

**Minutes – IASWG Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 7, 2017**

**New York University, New York City
Kimmel Center - Global Center Room 475**

Members present: Roberta Wallace (NC Chapter), Barbara Muskat (Practice), Mark Macgowan (Commission), Meghan O'Donnell (Membership), Jorune Vysniauskyte-Rimkiene (Lithuania Chapter), Hilde Muller de Navarro (German Chapter), Mamadou Seck (NE Ohio Chapter), Carol Cohen (Commission), Martin Camire (Member-at-large), Zaneta Smith (Member-at-large), Mark Doel (VP), Ginnette Berteau (Francophone Chapter), John Genke (NY Chapter), Sam Benbow (PA Chapter), Dominique Steinberg (Treasurer), Olga Molina (Central Florida Chapter), Sari Skolnick (Long Island Chapter), Joyce Webster (Secretary), Kristen Perron (MN Chapter), Ann Bergart (Illinois Chapter), Charles Garvin (Practice), Kyle McGee (Nominations & Elections), Brian Kelly (Marketing), Dana Leeman (Symposium), Martin Birnbaum (Life Member), Greg Tully (President), William Pelech (Member-at-large), Reshawna Chapple (Member-at-large), Alexis Howard (Member-at-large), Kris Drumm (Florida Chapter), Christine Wilkins (Local Symposium Representative), Sera Godfrey Grantz (MA Chapter), Reineth Prinsloo (South Africa Chapter)

Absent: Anna Nosko (Toronto Chapter), Daniela Riccelli (Member-at-large), Jay Sweifach (Member-at-large), Andy Malekoff (Editor, SW with Groups), Maria Gandarilla (Member-at-large), Werner Lieblang (European Chapter), Tanja Schmitz-Remberg (Chapter Development), Michael Wagner (Historical Secretary), Jennie Fleming (Editor, Groupwork), Rhonda Hudson (Tennessee Chapter), Mei Kameda (Southern CA Chapter)

Other Attendees: Martie Finkelstein (NY Red Apple Chapter), Hilda Baar (Netherlands)

IASWG Board Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda
3. General Activity Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Committees meet for 60 minutes (begin at approximately 2:00PM)
6. Symposium Committee Report
 - 2017 New York Symposium Report
 - Discussion of 2018 Symposium
7. Commission on SW Educ. in Group Work Committee Report
8. Chapter Development Committee Report
9. International Issues Ad-hoc Committee Report
10. Practice Committee Report
11. Marketing Committee Report
12. Membership Committee Report
13. Nominations/Elections Committee Report
14. Other/Closure

Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Agenda:

Greg Tully (President) called the meeting to order at 1:18pm. Thirty-three Board members and three visitors offered brief introductions according to their role on the Board (members-at-large, chapter representatives, committee chairs/co-chairs, executive committee, journal editors, etc.)

Greg offered brief remarks about the 2017 Symposium now underway. He encouraged all Board members to attend sessions, the annual membership meeting, and the gala on Friday evening as a way to show support to symposium attendees and the organization as a whole. Greg also noted the three Institutes offered by: Kyle McGee & Sam Benbow, Alex Gitterman, and Larry Shulman.

Ann Bergart made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda; William Pelech seconded; and all were in favor. *(Note: minutes from the November 2016 Board meeting were approved via electronic means prior to this meeting.)*

General Activity Report:

Greg Tully acknowledged the good work being done across the entire organization and thanked members of the Board for their commitment to committee work, symposium planning, and other aspects of the organization. Greg spoke to the current status of the organization, reflecting positively on: Emily Wilk's efforts in building and sustaining membership, symposium, and our website; the fiscal health of the symposium; the recent addition of funds for special chapter projects; the many and varied group work camps being planned and implemented; the growing diversity of the IASWG Board; the recruitment and renewal of many organizational memberships; the SPARC program; and the ever-growing global nature of the organization. Greg also remarked on the many awards that are now offered at annual symposia and proposed the formation of a committee to undertake tasks related to selecting individual awardees.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report, with current budget attached, was made available to all symposium attendees in the Executive Committee Annual Report. Dominique Steinberg (Treasurer) stated the report indicates the general financial health of the organization is strong, due in large part to the symposium generating revenue and building our cash-on-hand. In addition, Dominique reported on the following specific items:

- The IASWG endowment fund, which has been moved to a new annuity through New York Life (with Kyle McGee as annuitant and per previous electronic Board approval), generated approximately \$6,000 in income last year. This income will be used for operating expenses.
- Two chapters – Francophone and Lithuania – have applied for and been granted Special Project Funds. This fund was established at the November 2016 Board meeting to spend a bit of our extra cash on hand by providing funds for special projects beyond the scope of SPARC. Extra funding has been approved for Marketing as well.
- In November 2016, line items for financial support of one annual Diversity Fellow and International Scholar at annual symposia were reinstated.
- An extension was filed for 2016 taxes.
- As always, there was a continued call for donations and additional financial support.

Greg added, that although our financial picture appears stable, we will do well to remain cautious and fiscally conservative.

