

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS
AUGUST 3-4, 2007
CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

With President Christine Tatum presiding, the meeting of the executive committee of the Society of Professional Journalists was called to order at 7:42 p.m. on Friday, August 3, 2007 at Mama Dip's Restaurant in Chapel Hill, N.C.

ROLL CALL

In addition to Tatum, the following were present for all or a portion of the meeting: President-Elect Clint Brewer; Secretary-Treasurer Dave Aeikens; Immediate Past President David Carlson; Vice President, Campus Chapter Affairs Mead Loop; Region 5 Director Richard Roth; Region 3 Director Holly Fisher; Region 2 Director Ann Aughterton; SDX Foundation President Steve Geimann; Associate Executive Directors Chris Vachon and Julie Grimes; and Editor Joe Skeel.

MINUTES APPROVED

Upon proper motion and second by Aeikens and Brewer, respectively, the committee approved the minutes from its May 17, 2007 meeting.

REGION 10 DIRECTOR

Region 10 Director Nathan Isaacs verbally indicated to board members that he was leaving the journalism profession to pursue a graduate degree and resigned his position as Region 10 Director. He recommended that Tom Henderson from the Snake River Chapter in Idaho be appointed to the position until the election scheduled for October 6, 2007 in conjunction with the SPJ convention in Washington, D.C.

Upon proper motion and second by Aeikens and Loop, respectively, the committee accepted Isaac's resignation and appointed Tom Henderson as the Region 10 Director.

CHAPTER MATTERS

Upon proper motion and second by Loop and Carlson, the board accepted the application for a chapter charter from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Campus Chapter.

CENTENNIAL UPDATE

Grimes reminded the committee that Charles Fair has offered to write the SPJ History book with a completion date of the centennial. Fair has requested funds to get the project started. The funds would cover the cost of travel to conduct initial interviews and to visit the archives. Fair is to provide a complete proposal with a full outline of expenses for the October meeting.

Upon proper motion and second by Brewer and Loop, respectively, the board approved up to \$5,000 for expenses related to initial research for SPJ's centennial history.

CHALLENGE FUND FOR JOURNALISM III

Grimes informed the committee that the Society and Foundation had reached its goal of raising \$100,000 in new money from June 1, 2007 — May 31, 2007. As a result, the Society received a total of \$50,000 in unrestricted funds from the Knight, Ethics and Excellence in Journalism and Ford Foundations.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Carlson, who in his role as immediate past president also chairs the Society's nominations committee, indicated that the following members have indicated their intention to run for office:

— President-elect: Dave Aeikens

- Secretary-treasurer: Kevin Smith
- Vice President, Campus Chapter Affairs: Neil Ralston
- Adviser at Large: Mead Loop and Elizabeth Clark
- Director at Large: Bill McCloskey
- Student Representatives (2): Melissa Patterson, John Patrick and Taylor Rausch
- Region 2 Director: Ann Augherton
- Region 3 Director: Darcie Lunsford
- Region 6 Director: Gordon Govier
- Region 10 Director: Tom Henderson
- Region 11 Director: Sonya Smith
- Region 12 Director: Sonny Albarado

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

SPJ received an open-ended invitation to send a delegation to China. Carlson and Robert Leger are concerned about how the travel would be underwritten by the All-China Journalists Association. Carlson is going to investigate further and report back to the committee.

An invitation from the Taiwan Journalists Association was extended to SPJ. The TWA is similar to SPJ, and to JAK, in its aims and relationship to the government. The committee recommended that SPJ accept the invitation, which was due to arrive in writing before SPJ's national conference. The trip is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 12-18.

SDX AWARDS ISSUE

CBS 3 Philadelphia received an SDX award in category 37 (Documentaries, All Other Markets) but they should have been judged in category 36 (Documentaries, Network/Top 25 Markets). It was brought to SPJ's attention by News 8 Austin, who competed in category 37.

Guy Baehr, Awards and Honors Committee Chairman, recommended that SPJ ask CBS 3 Philadelphia to relinquish their award; and if they did not agree, then he recommended revocation of the award. In addition, Baehr feels that the category should be re-judged for a new winner in category 37.

The Executive Committee decided that the award should remain with CBS 3 Philadelphia. Furthermore, they directed Heather Porter to coordinate the re-judging of category 37 with an additional award to be presented in category 37.

AWARDS

The recipient of the Historical Site in Journalism award will be The Denver Press Club. The balance of the awards will be selected in a conference call in August.

MEETING RECESSED

Upon proper motion and second by Brewer and Aeikens, respectively, the meeting was recessed to executive session to select the winner of the Wells Memorial Key at 9:10 p.m. on Friday, August 3, 2007

MEETING RECONVENED

The executive committee reconvened at 8:07 a.m. on Saturday, August 4, 2007 in Carroll Hall at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The executive committee reviewed the strategic plan which is a compilation of information from the November executive committee meeting, the volunteer & member survey, the spring board meeting, and multiple conference calls. The committee made recommendations regarding the document and its timeline. The plan will be presented to the board in October.

LDF/AMICUS BRIEF

The committee discussed the Society's position in the Faulkner v. National Geographic amicus brief. No action was taken. Brewer will present, in October, a recommendation regarding the procedure for amicus brief approvals.

MEMBERSHIP

The group discussed the recent changes in staffing in the membership department and the potential opportunity for an organizational structure change.

Upon proper motion and second by Brewer and Loop, the board directed that the executive director present a job description and budget information regarding a new membership position prior to posting the job.

STUDENT PRESS LEGISLATION

Carlson continues to work with Baker & Hostetler regarding the fees for the drafting of model legislation for student press anti-censorship. He has negotiated a fee of \$10,000 and will work to get information explaining the work that will be done for the \$10,000.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Upon proper motion and second by Carlson and Aeikens, respectively, the meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m. on Saturday, August 4, 2007.