



**Board of Director's Tele-Conference Meeting
Thursday, March 10, 2005**

President Keith Abraham called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

Roll Call: Keith Abraham, Ronald Hopp, Mark Ripplinger, Patrick Prevenas, Terry Gray, Geoff Hubbard, Todd Schenck, Julie Sina, Bill Blanchard, Lori Branderhorst

Absent: None

New Board Members Present: Ben Page, Angie Nelson

Guest Present: Steve Grimes

Staff: Steven Jordison

Prior to the meeting starting, Keith Abraham welcomed new board members and Steve Grimes. He then discussed tele-conference protocol.

Approval of January 20, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 20, 2005. Motion by Patrick Prevenas, seconded by Julie Sina. Motion carried.

Agenda Alteration: Legislative Update was moved to later in the agenda to accommodate guest Steve Grimes.

Fall Workshop Aquatic CEU

Before beginning, Keith Abraham expressed the Board's appreciation to Steve Grimes and Lori Branderhorst for switching years. He also mentioned gratitude for the Bettendorf Park and Recreation ability to organize the 2005 Fall Workshop on such short notice.

Steven Jordison gave brief description of our current Certified Pool Operator and Aquatic CEU provider agreement with Pool Tech Midwest, Inc. In the agreement, roles and responsibilities of each party as well as fees are included. Within the agreement, there is no mention of exclusivity on behalf of each party. Jordison also stated there is a common understanding Pool Tech Midwest will not offer any other courses other than those with IPRA. IPRA will reciprocate by not offering additional courses with other companies/instructors. In addition, acknowledged Pool Tech Midwest has been a sponsor for the 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 Spring Conferences as well as the 2002, 2003 and 2004 Fall Workshops \$500.00 sponsor per event. The total sponsorship contributions are \$3,500.00. Their contribution was not to charge for the respective number of Aquatic CEU workshops (\$250.00 per workshop).

He also stated Certified Pool Operator and Aquatic CEU Workshops have generated greater than \$126,700 in net income with an average net surplus of \$31,675 for the last four fiscal years.

Jordison then described the Iowa Department of Public Health Aquatic Workshop CEU process. All IPRA Aquatic CEU workshops are IDPH approved for yearly mandated state CEU's.

Jordison informed the Board the 2005 Fall Workshop committee recommended adding an Aquatic CEU Workshop which Pool Tech Midwest would not instruct. Rather, Steve Craig with Iowa Swimming Pool Company would be the lead instructor.

Steve Grimes, 2005 Fall Workshop Committee Chair, shared the thought process and committee recommendations concerning adding this type of workshop. Since a workshop has not been offered in the past at a Fall Workshop, the committee felt this would be an added IPRA member benefit. Incorporating another presenter was also investigated as it would allow for other viewpoints. Grimes also informed the Board Mr. Craig will be at least a \$500.00 sponsor.

Several Board members expressed their concern that diversity and variety of educational presenters can be a positive. Other Board member concerns shared were our length of good working relationship between IPRA and Pool Tech Midwest and how changes could negatively affect our net surplus.

Jordison informed the Board the last time a RFP for these programs was done in 2000. Each year the contract is reviewed by IPRA and Pool Tech Midwest for possible alterations.

Motion for staff to develop and implement an RFP for CPO and Aquatic CEU workshops with the expressed purpose to provide an opportunity for other vendors to bid; seconded by Mark Ripplinger. After discussion, motion was withdrawn.

Staff was instructed to meet with a Pool Tech Midwest representative to discuss the 2005-2006 contract which is effective September to August. Within the discussion, exclusivity and sponsorship should be addressed. Once an agreement is finalized, staff will present the Board of Directors with an agreement at the September 2005 Board meeting.

The Board thanked Mr. Craig for his generous sponsorship and requested that he offer only a 90 minute IPRA CEU educational session.

Legislative

In lieu of Juli Johnson's absence, Jordison gave a brief legislative update.

Ronald Hopp, Juli Johnson and Steven Jordison attend the NRPA National Forum in Washington, D.C. during late February. They were able to meet directly with Senator Grassley and Congress Nussle. Major area of concern was reauthorization of the Land & Water Conservation Fund and TEA-21. Each Congressional member's office was supportive of LWCF and TEA-21. HeLP, Healthy Lifestyles and Prevention Act, was written by Senator Harkin's office. This bill would provide funding for healthy lifestyle programs and activities. Attending Congressional meetings was a volunteer Board and Commission member from the city of Davenport.

In the state of Iowa, the legislature has been active in formulating the FY 2005-2006 State of Iowa budget. Within the proposed budget, is a call for \$20 million in REAP funding and property tax overhaul. Other items of interest include mandating playground safety inspections for municipal playground structures and condemnation of land for public trails.

