

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LARYNGECTOMEES  
MINUTES**

**Annual Meeting of Club Delegates**

The Red Lion at the Park Hotel  
Spokane, Washington

Saturday, June 8, 2013

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Bob Herbst called the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Club Delegates to order on Saturday, June 8, 2013, at 8:05am in Ballroom C of the Red Lion at the Park Hotel in Spokane, Washington.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Board member Noel Best called the roll by state and club name. Delegates were asked to acknowledge presence as they were called to be counted. There were 18 clubs represented (all US Clubs) with 32 delegates counted present out of 33 registered to vote at this meeting. Enough delegates were present to have a quorum to conduct business.

**III. MINUTES – ANNUAL MEETING OF CLUB DELEGATES, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel & Convention Center, Durham, North Carolina – 2012**

A motion was made by Tom Cleveland (Kalamazoo Speak Easy Club) to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Club Delegates held on Saturday, June 9, 2012, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel & Convention Center, Durham, North Carolina. The motion was seconded by Bill Smith (club) and approved.

**IV. ANNUAL MEETING RULES**

A motion was made by Carl DePalma (New Voice Club of the Niagra Frontier) to approve the Annual Meeting Rules for the 2013 Delegates Meeting at the Red Lion at the Park Hotel in Spokane, Washington. The motion was seconded by Irwin Title (club) and approved unanimously,

## V. OFFICER'S REPORTS

### A. President's Report

President, Bob Herbst reported that Board of Director's Committee Meetings commenced on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and commenced on Wednesday June 5<sup>th</sup> with a General Board of Directors Meeting.

Bob stated that this was a good Annual Meeting, very good tours coordinated by Web Whispers. Compliments to Ed Chapman and local club Southeastern Washington Laryngectomee Club for coordinating Emergency Meeting with local EMT's and firefighters with a topic of Laryngectomee vs. Tracheotomy. The class was very informative and was filmed and will be edited to use and distribute to educate across the country. Great barbeque afterwards and thanks to Ed Chapman, Jack Luft and Visit Spokane for their excellent food and fun. It has been a wonderful venue for the meeting, one of the best.

Bob also reported that Elaine Fulton, the IAL parliamentarian could not be in attendance along with Terrie Hall, IAL Secretary. There is no new bylaw information this year. Bob reported that there have been 15 contributor/vendors for this Annual Meeting, which is good and support has been great.

Next year's venue will be Buffalo, New York at the Adams Mark Hotel in Buffalo. Some sights in that area include Niagra Falls and the Navy Center. There are two clinics we will be working with there, one of which is Buffalo Speech and Hearing Center headed by Joe Sonnenberg.

### B. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Vice President, Wade Hampton, recognized host clubs and thanked them for "bending over backwards" for coordination of excellent meeting and stated that the board wanted to be sure to work closely with each host club for each meeting for this kind of successful meeting and training and education.

Next year's venue will be the Adams Mark Hotel, which is a hotel that in years past has not had the greatest ranking. However, they have just been through some extensive reworking and revamping and are rated among the top now.

Bus tours will be arranged, such as to Niagra Falls (probably on Friday of that week) and all participants will need an enhanced driver's license or visa for crossover into Canada. There is lots of different ethnic dining in the area. Architectural influence from Frank Loyd Wright is prominent in the area. More details to come and any suggestions or comments about next year's venue can be sent to Wade for consideration.

Wade also reports great participation in this year's meeting, with over 100 in the VI, of which more than 50 are students. Comment made by Pat Sanders stating this meeting was one of the best planned ever and thanked the IAL for the opportunity to coordinate the tours early in the week to the winery/caramel factory/alpaca farm, and the Tour of Elegance as well. She spoke of increasing room nights by allowing tours such as this that would entice people to come a day or two earlier than they normally would, which will help the IAL meet room night requirements and she would encourage more of these type outings in each year's destinations.