Other Business:

Mark Macgowan inquired about the availability of auto-renewal for membership dues now that we have switched over to the MemberClicks software. Joyce Webster noted that the option was costly in MemberClicks and few people were taking advantage of the auto-renewal option previously. Joyce further noted that the system-generated reminder e-mails have been proving effective in securing membership renewals. Thus, the auto-renewal option will not be utilized at this time.

Committee chairs engaged in discussion and decision-making about how to hold committee meetings (i.e. jointly or separately) and broke for committees at 2:05pm. (*Note: Mark Doel called for a separate meeting of the ad-hoc International Issues Committee to be held at the November 2017 Board meeting*). The meeting resumed at 3:20pm for committee reports and remaining business.

Committee Reports:

Symposium:

2017 – Chair Dana Leeman thanked the NYC planning group for their efforts. Christine Wilkins (local planning group) and Emily Wilk (conference planner) offered report on the 2017 NYC symposium: operations have been smooth because this is our 2nd year at NYU; over 350 participants; 50 volunteers; strong presence of local practitioners; and intentional time set aside for both formal and informal interactions and networking.

Note: Per discussion at the November 2016 Board meeting, a specific set of communication guidelines were provided for symposium presenters at this year's symposium.

2018 – Reineth Prinsloo (South Africa) made a motion, with Mark Doel (VP) seconding, to host the 2018 IASWG symposium in South Africa at Kruger National Park from June 7-10, 2018. Reineth showed the Board a brief film and power point showcasing the beauty of South Africa and the affordability of the conference location. (Please contact joycewebster@gmail.com for a copy of the proposal.). Mark Doel and Dana Leeman voiced support for the proposal in their roles as Vice President and Symposium Chair, respectively. Discussion then opened and a hearty dialogue took place regarding the benefits and challenges of taking the symposium to South Africa. After discussion ended, Joyce Webster called for a vote and the results were: 29 in favor, 0 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

Nominations/Elections: Chair Kyle McGee solicited names for possible at-large member positions, discussed ongoing dialogue within the committee regarding diversity of the Board, and reminded Board members that a transition of the roles of President/Vice President will be happening in 2019.
ACTION: *Please provide Kyle with the names of any potential at-large Board members.*

Membership: Chair Meghan O'Donnell reported that IASWG currently has 560 dues paying members for 2017. She indicated the committee continues discussion about member retention and target outreach to new members, especially in light of the symposium being in South Africa in 2018. She further noted that outreach to renewing and potential Organizational Members continues, and solicited the Board's assistance in identifying possible new Organizational Members.
ACTION: *Please provide Meghan with names of possible new Organizational Members.*

Committee member Ann Bergart reported on efforts to survey existing IASWG members regarding diversity and self-identification and sought feedback regarding specific content of the survey.

ACTION: *Please respond to follow-up e-mails Ann will be sending related to this work.*

Chapter Development: Chair Tanja Schmitz-Remberg was not present; Greg offered remarks on her behalf. Chapter Reports are in the process of being collected and efforts continue to bring about new chapters (Spain and New Hampshire, specifically).

Marketing: Chair Brian Kelly showcased practice tips available on the IASWG website and noted that the committee will be soliciting additional practice tips from Board members in the coming months. Brian also noted that the committee is working to streamline our social media presence.

Practice Committee: Co-chairs Barb Muskat and Charles Garvin indicated they are looking to clarify membership of the committee. Barb reported that the committee is working with the Marketing Committee to develop more practice tips for the website.

Ad-hoc Committee on International Issues: Chair Mark Doel noted that the committee revisited the proposal put forth in past meetings regarding changing the format, schedule, and frequency of Board meetings. Mark indicated he will circulate a detailed proposal in advance of the November 2017 meeting and asked for time during that meeting to hold a discussion and vote on the proposal.

Commission on Social Work Education: Co-chair Mark Macgowan reported the Commission is still requesting syllabi for posting on the IASWG website, as the syllabi we have are fairly outdated. Co-chair Carol Cohen presented on request for this round of SPARC endorsement and funding for group work-related projects. Carol called for a motion to approve the request, Brian Kelly motioned, Dana Leeman seconded, and all members voted in favor.

Other Business:

Ann Bergart solicited interest in forming an exploratory committee to determine if IASWG should offer a certification in group work. The following members agreed to sit on that committee: Sari Skolnick, Ginette Berteau, Barb Muskat, William Pelech, Hilde Muller, Michael Wagner, and Kriss Drumm. The group plans to meet before the November 2017 Board meeting.

Upcoming Events:

- John Genke offered brief remarks on the upcoming Group Work Camp in Wisconsin in July 2017.
- Martin Camire offered brief remarks on the upcoming camp in Montreal: already 50 new members, from France, Belgium, Canada, and the US.
- Greg noted the 25th anniversary of the German chapter will take place next year, marked by a special celebration. Plans are underway.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 11th and 12th, 2017, in New York City.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Webster
IASWG Secretary