



Board of Directors

(Teleconference)

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2009

Present:

Executive Committee – Ben Page, Todd Redenius, Angie Cole

Directors-at-Large –Doug Bylund, Janet Ellerbrock, Doug Foley, Matt Salvatore,

Faron Van Nostrand

Staff – Steven Jordison

Absent:

Great Lakes Regional Council Representative – Glen Cowan

Directors-at-Large – Matt Beatty

Staff:

Steven E. Jordison, Executive Director

President Ben Page called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

President Page discussed the purpose of the meeting was to address the Board Action Form as presented by ad-hoc awards renaming committee. Vice President Todd Redenius is the ad-hoc committee chair (as appointed by former President John Hagener).

Vice President Redenius brought forward the BAF by recapping Mr. Gil Spence's request letter. Following the February 2009 board meeting, the Awards committee was empowered to investigate the situation then provide a written recommendation to the board of directors for action. Failing to provide a clear direction from the Awards committee, President Hagener then implemented an ad-hoc committee to not only to investigate but create criteria for future use.

The ad-hoc committee then met on April 7 during the Spring Conference in Coralville.

A copy of the BAF is accompanying these meeting minutes.

Following Vice President Redenius' comments, President Page requested a motion based upon the ad-hoc committee's recommendation.

Motion: Director Janet Ellerbrock to rename the Richard J. Slattery Professional Award to the Slattery-Trueblood Professional Awards (effective 2010). Empower the ad-hoc committee to create a full set of protocol criteria for future reference. These criteria would then be included within the Association by-laws upon approval of the board of directors at its May 2009 meeting. Second: Doug Bylund.

Discussion centered along the follow items: currently all named awards are in memorial rather than after a living person. Criteria should be developed to resolve this situation. Decisions on naming should be based upon qualifications rather than health or work status. The Association should still look at a “life-time achievement” award.

Motion passed unanimously.

President Page then directed Vice President Redenius to work with Mr. Spence in crafting an announcement to the membership.

President Page then concluded the meeting by updating the board on the status of committee chair selections and requested board members to select a focus area for the next year.

Education – Faron Van Nostrand, Janet Ellerbrock

Advocacy – Doug Bylund, Matt Beatty

Resources – Matt Salvatore, Doug Foley

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Todd Redenius; Second – Matt Salvatore.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ACTION FORM

Submitted By: Todd Redenius, Vice President

Meeting Date: Conference Call, April 17, 2009

Agenda Item#: 1

SUBJECT:

The subject that is being considered by the IPRA Board of Directors is the renaming of the Richard J. Slattery Professional Award to the Slattery-Trueblood Professional Award.

BACKGROUND:

On January 13, 2009 a request was made to then president John Hagener by Dubuque Leisure Services Manager Gil Spence that the Richard J. Slattery Award be renamed the Slattery-Trueblood Professional Award. The Board of Directors considered this action at a subsequent meeting and ultimately deferred the request to the Awards committee. The Awards committee considered this action in March 2009. In summary, the Awards committee believed that criteria needed to be set in place so that a procedure could be followed when requests of this nature are made. The committee also acknowledged that Terry Trueblood is a deserving individual and that something of significance should be done to recognize his outstanding service and contributions.

Mr. Hagener then appointed an ad-hoc committee to address this matter and requested the committee do the following:

1. Make a recommendation on the best way to recognize/honor Mr. Trueblood.
2. Set a policy and procedure to follow when requests are made to name awards or other honors. This includes but is not limited to establishing criteria for these awards.

The ad-hoc committee; consisting of Todd Redenius, Gil Spence, Ben Page, Terry Hoffman, Terry Gray, and Steve Grimes, met Tuesday April 7 at the Spring Conference to discuss this issue and develop a recommendation for IPRA Board action.

After significant discussion, unanimous consensus was reached that the Richard J. Slattery Professional Award be renamed the Slattery-Trueblood Professional Award. Rationale for this decision is as follows:

1. Mr. Trueblood is Iowa's most distinguished parks and recreation professional, with many well-documented accomplishments at the state and national level. Adding his name is appropriate given that the award is Iowa's top parks and recreation honor for professional service.
2. The Slattery Family is supportive of the renaming of this award. Gil Spence, prior to making the recommendation, approached the family. They are supportive and pleased that this is being proposed. They fully endorse this request. Mr. Slattery and Mr. Trueblood were close friends and even worked together for a period of time, which adds to the feeling that this is the appropriate.

ALTERNATIVES:

There are three legitimate alternatives.

1. Approve the committee's recommendation.
2. Modify the committee's recommendation.
3. Defer or Deny the committee's recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The ad-hoc committee recommends to the IPRA Board of Directors:

1. The Richard J. Slattery Outstanding Professional Award be renamed the Slattery-Trueblood Professional Outstanding Award.
2. The renaming of the Award shall be announced to the IPRA membership as soon as possible. The first Slattery-Trueblood Outstanding Professional Award will be presented at the 2010 Spring Conference.

The ad-hoc committee will develop a full set of criteria and procedures to follow as it relates to all IPRA Awards. These criteria and procedures will be completed by April 30 and presented to the Board of Directors for action in May. Please note that the criteria and procedures will address among other

things the precedent is being set in renaming this award. Despite not having criterion in place yet, the committee felt strongly now is the appropriate time to rename the award and believes it is the proper course of action to move this issue forward for approval in an expedited fashion.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

The naming of awards and development of criteria is the purview of current membership. Policy, procedure, and criterion should be incorporated into the association by-laws.

Staff is supportive of re-naming the Richard J. Slattery Outstanding Professional Award to the Slattery-Trueblood Outstanding Professional Award. For future reference, it would be wise for either the ad-hoc committee or Awards committee create a statement paragraph which reflects who these two individuals are, history, reason for the naming, and purpose of the award.

Additionally, the ad-hoc committee should request input/comments from the Awards committee as to criterion prior to final Board review and ultimately approval.

BOARD ACTION:

The board of directors voted unanimously for recommendation #1 with the stipulation the ad-hoc would create criteria for future naming/re-naming of all awards. Criteria are to be presented to the board of directors at its May 2009 meeting for their review and approval.