

**WPSA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
MINUTES
31 August 2017, 6:30 to 8:00pm
Place: Parc 55, Mason**

Members present: Andrew Aoki, Janni Aragon, Mark Brown, Mark Button, Rosalee Clawson, Richard Clucas, Carrie Currier, Elsa Favila, Lorrie Frasure,-Yokley, Teena Gabrielson, Clarissa Hayward, Steven Johnston, Jane Junn, Jeanette Mendez, Stephen Nicholson, Julie Novkov, Ricardo Ramirez, and Valerie O'Regan.

Members absent: Jennifer Wilking, Michael Bowers, Jamie Mayerfeld, Maurice Mangum, and Tiffiany Howard

Guests: Tehama Lopez Bunyasi, Marcela Garcia-Castanon, John-Paul McDonald, John Mayer, Patrick McGinty, Concetta Seminara, and Ernesto Zirakzadeh.

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm by Stephen Nicholson

I. Approval of Minutes

- Correction to page 5 of the April 2017 WPSA executive council minutes, the motion did not pass “unanimously.” Motion to approve minutes as corrected by Julie Novkov, seconded by Ricardo Ramirez, the motion passed.

II. Reports

- A. Local Arrangements San Francisco: Marcela Garcia-Castanon presented on the local arrangements and reminded everyone the conference will be at the Grand Hyatt on Embarcadero.
- B. Nominating Committee Report: Tehama Lopez Bunyasi. The slate was read and will be approved at the spring council meeting.
- C. Clay Morgan Award Recipient: Teena Gabrielson. The first winner of the award is John Meyer for his book *Engaging the Everyday*.

III. Old Business

- A. Future Convention Sites: Richard Clucas
 - Due to Texas’s discriminatory LGBT laws, the attorney general of California issued a travel ban for all state employees, prohibiting them from receiving funding to travel to Texas (among a few other states). A large percentage of our membership comes from California and this ban would have a significant impact on decreasing conference attendance for the San Antonio location in 2019. The executive council agreed we should consider moving the conference from San Antonio given this problem. Richard explained that he has been working with the national sales office for the Hyatt to break the contract and how we might avoid having to pay the \$108,000 fee that Hyatt is trying to assess.
 - Motion to leave Texas for 2019 was made by Teena Gabrielson, seconded by Julie Novkov, and passed unanimously. The council agreed we should try to return to San Antonio for a future conference as soon as possible once the ban has lifted.

- Richard asked for approval by the council to work on various measures, including the possibility of a multi-year contract with the Hyatt, in an effort to avoid having to pay the cancellation fee.
- For 2021 the council voted to approve Seattle as a site (since Portland did not have the hotel meeting space to accommodate us). Motion was made by Ricardo Ramirez, seconded by Jane Junn, and was approved unanimously.
- For 2022, it is our 75th anniversary and with Easter and Passover occurring at the same time, the council was asked to explore other options that are affordable and available for a non-holiday weekend.
- A motion was made to allow Richard to work in consultation with the Association officers on hotel options for Seattle, to adjust for the San Antonio move, and explore options in San Francisco for 2022 if it was raised as part of a settlement in leaving the San Antonio Hyatt. Motion by Ricardo Ramirez, seconded by Teena Gabrielson, passed unanimously.

B. PRQ Editor Search Report: Ernie Zirakzadeh.

- There were two applications for the PRQ editorship (submitted by Seth McKee of Texas Tech and Ted Jelen of UNLV) and both teams had proposals with an editorial team of 5-6 members. The search committee unanimously rejected the UNLV proposal due to lack of institutional support. The proposal from Texas Tech generated considerable discussion among council members but was ultimately approved.
- The Council's discussion on the Texas Tech application focused on concerns raised by the search committee involving diversity, funding, and regular attendance at the annual meeting of the editorial team. The Council considered a proposal that the Texas Tech team put forward a plan to address these concerns to dispel reservations and enhance transparency. The following plan was recommended:
 - a. The team of editors need to have the two non-Texas Tech editors pressure their home institutions for release time.
 - b. The editorial team needs to have a visible and regular presence at the Western meetings not just at the receptions.
 - c. The team of editors needs to diversity in the training and interests of future editorial board members.
- A motion was made to accept the proposal from Texas Tech while also directing it to put forward a plan, along with specific targets, to address these concerns. The proposal was made by Jane Junn and seconded by Janni Aragon. The motion passed 8 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention. Under WPSA Bylaws, Article VII, Section 5(c), the motion received sufficient votes to pass.

Motion to adjourn by Janni Aragon, seconded by Steven Johnston. Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.