

**NAI Great Lakes Region
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2023
3:00PM EST
Zoom**



Present: Mandy Martin, Paul Cypher, Brianne Warthman, Hannah Teshka, Michelle Fournier, Kaitie Janecke-Soltesz, Renell Roebuck, Lindsey Harrel

Interim Director and Treasurer: Renell Roebuck

Renell had some difficulty finding the dashboard and the information within. It moved.

In the dashboard you can record your hours you put in for NAI

Brianne wondered if it was just in-kind hours, not hours that you were actually being paid at your facility

It is in the budget for the director to go to National Conference, so as interim is Renell the one to go. Everyone suggests, yes.

In reference to the Regional in March of 2024, Debbie contacted the Ann Arbor Visitor's Bureau and visited several locations and got a quote and contract, The Kensington has to go through Song for the contract to be approved.

Natural history museum from the University of Michigan Debbie emailed but hasn't heard back.

The RIW will be Monday thru Thursday March 18-22, 2024

Michelle wanted feedback from the Brown County workshop and see if attendees liked the new format of mobile workshops on Thursday instead of Wednesday.

Kaitie thinks it seemed to go fine

Michelle has one person already offered to help with programs. She has also reached out to a person who is a mastodon expert

Michelle will send out a save the date to enlist committee members

Brianne has a few contacts who are interested in helping and will send the information to Michelle and Debbie

Renell suggested 2025 at the new Hocking Hills Conference Center

Treasury Report: RIW spring 2022 statistics- 83 registered, \$18,000K at venue, keynote speaker \$4,500, committee was comped, \$100 discount to all of the speakers, bags were \$500, they thought the hotel stays were all free as well, Angie paid for them out of her own money

Numbers aren't final

25439

24295

1144

Kaitie felt as though the registration announcement was so late & prevented the number of attendees from reaching the goal of 100. Debbie said historically the regional was announced just after Christmas

Debbie would like to try to get as much as the information out sooner for next year

\$3938.25 scholarship funds raised.

Renell still waiting on the \$2,000 from National office

Hannah asked if we had a total from the national chicken auction, yes at \$2015.00

Renell said we did well in the merchandise sales but still doesn't have the numbers finalized

Secretary: Mandy Martin

no update

Awards: Paul Cypher

Becky Parkin stepped down, Cynthia Coss from Ohio stepped in. Still trying to recruit someone from Ontario, the committee can function without it until someone from there steps in. Paul is doing both the national awards committee and the regional awards committee

Comparison of titles of awards of what national uses and what they changed them too

Dropped Master, everyone agreed the word master was referring to a skillset, not negative but they changed it anyway to Distinguished interpretive manager.

Outstanding senior retired interpreter-to outstanding senior interpreter

Outstanding interpretive volunteer to outstanding volunteer interpreter

Meritorious service to meritorious service to NAI

Do we want to see our region also change the titles to match the national titles? Paul is in favor of that.

Debbie suggested doing a poll through FourThought and collect comments from region members with a timeline of when to complete the changes.

Paul's update about award protocol: The 75% Protocol is simply a mechanism that allows the Awards Committee to filter nominations that don't meet the standards intended for a successful nomination. Fundamentally, a solid mechanism does not exist, thus allowing sub-par nominations or solo nominations to be recipients. It allows for a more standard assessment instead of a committee member simply saying "I don't like it" - a concept which may become difficult to quantify or qualify.

The 75% represents 75% of the total point possible. As different award utilizes different point totals, 75% becomes more standardized in implementation.

Communications: Kaitie Janecke-Soltesz

Submissions for FourThought has been pretty good and if you have tips or tricks you'd like to share, send them to her.

Cherise is taking a brief sabbatical from her committee, due to her workload.

Update logo when finalized from Lindsay.

How was Lindsay FourCast? She had 3 people attend. It went well and a lot of information was shared.

Paul had 8 attendees. Do we want to continue with these or consider a different approach?

Membership: Brianne Warthman

Bird a thon- no one from Indiana this year

267.50

Brianne has a spreadsheet of people who have expressed interested in volunteering. Its on the google drive

Awarded 3 comp memberships

Mentorship- sending out a form to anyone who participated, looking for feedback

Kaitie is going to send out the form and gather the info and then decide if they're going to do it again this fall

Scholarships: Hannah Teshka

Auction went very well. Needs some fine tuning for logistics and organization to be reviewed at Pokagon next January

Working compiling committee member lists

Helped a CIG class with new members. They were all surprised to learn of the websites and social media.

Hannah: there is an overlap in committee members. Is there something that needs to be done about that? It's not advised to be on multiple committees. Have her decide which one she wants to be on.

\$150 professional development not claimed. New cycle just started in May. The national applications are due June 30. Kaitie will send out a reminder.

8700 left in budget. Should we bump up some of the scholarship totals?

Voted in January to add a student scholarship. Is there a process in place, or should Marie and Hannah just put together a layout for that application? The did update the national scholarship online, made sure winners do not register ahead of time and added not having earned a RIW scholarship in the last 4 years.

Scholarship winner duties, is it mandatory or flexible, or just a suggestion of so many hours.

Veronica Fazio is interested in the student involvement committee. Debbie will take care of getting her the information.

Ways and Means: Lindsey Harrel

The first logo round wasn't successful but there is another round in the works.

October 11-9-10am next meeting

Debbie: elections has someone interested in treasurer, someone possibly for secretary.

Director is going to be elected in and Kaitie is going to put out information recruiting interested people.