

SCWLA Board Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2017

Members present: Sheila Bias (by phone), Stephanie Burton (by phone), Molly Cherry, Lisa Claxton (by phone), Amie Clifford (by phone), Karen Huelson, Kelly Jolley, Ariail Kirk, Sarah Leverette, Kristen Nichols, Nancy Olah (by phone), Bhumi Patel (by phone), Sima Patel, Laura Paton (by phone), Mary Beth Pfister (by phone), Ayesha Washington, Amanda Williams

Members absent, excused: Emily Boatwright, Ashley Cuttino, Suzanne White, Marguerite Willis, Elizabeth Zeck

Members absent, unexcused: Lynsey Kmetz, Tara Shurling

Also attending: Mary LaFave, Mikki Lindler, Kerri Rupert

I. Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Molly Cherry called the meeting to order at 12:09 pm. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2017 meeting. The motion carried. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the March 23, 2017 meeting. The motion carried.

II. Treasurer's Report

Amie Clifford reported the organization is fine on funding for the year. She is currently working on the taxes for the organization. She has some ideas for improving our budgeting process for next year, including having committees submit funding requests in advance to assist with planning. She recommended we approve a sponsorship policy we can post on the website and solicited input on this. She will circulate a final draft for board approval.

III. Action Items

Long Range Planning Committee – Mary Beth Pfister sought approval for the strategic planning recommendation submitted in advance (to hire Colleen Bozard for a full-day session and approve up to \$3000 for this event). A motion was made and seconded to approve this proposal. The motion carried.

Community Outreach Committee - Allyce Bailey sought approval for 2 projects submitted in advance for consideration, neither of which require any SCWLA funding. After motion and second, both projects were approved.

Bylaws Committee - Ayesha Washington reviewed the changes to the bylaws that were submitted in advance for consideration and invited discussion. Most changes were noncontroversial. There was discussion regarding whether to permit proxy voting or to accept the committee's recommendation to eliminate it. Amie Clifford's alternate proposal (also submitted in advance) also was discussed, including what should constitute a quorum for the annual meeting. Consensus was reached that the quorum should be reduced from the current number of 10% of the membership, that proxies shouldn't be used in calculating quorum and that some proxy voting should be permitted. Ayesha will draft a different proposed amendment to the bylaws on these issues.

IV. Remaining Committee Reports

Regional Activity Committee - Kelly Jolley reported most regions would like to remain planning committees for the time being, although Sea Islands would like to form a chapter, as would another group from Aiken who is currently part of the Midlands region. The draft regional chapter bylaws to be given to the chapters for their use have been shared with the regions.

Fall 2018 "25th Anniversary "Conference Planning - Sheila Bias has recruited one chair for the content of the conference and another to handle logistics. Tentative location will be Hilton Head island.

Toal Award - Kelly Jolley plans to open the application period for this at the same time we announce applications for the Bissel award

Membership - Mary LaFave reported on 2 projects. First, on inactive membership outreach, ½ have been emailed and remainder will be to find out why lapsed and see if can convince to renew. Second, on the sustaining member evaluation, she will come up with a plan in conjunction with Sheila and report back.

Professional Development - Kerri Rupert reported they are looking over applications for the emerging leader award. She has secured a well-respected female attorney professional business development coach to speak to SCWLA on marketing. She focuses on business development of female businesses.

Media/Communications Committee - Sima Patel reminded board members to take photos and tag SCWLA and email Sima.

Public Service Committee - Laura Paton reported that after the last board meeting Kristen took on drafting proposed correspondence to the legislature on issue of equal pay. They will provide a copy of the final draft. On another legislative matter, Karen Huelson mentioned there is a bill pending that would permit broader practice by nurse practitioners to practice more freely. This may be one issue to keep an eye on.

V. Regional Reports

Grand Strand Region - Bhumi Patel reported Barbara Seymour is speaking to the region on the 22nd. This will provide at least one other CLE in before summer.

Midlands - Karen Huelson is looking at an offer to do a SA/MH CLE offsite in September if she can get the required number of people.

Old English - Nancy Olah said she had nothing to raise beyond the report submitted.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:10pm. The next Board meeting is Friday, July 14, 2017 at noon.