



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ACTION FORM

Submitted By: Matt Salvatore
Meeting Date: Online Voting
Dissemination Via Email: July 6, 2009

SUBJECT: Proposed NRPA National Congress Professional Fellowship Criteria

BACKGROUND: At the June 11, 2009 IPRA Board of Directors meeting President Ben Page discussed the possibility of offering an NRPA National Congress Professional Fellowship (valued at up to \$1500) to an IPRA member whose department does not have the budget to support this opportunity. By eliminating a higher education scholarship valued at \$750 and receiving a \$750 commitment from the Iowa Foundation for Parks & Recreation the program would be funded in full annually. The board reached a consensus to proceed with this program and create the criteria for this fellowship. Directors at Large Matt Salvatore and Matt Beatty of Resources focus group were assigned to develop the criteria for the program. An Ad Hoc committee was formed consisting of President Ben Page, Vice President Todd Redenius, Directors at Large Salvatore and Beatty, Scholarship Committee Chair Andy Lueth, Membership Committee Chair Ryan Penning, as well as Executive Director Steve Jordison to review Salvatore's/Beatty's proposed criteria. Below is the criterion that was established for the IPRA Board of Director's to review:

Criteria for NRPA National Congress Professional Fellowship

Criteria:

- Current IPRA Professional Member.
- Minimum of at least two years Professional Membership with IPRA.
- Currently employed in parks and recreation with two or more years of experience in the field.
- Has not previously attended the NRPA National Congress or has not attended for a minimum of seven years (preference will be given to individuals who have not attended).
- Supports the current or past efforts of IPRA by serving on a committee or as either member or chair, has volunteered at IPRA events, or served on the board of directors.
- Attended past IPRA Spring Conferences and/or Fall Workshops.

Program/Fellowship Requirements:

- Turn in required application and supplemental materials by the application deadline.
- Recipients will be asked to turn in CEU forms to show they attended sessions.
- Recipients will be asked to write a brief article for the IPRA newsletter highlighting their experience due within 30 days of returning.
- The fellowship recipient will be assigned a mentor to interact with during the NRPA National Congress (current IPRA President or President designee).
- The selected individual may be asked to attend selected NRPA Governance meetings.

Application Requirements:

- Completed application.
- Current Resume.
- A one page typed sheet of paper explaining why you are applying for this fellowship, how it would benefit you or your agency, and why you have not or cannot budget for the NRPA National Congress.
- One letter of reference from the applicant's supervisor.

Selection:

- All applications will be reviewed by the IPRA Executive Committee.
- The fellowship scholarship will be awarded to the candidate that demonstrates the most need for the fellowship and would best represent IPRA at the NRPA National Congress.

The Fellowship is valued at no more than \$1500.

This Fellowship is a special project funded by the Iowa Park and Recreation Association and the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1) Forgo the NRPA National Congress Fellowship and retain the higher education scholarship.
- 2) Modify the current criteria of the NRPA National Congress Professional Fellowship.
- 3) Accept the proposed criteria and proceed with the NRPA National Congress Professional Fellowship.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The recommendation of the Ad Hoc committee is to approve the proposed criteria. Then immediately begin the process of promoting the NRPA National Congress Professional Fellowship program so applications can be received.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Staff concurs with the need for offering this opportunity by which greater diversified professional and networking opportunities are made available. With the collaboration and support of IFPR and IPRA fund-shifting from higher education, the financial strain on either organization will be minimized. Additionally, this will be positive member services benefit.

BOARD ACTION

Online voting occurred from July 6 until noon, July 8. Individual board responses were "Reply to All".

BAF was unanimously approved. All votes are recorded at the IPRA state office.

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NRPA National Congress Professional Fellowship
2009 Fellowship Application Form

A. To be completed by applicant (Please type or print legibly)

Name _____

Title _____ Agency _____

Permanent Address _____ Phone() _____
Street address City Zip

Direct Supervisor _____ Supervisor Title: _____

Population Served _____

Member of IPRA _____ Yes _____ No Years as IPRA Member: _____

Years of Experience as a Full Time Professional _____

Please check the IPRA event(s) you have attended

_____ Spring Conference _____ Fall Workshop

Please attach:

1. A copy of your current resume
2. Your service experience with IPRA, including committees and/or events in which you have served the membership of IPRA.
3. One letter of reference from your supervisor.
4. On one separate page discuss the following (One page only please):
 - a. Why you are applying for this fellowship.
 - b. How attending the NRPA National Congress will benefit you and/or agency.
 - c. Why you have not or cannot budget for the NRPA National Congress.

B. Criteria used to select recipients:

1. Completion of application form. (completeness and neatness)
2. Experience serving as a member of IPRA.
3. Candidate that demonstrates the most need for the fellowship and would best represent IPRA at the NRPA National Congress.

Submitted by _____ Date _____

Deadline: 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Please complete and return to:

IPRA Executive Committee
Ben Page
Des Moines Parks and Recreation
600 E. Court Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50309
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BRPage@dmgov.org