

WAAL Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 19, 2017 6:00 pm
Osthoff Lake Resort, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

Present: Laurie Swartwout (Chair), Jeff Brunner, Andrew Prellwitz, Jill Markgraf, Lee Wagner, Craig Thomas, Pete Gilbert, Joe Pirillo, Josh Hickman, Renee Ettinger, Plumer Lovelace

Absent: Janet Padway

- I. The meeting was called to order by Laurie Swartwout at 6:00 pm
- II. Andrew Prellwitz moved to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2017 meeting, Josh Hickman seconds, and the motion passes unanimously.
- III. Reports from the officers
 - a. Chair – Welcome to the 2017 conference and thank you for being here. Thank you to the conference planning committee for all of their hard work.
 - i. Next year’s conference is in Oshkosh at the newly remodeled Waterfront Hotel and Conference Center.
 - ii. Brigitte introduces the possibility of Waukesha as a location for 2019. It is harder and harder to get the dates we want. Please send her possible locations by May 5th.
 - iii. The current registration for 2017 is 170 people.
 1. WAAL has lost 80 members in the past 3 years.
 - iv. Josh Hickman and Andrew Prellwitz will use previous surveys to ask the general membership how much the location factors into the decision to attend among other questions. We should also look at data about the membership.
 - v. The July meeting date has been changed to the 14th.
 - b. Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Andrew Prellwitz – Nothing to report.
 - c. Past Chair, Pete Gilbert – Nothing to report.
 - d. ACRL Liaison, Janet Padway – No report.
 - e. Member at Large, Josh Hickman
 - i. In the future, a call will come out from WLA for volunteers. In the application, people will be able to indicate that they would like to volunteer for WAAL and they will be referred to us. There have been comments from members that they don’t know how to get involved or that the committees are “clicky.” This would create a central, uniform place for people to volunteer and hopefully encourage participation and clear up confusion. This will eliminate the need for nominations committee.
 - ii. WLA approved a motion to rewrite their membership committee structure. The new committee is 9 members appointed by the WLA President that are all at large with a 2 year, staggered term. The goal will be to have representation from all divisions but if it is not possible to get representation from all groups, then it doesn’t interfere with the work of the group. The committee’s job is to recruit members for WLA as a whole, not for the divisions. This will eliminate the need for a WAAL membership chair.
 1. There was some concern expressed about the potential loss of representation by divisions.

iii. Applications for the leadership institute are coming out soon.

IV. Committee Updates

a. Conference Committee Co-Chairs, Renee Ettinger and Craig Thomas

i. Thank you to Renee for her 2 years on the Conference Committee.

ii. This year we are featuring the 2 day conference and the speakerless lunch. Info Lit awards will be given during the lunch.

iii. Everything is going well and always keep an eye out for future volunteers.

b. Professional Development Chair, Jill Markgraf

i. We received applications from each category eligible for scholarship.

ii. The mentor program was difficult to set up and may not be worth the effort.

The Pro Dev committee will investigate and report back.

1. The question was raised as to why professionals aren't included in the scholarships. Something to look at in the future.

2. When the scholarships come out we can send them to career services and put something out at WLA.

c. Communications Chair, Jeff Brunner

i. The Pre-Conference newsletter came out today and the post-conference newsletter will be a more robust report on the conference. They are always looking for more content so please send them things.

ii. Jeff will be recruiting for the Communications Committee this year.

iii. Jean Anderson, WLA President is at the conference and she is going to be walking around getting sound bites from people for promotion.

V. Old Business

a. The two long vacant positions will be eliminated. Others come up for election this year but the new volunteer model will not be ready in time so we will have to fill those the old fashioned way.

VI. New Business

a. We can ask vendors to support scholarships if they offer and if we would like to request funding we just need to clear it through WLA first so we are all on the same page and we aren't asking the same person twice.

b. WLA is looking into creating special interest groups. Some of our units are struggling and if we form special interest groups instead of units it is easier for them to form and dissolve. We will know if it is successful by their longevity.

c. Last year, WLA created a student task force. They have been organizing events.

i. WAAL is very interested in including students on the board, and anywhere else possible.

ii. How to we capture online students and get them involved?

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.