

ICTA August Board Meeting Minutes

President Jason Paull convened the Iowa Community Theatre Association state board meeting at 12:04 P.M. at the Waterloo Community Theatre's Walker Building on August 10, 2019. Also in attendance were vice president Helen Beneke, secretary Donna Smithson, newsletter editor Loween Getter, and board members Cheryl Clark, Molly Ketchum, David Kilpatrick, Pam Ratliff, Norman Ussery, Mel Wilson, and by phone Cheryl Zieringer.

Helen moved to accept the minutes as previously distributed; Mel seconded; carried. Treasurer Gerard Schwickerath, who was unable to attend, noted that there had been no activity in the books so the May report was reviewed again and needed no action since it was approved in May.

Awards Committee —

Cheryl Z. reported. Because of the price of the goblets awarded to various winners during the annual Gala, they are searching for prizes of equal integrity but lower in price. In an effort to support other arts, a decision was made to open up an opportunity for Iowa artists to submit applications to create a minimum of twenty individual objects at a price of \$25.00 or less. Methods of making this opportunity aware to the general public were discussed. Because this came from a committee, no motion or second was needed; vote carried for the awards committee to continue in this vein.

A discussion was held regarding the board members' reviewing of productions as requested by the local theaters. There have been three where no board member was available.

John Olson is working on the rubric to be used for reviewing and when accepted, it will be published in the newsletter and placed on the web page.

Children's shows that have developed out of a one-week camp situation should not be submitted to be reviewed. This was not the intent of the children's division of categories. Further discussion will take place at the November meeting.

Cheryl C. then gave an overview of the upcoming March Convention and listed events they are planning for Friday night, Saturday, and Saturday night. They are making use of the surveys' suggestions as they plan topics. Input is welcomed from all members regarding topics to explore. Dates named were March 27-28; site Des Moines Playhouse and other nearby venues.

A host application for the 2021 Festival has been developed. Check Center Stage newsletter and the web for more information.

Institutional Review Committee —

Norman reported. A capsulated "Iowa Community Theatre Highlights" which succinctly lists and briefly explains eight facets of the state board has been developed, and Norman thought it might be more useful than printing the by-laws and standing rules which, out of necessity, have a lot of redundancy. The board members saw this paper as a good marketing tool to help local theaters know the purpose and value of being a state board member. This action does not need membership approval, but it does require approval from the board. Therefore, Jason referred it back to the Instructional Review Committee for further review based on the discussion and input of the board.

Membership Committee —

Mel reported. Brainstorming how to get more non-member theaters to join. Need to try to find reasons why theaters do, or do not, belong. What is the value of ICTA? How can that be increased?

Nominations Committee —

No chair. Members with 2020 expiring terms are Helen Beneke, Cheryl Clark, Tracy Rhodes, Mel Wilson, Cheryl Zieringer. Nominations members are Jason Paull, Donna Smithson, Molly Ketchum, Pam Ratliff, Tammy Sposeto.

New business:

L. K. Boutin grants will be decided at the November board meeting.

Jason has received some questions from local theaters regarding legal advice. No ICTA board members are trained to answer legal questions so the consensus was for Jason to keep giving a list of resources for legal advice to those who are asking for help. Remember to always check out AACT personnel as a resource on legal as well as other questions. Loween brought up the topic of Farley's having accepted an invitation from AACT for a troupe of youth to perform during the recent National AACT Convention in Gettysburg. When Loween asked Farley about the funding, the response was that they received a small compensation from AACT. Loween thought the Iowa board might want to make a donation because these actors were showcasing our state. There was much discussion around topics of finance: the theater did not request this money, a Boutin grant might have been appropriate, finances should not be determined after an event, this is not in the ICTA budget because it's not been done before, and other concerns. David made a motion that \$250.00 be awarded to Farley because since they were representing our state in an AACT event, not only were the youth attaining a positive experience, but the state was receiving recognition. No restrictions would be placed on the payment because money was not requested. It is one way ICTA can compliment a theater who has achieved a National exposure. Helen seconded; 5 voted yes; 4 voted no; carried. A check will be sent to A Road Less Traveled theater of Farley. It was suggested that a committee set up a stipulation in the ICTA rules for acknowledging and funding this type of future situation.

Jason and Cheryl C. provided information on the Strategic Planning session which will be the focus of the November 8-9, 2019, meeting in Ames. Cheryl C. moved and Norman seconded to approve up to \$2800 (anticipated \$2650) to secure the consultant, Rick Brimeyer, of Brimeyer, LLC to facilitate our strategic planning session. Jason will work out the details. Motion carried.

Mel moved adjournment at 2:20; Cheryl C. seconded; carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Smithson, Secretary