

BETA PHI MU EXECUTIVE BOARD

Minutes

Mid-Winter Meeting

Philadelphia, PA

Friday, January 11, 2008

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Pennsylvania Conference Center Room #301

Attending: Nancy Zimmerman; Ron Miller; Anna Perrault; Christie Koontz; Sue Stroyan; Sue Searing; Marie Radford; Kathleen Strauss; Eloise May; Melody Venable (Minutes)

Observer: Em-Claire Knowles, Simmons College, Beta-Beta Chapter
Apologies for absence; Dave W ;

1. Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. Minutes circulated to board prior to meeting. Minutes in the future should present the action items and identify individuals by last name. The minutes were approved for content and to be re-formatted by the executive director and president.

2. Approval of Agenda
3. Reports of Officers
 - a. President (Zimmerman)

Executive director commended for accomplishments over the past six months. The president encourages all board members to send in chapter news to national. John Paul is the new staff member. The newsletter is excellent and incorporated all the changes. John Paul will be working Tuesday – Thursday and 15 hours offsite, 30 hours total. A work study student is also facilitating the database corrections. Kathryn Henderson and Norman Horrocks will be featured in the next issue. Zimmerman thanks Horrocks for his commitment to BPM and helping us with the history. Thank-you to the Distinguished Lecture committee for their work on the selection process.

The president also announced to improved chapter relations she will contact each of the active chapters, resulting in information about current faculty advisors and chapter officers. The national staff will work with the president on strengthening the chapters.

Some chapters are more active than others. This is dependent on the activity level of the faculty advisor or chapter officers and members. Discussion and illustrative examples ensued from active and inactive chapters. There is a commitment by the board and president to develop processes to enhance chapter communications.

Perrault stated the workshop venue (at previous ALAs) invited BPM new officers and faculty advisors for induction regarding their responsibilities. This was successful in the past, and should be resurrected. For example—the faculty rep should be a BPM member. These types of policies need to be in writing.

Zimmerman will take on the task of re-establishing relations of chapters. An increasing number of students are information science or studies with no library background, as well as faculty. Perrault suggests that BPM induct also at the PhD level—this can be reminded to chapters, as communications increase.

The president suggests that we gather and collect changes needed for the by-laws—so these can be corrected at annual—all at once.

Membership long term is a problem as many students immediately move away and their BPM membership is not contiguous. The initiate does not know often that they may join a new chapter. The membership information needs to be made more clear, with letter of invitation. Also knowing this is a national organization—and they can be members anywhere—may strengthen the loyalty factor.

Zimmerman is also going to re-write the letter of invitation to include the above. This could be in the sponsor and chapter link for changing advisors and chapter officers.

Knowles asked what is sent by the national office when the initiation fees are sent into national. A certificate and card are received signed by the current president.

Several chapters have asked to help with their files—and national is responding on a request basis—while continuing the database clean-up.

Zimmerman reports that San Jose State is one of those chapters, and is also interested in participating in the ALA Annual General Assembly being held at Anaheim. We need a commitment from SJSU regarding the number of people expected for budgetary purposes.

Perrault stated that we need to endeavor to let all distance students know that we conduct initiations at the annual meeting. The board meeting is on Saturday morning 10 am to 11:30 am and the GA is 4 to 6 pm on afternoon.

b. Treasurer (Whisenant, not attending) (proposed 2008

Budget by ED)

Review of Whisenant's recommendation. Searing asks for clarification of the reason for the \$100 and the rebate of \$15. Perrault explains that some chapters do increase the initiation fee—and did in the past. When it was raised to \$100—there was a compromise that the chapters would get a rebate. There is not supposed to be a rebate to individuals—only chapters. Some of the \$105, \$110 is not really legitimate. The rebate was to subsidize the chapter. Sometimes the \$5 or \$10 extra (Zimmerman) is in fact the local dues. Stroyan states the student will have to write two checks. Perrault saying if anything is over \$100—the student should be writing two checks. Stroyan says two different organizations are going to be two checks. Perrault states the treasurer's second recommendation is more appropriate. Unanimous consent to recommendation number two.

Review of budget and discussion of minor adjustments between Koontz' initial budget and the final one from the Treasurer. Stroyan moves that the budget should be approved. The budget is approved. Perrault suggests that we contact the treasurer and take a look at the CD and possibly keeping some of it liquid. Ask the treasurer to come up with an alternate proposal.

Radford suggested to make the bookmarks available for sale to chapters at cost.

Zimmerman also asked for replenishing the ribbons for name badges. Koontz states we also need a new banner and display board.

c. Executive Director (Koontz)

The database is xx.

Discussion of newsletter publication—the board feels we should try to get it out late March or early April. Perrault suggests focusing on the Gala and the 60th birthday. So we may not need as much content—We can give them the dates in advance.

It was decided that the website work should remain with Need for national office staff to provide procedures and processes i.e., passwords, etc.

