

ESCYPAA Advisory | 11/27/2017

In Attendance: Andy C., Danielle H., Dana W., Martial Z., Jon J., Billy B., Carolyn D., Bobby H., Sarah L, Braden S., John M., Lisa C., Chris C., Kristin F., Jamie C., Casey F., Mercedes B., KC C., Courtney O., Jenna N.

Absent: Meg F. [sent report]., Maya G.P.

Meeting called to order at 9:17pm with the third step prayer.

I. REPORTS

a. Chair [Billy]:

- Welcome to our new members! Our calls generally take place the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 9:15pm unless otherwise stated. Please mute your phone when you are not speaking. As we are now a committee of 23 people, I will be timing all reports and discussion. This makes it imperative that you submit reports before the call.
- All members holding a named position are expected to give a report. Any member may give a report on any call, please submit prior. Dana and I are working on strategies to disburse reports so that any, or at least some, confusion can be cleared up before the calls. As discussion will be limited, please take time to form clear motions with supporting material before bringing them to the committee for debate.
- Our first in-person (required) meeting of the year will be immediately following host elections on December 16th. They have a room we can use for the duration of the evening. We will elect our bid liaisons and remaining alternate slots at this meeting as well as cover reports and old or new business.
- If you did not receive the agenda I sent out, or would like us to use a different email, please let me know!

b. Co-Chair [KC]:

- Host elections December 16; let me know of any questions about the Buffalo area, transportation, or any other organizational questions.
- Host will start meeting tomorrow night to start reviewing bylaws; Rob M. will be heading that up.
- I've had great conversations with many members from different bid committees. There is lots of excitement which is great.
- Someone please help me remember to go to the damn post office.

c. Treasurer [Jenna]:

- I am still waiting for 2 people to cash the disbursement checks.
- I can use today to do some more research on QuickBooks; looking for anyone with experience to contact me.
- I need advice on the best method to deposit the \$750 seed money into the ESCY 5 account.
- I am working on a budget for the upcoming Advisory year which I am hoping to have completed to vote on at elections.
- Account balances:

WF Host 1 Account 6793	ESCYPAA 4	\$749.08	CB Host 1 Account 8083	ESCYPAA 4	\$18,939.61	ESCYPAA 4 Total	\$19,688.69
WF Host 2 Account 1429	ESCYPAA 3	<i>Closed 10/12/17</i>	CB Host 2 Account 7990	ESCYPAA 5	\$211.75		
WF Main Account 1486	Advisory	\$3,159.03	CB Main Account 8075	Advisory	\$224.00	Advisory Total	\$3,383.03
WF Total		\$3,908.11	CB Total		\$19,375.36	WF Total & CB Total	\$23,283.47

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report [KC C., seconded by Bobby H.] Passed unanimously.

d. Secretary [Dana]:

- I am actively taking notes right now and have nothing new to report.

e. Hotel Chair [John M.]:

- Since the convention, I had a call with Billy, KC, and Rob M. from BUFFYPAA to go over the needed changes/additions with the Adam's Mark contract, which I have pasted below ***attached*** so you all are in the loop as to what we are looking for so that we have everything in the contract so there is no room for misinterpretation, etc. If you have any questions/additions please reach out to me so I can answer them for you.
- I have also attached ICYPAA's Hotels 101 ***attached*** document which Jon mentioned in an earlier email (and Martial passed on to me) which would be useful for everyone to read through **(at a minimum once before next year's convention so that the language in contracts is understandable and we don't get stuck on standard language, etc. when going through the contracts so that we can keep moving at a good pace during the bid sessions)**.
- I am going to reach out to the hotel chairs after each committee has their elections (unless they just had them and are going to be in their position for the foreseeable future, in which case I will make an effort to reach out to them in the next few weeks).
- Changes to and questions regarding Adam's Mark contract ***attached***
- On December 16, walk through of hotel with myself, Billy B., and Rob M. to make sure all looks good.

f. Outreach Chair [Danielle]:

- Continuing to reach out to members of all the committees about the events for December.
- Went to HYVYPAA Gratitude Banquet the night before Thanksgiving; well attended
- Outreach position is open; should be voting on next business meeting
- Will be at STCYPAA Elections and Taco Night on December 9, as well as Host Elections on December 16 in Buffalo.
- STCYPAA is having an Alkathon and dance the same weekend as NECYPAA; I will be at NECYPAA if anyone is available to attend the STCYPAA event.
- LICYPAA will be bidding for EACYPAA; Casey F. just sent an updated contact list. There is a LICYPAA-NYCYPAA event on December 9 in Long Island.
- NYCYPAA will be sending an updated contact list shortly.
- Spoke to John B. from WORCYPAA; they're trying to get moving again.
- Waiting for updated contact list from ROCYPAA.