#### C. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

IAL Treasurer, Chuck Rusky, asked all delegates if they had a financial packet in front of them. After making certain everyone had copies, he reported that finances for the IAL are good but greatly reduced from this time last year. There has been an overall increase in revenue of about \$8,100.00 in income for the IAL to date in 2013. Due to three different people tracking this information, he reported he could not verify ALL details however, bottom line was the same. Tax return will be filed within the next 30 days and if anyone has questions, Chuck will be happy to answer those.

#### D. **AUXILLIARY REPORT**

Board Member, Noel Best reporting in absence of Terrie Hall, IAL Secretary. Auxilliary meeting held on Friday, June 7, 2013 in which the auxiliary selected Laura Talmich as President, Lesley Herbst as Vice President and Viv VanderHogen as Treasurer of the IAL Auxilliary. Noel reported there are currently 230 tickets in the 50/50 bags with the expectation of that growing over the next day. In the general fund of the auxiliary is \$1,400.00, hoping for \$1,500.00 by the end of this meeting. It is also reported that the host club is

donating their portion of proceeds back to the IAL. Noel thanked Ed Chapman and all applauded this news.

## **VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. ANNUAL MEETING**

Wade Hampton reported that our next Annual Meeting is established for the Adams Mark Hotel in Buffalo, New York from June 16<sup>th</sup> through June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. Room rates will be \$99 plus taxes. The location is very near Lake Erie and local dining is close. Niagra Falls and duty free shopping are close driving or tour distance from the hotel. Enhanced driver's license or valid visas will be required to cross into Canada and back. Parking for hotel has been negotiated but conversations are still ensuing so more details to come in the near future.

### **B. FINANCE**

IAL Treasurer, Chuck Rusky reports that approximately \$176,000.00 in CD's only earned \$507.00 in the last year – not good. He researched and rates for CD's will remain low until at least next year sometime. He recommends exploring other options – at least something to cover scholarships extended by the IAL each year for students to attend the VI (about \$2,500.00). All in the Board of Directors agreed that this would be a good idea and avoid a financial situation similar to that in 2008. Chuck will be looking at conservative investments but something that would return 15-30 times more than the current interest on the CD's is doing. This should leave the IAL in better financial shape with better return on that investment.

Chuck also reports on the mailing list – the project and job of cleaning it up – exploring options to make it more efficient. It is a recommendation to stop mailing outside of North America. No foreign clubs have registered in the last four years. It costs the IAL more than \$1.00 each copy to mail internationally. This does not include Canada clubs, who are active and vital. The suggestion of email newsletter in PDF format will save the IAL printing and postage costs. Circulation can be dramatically increased to more SLPs, graduate students and teaching hospitals around the country and internationally by doing this. Comment by Pat Sanders is that email

newsletter is the way to go, she would be in favor of recommending this. It takes a bit to get it set up once and then just maintain – need a list manager for this. Cost is relatively low. One concern voiced by vendors was regarding whether the emailed newsletters would get read, so there needs to be a way to track “read” emails receipt. An option could be on the website to offer a yearly fee if paper copy is requested, but none if online, just request email address.

### **C. MEDICAL AFFAIRS**

Board member, Candy Moltz, reported that the Visitor Training Manual was revised and updated and will be available on the IAL website as a resource for local clubs to organize the education of Trained Visitors for pre and post-operative visits to new laryngectomees. Thirteen individuals completed this training course during the Spokane Annual Meeting and will be awarded certificates.

Several goals were identified for the coming year:

1. Challenge local IAL clubs to increase their community service to further education about Laryngectomees in their locales.
2. Request a report from the individual Club’s successful community service projects to be posted in the IAL Newsletter.
3. Find a way to update and complete the Emergency Breathing Project and include it on the IAL website.
4. Bring to current the IAL list of physicians.