Discussion ensues re BPM—section 5 under Article IX re: geographic area. We will ask Valdosta State to initiate a chapter charter request. The board will suspend the geographic requirement of 50 miles due to the rural nature of the school. National staff will contact Wallace Koehler of Valdosta State. BPM board can vote on the this electronically. The board will extend an invitation to Valdosta State for initiation of their students pending approval of their petition.

The membership brochure is under construction. The website on the front cover is excellent, board desires a photo with people perhaps. Zimmerman appreciates the work of the staff on the brochure,

4. Reports of Committees

a. Scholarships and Grants Committee

Zimmerman asks for Stroyan and Searing to review Garfield doctoral scholarships applications. Need to check the due dates of the Garfield and other student applications are all March 15. Reviews should be complete by mid May.

Other scholarships will be reviewed by the directors and past president, Perrault, chaired by Ron Miller.

b. Monograph Series – John Budd will be sending his proceeds to BPM. The board would like to unanimously commend John Budd for his generous donation to the society. Sue Eason is meeting with Art Young tomorrow regarding process on future monographs.

c. Nomination Committee (Anna Perrault) There are two vacancies, terms are for three years. Strauss and Wendt are directors at large, off this year. Woolls comes off in 2009. Need to correct the webpage. We need to put Anna Perrault back on and take Tim Sineath off the web page. Strauss and Wendt must be replaced at this year's GA. We must share this information with the membership through the website and newsletter.

We need to go back through old minutes and straighten out the elections which are every other year. Director at large is three years and two years in the by-laws. Zimmerman will straighten this out. Ron Miller is suggested for this. By-laws committee will work on this.

d. BPM/ALA Distinguished Lecture Series . Discussion led by Nancy based upon Blanche's insight into customary return of BPM lecture fees. This is not BPM board's policy. The winning proposal is the University of North Texas, Beta Lambda Chapter. The national office will send a letter of congratulations.

5. Unfinished Business

a. Estate Planning/Planned Giving – Stroyan suggests we postpone this until after we are on firmer ground with the database. Unanimously approved.

b. LIS Faculty without MLIS/membership BPM. Perrault describes the faculty who are from other disciplines, with no MLIS. Zimmerman discusses now we have one faculty member who was suggested for distinguished membership. Perrault suggests if they are faculty in member schools—perhaps. Searing states that Kathryn Henderson states that Beta Phi Mu is an honor society—not one which honors individuals who have been supportive. Perrault says they are now in our field—

Discussion of faculty attendance at BPM chapters—it seems that it is not as high as it used to be. Stroyan states she agrees with Henderson. Zimmerman states that in the guidelines the individual should have an MLIS. Finding faculty sponsors is an issue. Perrault argues that faculty should buy into it from all backgrounds should be considered. May moves that we keep the restriction of an MLIS criteria for real and honorary memberships. Schools decide for their students. Faculty can only be nominated for honorary memberships. May proposes and Stroyan seconds that we leave the criteria in for MLIS. Perrault states in the past we have faculty with Education degrees. Education faculty have honor societies they may join. Perrault argues that when they come into our field—we need them and accept them. Zimmerman suggests and agrees that BPM is our honor society and we should leave criteria as is. Until by-laws revisions we need to leave this alone. Chapters can induct anyone they want. But for people not coming through the chapters—

If you are not MLIS you can not become ‘distinguished’ at the national level.
Voted to remain 5 – 2.

c. Staggering of elections and terms for directors’ positions

6. New Business

a. 60th Celebration - ALA @ Anaheim, CA. Stroyan—we need to have a sense of what happens there. Zimmerman states she is thinking of the program. We must have the regular procedures, such as initiations and chapter news. In addition a nice big party with as many initiates as possible. Try to get blurbs in—any media we can.

Try to get in ALA program in special events. The national office should be on top of this. Beta Phi Mu members only. Send a press release to all media. John Berry is a member of the Beta Beta chapter. Get Stroyan and other board members when where and time of General Assembly for publicity. Radford suggests her husband to play the acoustic guitar. It is contemporary. We should make an effort to invite the past presidents and distinguished lecturers. National should work with the president and board to make sure an invitation goes out on the website and newsletter and some via email. Norman Horrocks can help with this. Radford is keynoting RUSA program. Zimmerman is in her new position.

Zimmerman and Executive Director will resolve below after chapter contacts are strengthened.

b. Chapter-related issues

1. Regular chapter communications, i.e informing about 60th GALA
2. Re-establish chapter reports
3. Process for chapter closings (where do records go/which are kept?)
4. Canadian chapters
5. Geographic vs. cyberspace (possibly) chapters i.e., Valdosta State

c. Publicity for Scholarships & Awards

d. International Outreach (postponed) Zimmerman states Perrault will explore IFLA in Quebec. Knowles stated that she appreciates the meeting.

7. Announcements

8. Adjournment at 5:05 pm by Zimmerman

HANDOUTS: By-Laws, Bookmarks, The Pipeline Newsletter, Membership Brochure