- Syracuse Bid: I have spoken to Nick; he asked if anyone from Advisory would be available to come speak to them, possibly at their elections (date and time TBD).
 - *[Andy C.]* ROCYPAA Elections will take place January 13; looking for members of Advisory to attend and help out.
- g. Web Chair [Kristin]:
- Not too much to report; web site had been down but John M. fixed that today. Reached out to him and Mercedes B. for guidance on what to do. Will look into it more in the future, and will touch base with Dana W. about getting minutes onto the website.
 - The website will be updated, as per a recent request.
- h. Archives [Chris]:
- I have all of the previous ESCYPAA archives; is anyone aware of any pieces that I do not have? I will not be at Elections but can coordinate a pick up some other time.
 - There are a lot of large poster boards, so I'm looking for ways to keep those in good condition both while I have them and over the long term.
- i. Prayer and Unity [Meg]:
- I've posted a question a day on the Advisory Facebook page over the past few to get to know everyone better. Three members that I know of aren't on Facebook so I'm looking for more inclusive and unifying things to do.
 - I'll be at the Host elections in Buffalo and have been trying to connect with other prayer / unity chairs, as well as bid city members to let them know they can reach out to me as a resource throughout the year.
 - It's been a rough past few days and certainly a reminder to hold my loved ones close. I love you all and am here to chat, listen to unity ideas, etc.
- j. HVYPAA Bid Liaison [open]:
- k. STCYPAA Bid Liaison [open]:
- l. ROCYPAA Bid Liaison [open]:
- m. NYCYPAA Bid Liaison [open]:
- n. Syracuse Bid [open]:
- o. WORCYPAA Bid Liaison [open]:
- p. Open Reports:
- Jon J.:
 - I attended CSCYPAA this past weekend and committees in attendance were HVYPAA, NYCYPAA, NENYYPAA, and STCYPAA. I was a little concerned that I didn't see BUFFYPAA, however I did hear that they were at MCYPAA, which is obviously great. I spoke to Roman and Rob about emailing me pre-registration fliers and they did promptly. I wasn't able to print any at the hotel so I'm almost certain we didn't get anything from that convention.

- I've also had conversations with Will G. about NYCYPAA's concerns with their relationship with advisory and some suggestions they might have for us from the bid city perspective.
 - Logan was also there and I had some conversations with them about some internal struggles and successes of STCYPAA and my experience as to how we made things better in Rochester.
 - Host will have elections December 16th.
 - STCYPAA will have their elections December 9th after their taco event.
 - Holiday Extravaganza will take place January 6th. I spoke to Jeff from STCYPAA about being involved and they are going to bring it to their committee this Thursday.
- Casey:
 - Helped facilitate NYCYPAA elections a few weeks ago; Dean will be the new chair.
 - LICYPAA-NYCYPAA event December 9. If anyone wants to crash, let Casey know.
 - LICYPAA is bidding for EACYPAA!
 - NYCYPAA is cohosting an event with a committee from New Jersey on December 16.
 - Spoke to several members of different committees who requested an Advisory forum, maybe as part of the Elections event on December 16.
 - Jamie:
 - About 5 people met last night to discuss the future of WORCYPAA and what they want to do, how to do it, etc. There are a lot of new, inexperienced members who need guidance. They will begin looking for a meeting place. Until they find a space, they're going to meet again December 10 at 7pm and I will try to attend to check in. No election date yet, but the main contact person will be Jess Vera.
 - Bobby:
 - The Holiday Extravaganza will take place on Saturday, January 6. We are waiting to hear back from churches about the space. NENYPAA will be reforming and will hold elections earlier in the day right before the Holiday event.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- Banner Ad Hoc [KC]
- Business Research 501(c)(3)
- Non-Discrimination Policy Ad Hoc [Chris]
- Archivist Ad Hoc [John M.]: I'll be sending out an email to gauge interest / best time to do a meeting about the archivist stuff.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- **Motion to approve the proposed ESCYPAA IV disbursements [Dana W., Jon J. seconded]**
 - Jenna: Does the \$250 just spent to renew the website come out of ESCYPAA IV or V's budget? *[Discussion]* It should come out of Advisory's operating budget, not ESCYPAA IV's.
 - Kristin: my phone died at the worst time but I trust the disbursement decisions. One question: did the recording company ever receive any money to replace the laptop that was stolen? Dana: we discussed this as a committee and since he did not want any reimbursement, we decided not to.
 - Mercedes: Please resend the spreadsheet to everyone. *[Dana emailed spreadsheet to all.]*

