

**Iowa Thespian Chapter Board**  
Meeting Minutes - January 4, 2020

**Date:** Saturday, January 4, 2020

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**Place:** Community Room at Coral Ridge Mall in Coralville

Board Members Present	Board Members Absent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aaron Dean, Chapter Director</li> <li>• Leslie LaCorte, Chapter Director</li> <li>• Mike Hunter, Treasurer</li> <li>• Michael Peitz, Secretary</li> <li>• Alan Strait, Communications</li> <li>• Liz Hansen, Membership</li> <li>• Steph DeLacy, Student Leadership</li> <li>• Casey Scott, STO Chair</li> <li>• Maria Markus, Junior Thespian STO</li> <li>• Luis Avalos, Advocacy STO</li> <li>• Erica Heiselman, Secretary STO</li> <li>• Barrett Edwards, Communications STO</li> <li>• Madeline Murphy, Special Projects STO</li> <li>• Hannah Wilson, Membership STO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Special Assistants to the Board Present	Others Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom Stephens, Secretary (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Liz Powers, Communications (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Joie Stoefen, STO Chair (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Taylor Hammer, STO Vice Chair (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Miles Latham, STO Communications (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Will Luebke, STO Special Projects (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Julie Matta, STO Advocacy (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Anna Myatt, STO Junior Thespians (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Amber Schute, STO Membership (Outgoing)</li> <li>• Dixie Forcht, So Tama Troupe Director</li> </ul>

Meeting called to order by State Director Aaron Dean at 10:01

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - A. 2019 and 2020 Board Members  
Aaron thanked outgoing board members and noted the Jr Fest is a cooperative effort of both outgoing and incoming board members.
  - B. Contact information --update after lunch
  - C. 2020 Iowa Thespian Chapter Board resource folder
  
- II. Financial Report (Mike)  
Items were added to the online docs.  
2 schools still owe for 2019.
  
- III. Open Forum  
No items were brought to the table.

#### IV. Old Business

##### A. 2019 State Thespian Officer Festival Report (What went well, what could be improved)

The big goal is relay of information between student and adult board for clear understanding of expectations.

They would benefit from more pre-festival meeting time.

Leadership luncheon--would be good to address dietary needs.

##### B. 2019 Adult Board Festival Post-Mortem Report

2019 post mortem items are in the shared folder.

##### C. UNI Conference Call Report (Leslie and Tom)

Eric and Katie felt nothing urgent for a phone conf. All items in the current document were fine. They were happy with the event.

##### D. A Grand Night of Singing Report (Helen) Liz reported

The event went well.

\$3500 was raised.

Sto suggest adding catering and that a wider variety of age be represented in performances.

Helen is looking for ways to use the money for student advocacy.

In the future it is suggested to avoid a Holiday weekend (on the other hand, it does allow for easier alumni participation).

Other items:

Democracy Works--we will encourage participation again

##### E. Site Selection Discussion and Voting

Tom presented the bid comparison sheet of the 5 respondents. After discussion,

Steph moved to accept the bid of UNI. Liz seconded. Motion carried.

We also asked Tom to speak with UNI and request:

>>use of Piazza for meals rather than Rialto

>>that they lower per delegate fee

>>that language is clarified and changed from areas "have in the past..." be changed to wording showing space is locked in

#### V. Work Session #1

##### A. 2019/2020 State Thespian Officers

###### 1. Goal setting

All have individual and team goals. They plan

>>Google Hang Out bi-weekly meetings

>>alternate biweekly email check ins

>>Monthly check ups pon their work

###### 2. Workshop plan for Junior Thespian Festival

Discussed and looking for further planning

There is a general idea for a Jr Festival logo.

###### 3. Social media transition & guidelines

Script writing on Google HangOut is scheduled.

Bios and photos are collected and in Google Drive folder

B. 2019/2020 Adult Board

1. Chapter Board structure

Aaron discussed current structure and communication, e.g., are special assistants to be included in email; how do we deal with executive board members and non-voting members?

Resolution: Include advisory board/non-voting members on committee and meeting announcements. All can delete if not applicable to them.

Exec members should be mindful of communication, e.g., personnel matters, that should go only to exec members.

Aaron appointed a committee to create advisory committee charters for more specific guidance.

Committee: Aaron, Liz, Steph, Michael

2. STO Selection Process Committee

STO selection process--Liz will take charge of the process review. She wants to conduct interviews, surveys, talk to other states. She will work with a committee of Liz, Alan, Tom and Dixie on the process. They will look to 1. refine the STO selection process and communicate that for a more transparent procedure and 2. increase Leadership Day participation. (There were suggestions for a workshop at Leadership Day on how to become an STO and how to do an IE ).

Lunch [approximately noon]

VI. Work Session #2

A. 2020 Student Board

1. High School Festival

IA Festival Theme for 2020: Carnival: All The World's a Stage.

2. Leadership Day

Leadership Day--work was divided by team.

3. Next steps

They have ideas and want to be sure they have the ability to support the ideas through technology, Google space and with follow up.

B. 2020 Adult Board

1. Board Goals

>>Increase Membership--Liz suggests STO (and all) find one school to create a relationship with and work to nurture a new troupe there. Responsible parties: Liz, STO, Alan.

>>Get schools to return to Iowa Festival

>>Alan will expand the Iowa Thespian Teacher FB page

>>Alan will explore Iowa Playworks.

2. Committee Roles and Recruitment

Junior Festival, Waukee, Mar 28, Theme: Under the Sea: All The World's a Stage.

We need a site for 2021

Committee: Steph, Aaron

Leadership Day, So. Tama, Aug 1

Committee: Liz, Dixie

Send speaker ideas to Liz

Liz to contact Mt. Vernon for interest in 2021

Michael moved we pay a \$400 honorarium for speaker (with workshops). Alan seconded. Motion carried.

## IA Festival

Committee: Leslie, Michael, Alan

3. Junior Thespian Festival Planning
4. Leadership Day Planning

There was a question about board members being paid for jobs vs. that being part of their job as a board member.

POLICY: Executive Board will not receive a stipend for duties that are part of board responsibilities or a job such as judging, doing a workshop. They may receive a stipend for any open position that any member may apply for.

### VII. New Business (Student and Adult Board)

- A. Finalize board schedule (locations)
- B. Membership SEE VI, B, 1 above
  1. Review of current troupes
  2. Recruitment plan
- C. International Thespian Festival Studio Theatre Proposal (Leslie)
- D. Advocacy Updates
- E. Voting on motions

### VIII. Agenda for next meeting

Steph moved the meeting adjourn. Seconded by Alan. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM.

### **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

- |                         |                            |                                 |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Saturday, March 28    | Waukee Theatre Arts Center | Junior Thespian Festival        |
| • June 22-27 (Date TBD) | Bloomington, Indiana       | International Thespian Festival |
| • July 27               | Grinnell High School       |                                 |
| • August 1              | South Tama HS              | Leadership Day                  |
| • October 18            | Tentatively UNI            |                                 |
| • November 12-14        | Cedar Falls                | Iowa Thespian Festival          |