Jordison acknowledged the efforts of Juli Johnson and the Legislative Committee for keeping the membership alerted on national as well as state issues.

Board Action Form – 2007 Fall Workshop

Bid solicitation for this event was sent to each member agency in the state combined with distributing it viable convention and visitor's bureaus.

There were seven communities vying for the Workshop. These include Clear Lake, Pella, Marshalltown, Johnston and three Cedar Rapids properties.

Prior to the meeting Jordison distributed a MS Excel spreadsheet which consolidated all pertinent information onto one sheet.

Motion by Pat Prevenas to approve awarding the 2007 Fall Workshop (September 11-13) to Marshalltown Park and Recreation department; seconded by Geoff Hubbard. Motion carried.

Board Action Form – 2007 Spring Conference

Bid solicitation for this event was sent to member agencies that could support such an event in addition to viable convention and visitor's bureaus.

There were four bidding communities. These include: Dubuque, Coralville, Cedar Rapids, Waterloo.

Prior to the meeting Jordison distributed a MS Excel spreadsheet which consolidated all pertinent information onto one sheet.

Discussion centered on Coralville convention center/hotel construction and exhibit hall space charges. Jordison visited with Juli Johnson and the Coralville CVB relating to facility construction. The facility is set to open in summer 2006 with the first major event (Iowa League of Cities) slated for September 2006. Several Board members raised issues about awarding the bid to a site which is still under construction.

Exhibit hall rental space charges was the other topic area. When actual costs are taken into account, all facilities are approximately the same. But how each one arrives at final costs are different. Future conferences will have to take into account hall space rental, booth space costs and facility labor costs.

Motion by Patrick Prevenas to accept Alternative #2 (accept bid from Waterloo, April 2-4, 2007); seconded by Bill Blanchard. Motion carried.

2005 Conference Update

Geoff Hubbard invited the Board in addition to all related staff to attend this year's conference. He further shared the Conference Planning committee was putting on final touches to ensure a successful event. One key element was keeping costs in-line with the lower than expected delegate attendance. On the flip-side, vendor and exhibit booth space is higher than budgeted. Lori Daniel, National Recreation and Park Association President, will be in attendance. Her coming was due to the efforts of Terry Trueblood and Mike Moran.

Long Range Plan Development

Ronald Hopp and John Hagener are hoping to bring a draft LRP to the Board/Committee chair orientation meeting at the Spring Conference in Sioux City. Draft LRP will rely on the current plan and the recently completed membership survey.

Membership Survey Results

Prior to the meeting, Ronald Hopp, electronically distributed the survey results. There were 62 respondents out of 652 possible. Most notably, the survey points to offering additional educational opportunities, membership renewal year change to mirror IPRA fiscal year and incorporating more of the diverse nature of IPRA.

Nominations

Ronald Hopp share the Board of Director's election results. He welcomed Ben Page, Angie Nelson and Vicki Hensley (NRPA Great Lakes Representative) to the Board. There was a tie between Cati DeMasi and

Paul Huting for the third Director at Large position. Hopp stated that a run-off election would be held, according the By-laws, at the Spring Conference. Because of the number of voter eligible conference delegates, Tuesday's luncheon will be the time the ballot is distributed and collected.

Board and Committee Chair Orientation

The orientation will be held during the Spring Conference. Hopp encouraged all Board and Committee chairs to share their suggestions in preparing the meeting.

Recommendations for 2005-2006 Committee Chairs

Hopp has confirmed the following chairs:

Aquatics – Janet Ellerbrock

Awards – Jef Farland or Kevin Shawgo

Conference Planning 2005 – Gil Spence

Legislative – Juli Johnson

Long Range Plan – John Hagener

Membership – Matt Salvatore

Nominations – John Hagener

Programs – Doug Bylund

Special Training and Seminars – Matt Beatty

Fall Workshop 2005 – Steve Grimes

Open Committee Chair positions:

PCCEB

Publications

Marketing

Scholarship

Hopp said he will follow up with past chairs to solicit their input. He also asked Board members to share with him any ideas relating to openings. His goal is to have all chair positions filled by the May 2005 Board meeting.

Board and Committee Chair Evaluation

In an effort to gauge impressions of current and just leaving Board and Committee chairs, Keith Abraham and Steven Jordison will create an evaluation form. Results will hopefully steer our leadership in a positive direction.

Staff Evaluation

Keith Abraham will coordinate Steven Jordison and Cathy Shutts performance evaluation. He will distribute a copy of the Executive Director's current goals and his assessment along with the performance evaluation for ease of Board member input.

Other Board Member Comments

None was shared.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 11:45 AM. Motion by Patrick Prevenas; seconded by Ronald Hopp. Motion carried.

Next Board meeting – during Spring Conference – TBA

May Board meeting - TBA