

Minutes for Kansas Collegiate Media

General Business Meeting * Drury Plaza Hotel, Broadview, Wichita, * Monday, April 8, 2019

Call to Order

A general membership meeting of the Kansas Collegiate Media was held on Monday, April 8, 2019, at the Drury Plaza Hotel, Broadview, 400 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita. The meeting began promptly at 7:30 a.m. and was presided over by Stacy Sparks, Southwestern College, with Amy Chastain, Butler Community College, as secretary.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included President Stacy Sparks, Southwestern College; 1st Vice President Amber Brawner, Hutchinson Community College; 2nd Vice President Regina Cassell, Washburn University; Secretary Amy Chastain, Butler Community College; Bruce Symes, Allen County Community College; Mike Swan, Butler Community College; Thad Rose, Johnson County Community College; Paul Green, Kansas Wesleyan University; Alan Montgomery; Josh Letner, Pittsburg State University; Amy DeVault, Wichita State University; Kristey DeKat, Emporia State University; Kevin Page, Benedictine College; Denise Neil, Newman University; Anne Christiansen-Bullers, Baker University; Julie Love, Benedictine College; Dennis Dunleavy, Benedictine College; Max McCoy, Emporia State University; Brad Hallier, Hutchinson Community College; Todd Vogts, Sterling College; and Sue Sprenkle, Seward County Community College.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the Sept. 21, 2018 was made by Bruce Symes of Allen County Community College and seconded by Mike Swan of Butler Community College.

Regina Cassell of Washburn University explained that a judges' contact list would be started and members are to contact her if they want to be on this list.

Officer's Report

Stacy Sparks of Southwestern College was the acting treasurer at this time. She explained that she received advice from a former KCM treasurer, Dave Bostwick, not to email the account details. One member inquired about Bostwick's explanation, and Sparks explained that way someone does not know how much money there is and it would not be wiped out.

As of Friday, April 6, 2019, \$12,303 was taken in. Those institutions that brought a check on Sunday, April 7, 2019, has not been accounted for, so the deposit did not reflect it at this time. In total, there are \$14,000 in expenses, and judges and reimbursements will need to be compensated.

Sparks took questions regarding the treasurer's report. One task was to locate a bank that does not have service charges. Thad Rose of Johnson County Community College inquired about the benefit of the current bank account, to which Sparks explained that the benefits have not been

explored. One possibility may be to pay online when registering for the spring conference. Rose approved a motion to explore other bands, and Amy Chastain of Butler Community College seconded. The motion was passed by those voting members who were present.

There was \$3,000 reserved for Better BNC for the contest.

One adviser proposed that a student representative have access to the treasurer's report, so students would feel confident. The organization's constitution reads there is a student on the board, but there has been no action taken or added. Furthermore, the constitution does not say how a student is added to the board. For the Fall 2019 Adviser's Retreat, a process to elect a student or to rotate one will be discussed. Paul Green of Kansas Wesleyan University inquired about the process and if students would have access to what is in the account. To help with transparency, the organization has a vision for student representation. Sparks had no objection to sharing any treasurer's report with students. One adviser inquired about the protocol though for advisers, and if there would be a concern if we share reports with students or if it would be available to them. Alan Montgomery explained that any editor-in-chief of any publication who is a member of KCM has the authority to ask for it should have access to it. One adviser approved the motion, and Cassell seconded. The motion was passed by those voting members who were present.

1st Vice President's Report was presented by Amber Brawner. The conference was only down one attendee this year. The registration fees were in the process of being collected, and at the Fall 2019 Adviser's Retreat, the organization will discuss raising the registration fee. Brawner explained that the Exploration Place was a fun activity, and there was good attendance. This may be held again depending on where we have the conference.