- Jon J.: How did the host committee decide on which Districts to give money to?
- Dana: We relied on our trusted servants who have been active in general service in this area for a while for their recommendations, and since there are 18 districts in Area 48 we chose the 6 most active and geographically closest to Albany.
- Andy.: Please use my Gmail account so I actually get these emails.
- KC: Can we get some more information about the missing laptop?
- Bobby: He was sad that it was stolen, but did not blame the host committee or attendees. He was more upset about the archives and work that was on the laptop than the computer itself, which is irreplaceable.
- Will the missing laptop impede him from completing his work of recording future conventions? Do we need to be mindful of his relationship with future conventions?

Vote [Yes: 6; No: 3; Abstain: 3] Motion carries.

- Minority Opinion:
 - Jon: We shouldn't be deciding which parts of the state are more active; Areas and Districts should receive equal disbursements.
 - Martial: We should reimburse the vendor for the missing laptop. If part of the hotel was damaged, we would incur a fee for that. He didn't make enough to recoup the cost of the laptop. We need to treat all our vendors like we would any other vendor.
 - Mercedes: Nothing new to add. I agree with Jon and Martial.

Was anyone swayed? Yes. Discussion is reopened.

- KC: I would like more information on what the monetary loss was for the laptop. I personally agree with Martial about how we need to treat our vendors.
- Jenna: Question about the different disbursement among the Districts. Long Island doesn't have Districts so that was confusing.
- Chris: I would like to see an even distribution of the funds among the Districts. The laptop was left unattended, which is not our concern. There is also not evidence that it was definitely someone from our convention who stole it.
- Martial: The fact that he got up on the mic on Saturday night and spoke about the laptop made my decision right there. A vendor is a vendor; he came to do a job. As a vendor, if a piece of my equipment went missing, I might not demand payment but it would factor in to my future business. We need to make this right.
- Jamie: My position regarding the laptop is the same as what Chris said. It's up to us to be responsible with AA's money and I don't think reimbursing him is what we're supposed to do with this money.
- Jon J.: ESCYPAA II and III disbursed the money evenly; we should distribute money equally. It's each of our responsibility to take care of our belongings, and he has been doing these conventions a long time and should have taken better care with the laptop.
- Bobby: ESCYPAA I and IV both took place in Area 48; just like ESCYPAA I decided to disburse funds in the area that that committee served, that's what we decided. I feel bad that he lost his laptop, but it's not the item he's upset about; it's the material that was on, which we cannot replace.
- Andy: As an Alternate, I couldn't motion for this to be tabled, but I think that the number of abstentions and the number of people who said they hadn't had time to read this is concerning.

- Braden: I have a bad taste in mouth about not dividing money equally among the Areas and Districts.
- Casey: I think the funds should be evenly disbursed, but the committee knows their area best. So I'm conflicted.
- Carolyn: This is YPAA service – you can't make everyone happy. At our discussion not everyone agreed but the majority agreed with this breakdown. I personally feel like the money should be evenly disbursed, but there are good points on both sides. Regarding the laptop, I don't feel it's our responsibility to reimburse for it.
- John M.: Regarding disbursements, on ESCYPAA I we disbursed money to Districts we had committee members from and which were more active. I understand dividing it evenly but with 18 Districts it would be a huge decrease in the amount we could send to each one. This is a New York state convention, so the Area percentages should be split equally. When I go to a hotel, there's a sign that says give us your personal belongings and we can store them, otherwise we can't guarantee their safety. There were also hotel staff and non-attendees who were in the area during our convention, so we can't be sure it was someone from ESCYPAA.

Second vote [Yes: 4; No: 8] Motion fails.

- Jon J.: Do we decide on a new disbursement breakdown, or does this go back to Host? Billy: We should involve Host as much as possible.
- Jenna: On ESCYPAA III we brought it back to Host.
- Chris: We had disbanded right after making our disbursement recommendations; Advisory voted it down and made their own changes.
- Casey: I remember voting on it again after Jenna created the pie chart thingy. We should come up with specific Advisory Committee suggestions and have one or two point of contact people for Host members to get information from to eliminate confusion.
- Bobby: We haven't officially disbanded so we can meet again to discuss this.
- Martial: It's up to Host to create the final disbursements, and to Advisory just to approve or disapprove.
- Billy: I'm going to email out a survey to see when everyone is available for another call to continue this discussion later in the week. Check your emails!

Meeting closed at 10:45pm with the Serenity Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dana W., Secretary

Disclaimer: The meeting minutes herein are a summarization of meeting procedures, not a verbatim transcription.