### **D. NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Board Member, Noel Best brought this report stating initial meeting was held on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and initially the ballot for re-election included Elizabeth Finchem, Terrie Hall, Tom Cleveland and Rhodney Montague. Due to bylaws requiring the presence of the member for election or re-election, Elizabeth Finchem and Terrie Hall cannot be included at this time. CW Moreland is not running, Tom Herring resigned and Sapp Funderburk has stepped down due to health issues with his wife. The only two candidates being endorsed at this time subsequently, are Tom Cleveland and Rhodney Montague.

## **E. SPEECH STANDARDS**

Reported by Board Member, Candy Moltz. After considerable discussion with the BOD, our Vendors, Phil Doyle, Susan Reeves and Chuck Rusky, the goal for the year was to carefully review and update the IAL Directory of SLPs available to help Laryngectomees. The Newsletter, individual IAL Clubs and Web Whispers will be used to solicit Speech Pathologists to apply for inclusion in the directory.

Further comment from Susan Reeves to clarify that listing will no longer just be IAL affiliated professionals, although if affiliated with IAL Voice Institute this can be acknowledged somehow.

Bob Herbst commented that webmaster Ron LeClair is working with both Kari Reeves and Jimmy Worden on how to update this list.

Question by Pat Sanders regarding sending out requests to teaching hospitals and such – Bob Herbst confirmed that this has indeed been discussed and will be part of the research to expand this list.

## **F. BYLAWS**

No current information to add per Bob Herbst, President. Wade Hampton reported that last year parliamentarian Elaine Fulton and IAL Secretary, Terrie Hall, redid bylaws and they are current.

## **G. PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Bob Herbst reports that under this topic, a lot has already been covered. He restated the list of contacts that will begin to be made to update several aspects of the website for the IAL as well as cleaning up and making efficient the mailing lists.

For the IAL News, Bob referred to Buck Moore to update everyone the status. Buck reports that the newsletter still did make money for the IAL this year. He has had good support for the newsletter and will be getting the magazines in two hospitals – MD Anderson and North Carolina Hospital.

## **VII. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

Board Member Noel Best reported committee met on Monday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 and lots of ideas were tossed around for fundraising ideas. Among those ideas were possibilities of a Raffle giveaway such as a car or an ATV. These types of tickets would go for \$1.00 each and would net the IAL approximately \$700 after expenses. Continued discussion will be had regarding more fundraising ideas and will be brought forward as discussed.

### **B. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Board Member Noel Best reported that club membership is down and as highlighted in other reports, all avenues were discussed on how to increase membership through internet, direct and/or mail contacts and encouragement of new club formation across the country.

### **C. BYLAW REVISION COMMITTEE**

Bob Herbst reported that this task has been completed from last year and no further revisions are needed at this time.

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Bob Herbst reported that the only known unfinished business is completion of the list resources (i.e., SLPs, clubs and website resources)

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** John Ready (club) approached the floor – made a motion to change the bylaws to reduce the Board from 11 members to 7 over the next 2 years due to natural attrition. Then the Board could work with creating executive committees to get the work done more efficiently. It will keep the BOD to a functional, productive size and can use IAL members to assist executive committees. Motion was seconded by Bill Smith (club).

Discussion ensued regarding possible change of structure of BOD if reduced in this manner. Suggestion was made to create an amendment to change bylaws to include a sliding number for the BOD members so that there is flexibility for positions not filled.

The first motion was voted on and voted down unanimously. John Ready brought a second motion to the floor to create an amendment to change bylaws to allow the IAL BOD to reduce the number of board members from the current 12 to 9 in one year, effective after the delegate meeting in the Annual Meeting in 2014. This motion was seconded by Bill Smith and passed unanimously.

- B.** Motion to elect Rhodney Montague to the Board of Directors and also to re-elect Tom Cleveland to a continued position on the Board. This motion was seconded by Carl DePalma and was unanimously passed.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Tom Cleveland and seconded by Jeff VanderHogen. Voted in favor unanimously so meeting adjourned at 10:00am.