Dates for the upcoming 2020 conference were discussed: Sunday, April 5 and Monday, April 6 or Sunday, April 19 and Monday, April 20. The later dates would be too close to other school related activities, and at this time, the organization has not checked with the Drury to see if it is available. The two-day Sunday-Monday conference is a cost factor and also for judge availability; a one-day conference may be easier for speakers. One adviser suggested the option to explore different locations, although Sparks suggested that it is more doable to get speakers to come to Wichita.

Rose suggested that the conference could be moved once every five years; for instance, Johnson County Community College has the facilities to host the conference and it is a good location for speakers. Letner also mentioned that Topeka and Kansas City would be good locations for a conference, too. Furthermore, Green explained that Salina is also a good location because the downtown is being renovated. Amy DeVault of Wichita State University suggested that the university could host the conference if cost is an issue. Sparks concluded that if advisers wish to have the conference at their location in 2022 to attend the 2019 Adviser's Retreat on Saturday, which will meet at the Wichita Eagle once again.

2nd Vice President's report was presented by Regina Cassell. She explained that Better BNC is a better option to go with along with having good support. Cassell also thanked Kevin Page for stepping in to help with this and the contest.

Entries were slightly down by 100, and the overall entries were down, too. Cassell recommended going electronic, although at the Business Meeting it was too late to discuss this; instead, it will be discussed at the 2019 Adviser's Retreat. At this meeting, advisers who are available and free to help restructure and retool the contest would help.

Cassell explained that it may be helpful to break down duties. For instance, there is no All-Kansas award if neither judge assigns 90, thus they would not be eligible for the award. If one judge assigns them the higher score, then they can receive the silver or gold, but whoever receives the All-Kansas award should reflect the judges' average score.

One adviser suggested that a document instructing what to and how to evaluate would be helpful since it is difficult to assign feedback and assign scores if judges do not have a full understanding of the score. Those judges affiliated with a national publication should have a better context. Finally, it needs to be clearer why judges take away points.

Sparks explained that at the 2018 Adviser's Retreat, those advisers present discussed the treasurer's report. It may be helpful to look at other state's contests and conferences to do a major overhaul of KCM's contest and conference.

One adviser explained that some institutions are not contributing in the overall contest because of how it is built: Some publications are monthly; others publish mainly features or opinions, so they may not be ranked at all if there is no hard copy. As such, one adviser suggested shifting content or altering how overall contest is judged. Asking for a mission statement and/or goal may be helpful, and judges can examine this. Furthermore, some publications present further challenges such as the selling of advertisements and online vs. print. Montgomery suggested a sweepstakes award: Whichever publication receives the most points and/or total number of entries wins the All-Kansas.

DeVault explained that the 100-point total hinders scoring. At the moment, a judge cannot submit an overall report unless all categories are filled.

New Business

Some work on the constitution will need to be done between September 2019 and April 2020. An adviser reminded those present voting members that anyone may submit an amendment to the constitution.

Ballots were sent via email and the organization's Facebook page. As of May 1, 2019, the following officers will assume their duties: Kevin Page as President; Amber Brawner as 1st Vice

President; Regina Cassell as 2nd Vice President; Stacy Sparks as Treasurer; and Kristey DeKat as Secretary.

Sparks reminded everyone of the 2019 Adviser's Retreat that will meet at the Wichita Eagle on Saturday, Sept. 21. If advisers cannot make the trip, then they can use Zoom.

One adviser inquired if the organization would be willing to make a donation to SPLC, pending review from the incoming treasurer, Sparks. Four or five years ago, the organization donated \$1,000 to SPLC. Green suggested that if the organization can afford it, it should. A motion was made and seconded that the organization donate \$1,000 to SPLC. Typically, donations are made in the fall and can be presented at the convention, but this will be discussed at the 2019 Adviser's Retreat. Discussion to withdraw the motion was made for now, and Letner seconded.

Mike Swan of Butler Community College acknowledged the Jackie Engle award winner, Sally Renaud.

One adviser suggested that a couple of advisers volunteer to help with the organization's Facebook group and the website; at the moment, there is no committee. Letner is the unofficial chair.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Chastain, July 31, 2019.