion by Sandra Glahn: To approve the suggested budget, with an addition to make a one-time bonus to Theresa Keener for \$1,000 (net) in appreciation for her contributions to rebuild the EPA website.

Seconded.

Motion passed.

New Business

Branding/Design

Board discussed EPA brand, logo, design and organizational name change.

Meeting Adjourned

Warren Maye motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 pm (EST)

Second.

Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leah Pickard, EPA Secretary