

IWANE Membership Meeting Minutes
Conference Call ~ May 9, 2019

Call to Order:

The IWANE president called the membership meeting to order at approximately 1:12am. The following board members were present: Andrea Dormady (AD); Janel Milner (JM); Pat Campbell (PC); John Fitzgerald (JF); Colleen Brown (CB) and Joni Light (JL). Absent: Eileen Flanagan (EF)

The following members were present: Pat Scelso, Karen Eberl, Mike Meyer, Evelyn Jimenez, Stuart Gilson, Sue Gilson, Beverly Alba, Sherry Mayo, Suzanne Gibney, Al Gibney, Rosemary Wortman, Denise Batastini, Clary Healy, Lee Leobelenz, Kristol Ballod, Susan Prokopenko, Lisa Foreman, Suze Craighead, Tom Cusack, Susan Bleakely, Julie Schaeffer, Judy Mazurkiewicz, Jeanne Patterson, Tricia Kelly, John Kelly, Jennifer Sula, Jill Bregy, Jamie Forzano, Ross Moxon
Guests: Shea Lambirth

Agenda:

A meeting was scheduled in conjunction with the general meeting as per IWANE By-laws, Article II, Section 3. JL was recording the minutes. IWANE will be referred to as "The Club" henceforth. Agenda items per the attached and in slightly different order noted in bold below.

Officer's Reports:

AD opened the meeting by announcing and welcoming the newly approved members to IWANE. The board approved ten new memberships since the last club meeting.

As a reminder to all regular members, the Sportsmanship Award is generally announced at the June meeting held at the Fun Match. As this meeting is not going to take place AD asked that members submit names to JL, either via email or regular mail, prior to June 1 and the board will review and announce at the next club meeting. The next meeting has not yet been confirmed at this time.

JM provided the members with an update on the financials. Below is the excerpt she read to members from the portfolio manager, Alan Freeman:

"After the closing of the economy and waterfall of stock prices over the last few months, the phased reopening of the economy is perceived by the market as a positive sign and prices have rebounded. Janney is somewhat cautious near term and watching corporate earnings and economy as we move past all the bad news the second quarter. Interest rates are likely to remain low for the foreseeable future. I believe the portfolio is meeting its income and growth objective and providing the necessary income for periodic withdrawals by the Association."

JM further confirmed that the current value is \$456,000.00. This is after the account took a market hit of -\$44,000.00. The year-to-date return is -12.7%, with a current yield of 3.78% for an estimated income of \$17,236.00. The current allocation of funds is 55% equity, 37% fixed equity and 8% cash.

JM confirmed that there is currently \$4,109.00 in the rescue fund, and The Club is on target for staying on budget for the remainder of this calendar year. This is the first time in many years that The Club has an actual budget.

JM opened the floor for questions. Lisa Foreman asked about the withdrawals that did not have details on the officer report from the November 9 meeting, and if there was any progress made in uncovering them. JM explained that some of the withdrawals were made for previously earmarked donations or costs, but that nothing seemed inappropriate. Lisa clarified that her question was regarding deductions made that could not be accounted for from previous years. JM explained how the Trust is supposed to work adding that it is not supposed to be used for the general operations of The Club. However, it was thought that some withdrawals

were used to supplement operations. Lisa commented that IWANE used to operate without the trust funds and should strive to be a self-sustaining club again. Additionally, she added that it was discussed to have an audit done on the club and asked if anything has changed to move forward as a self-managed organization. JM explained that the cost of a full audit would be costly, yet she was able to address most inaccuracies in the accounting aspect with exception to the years 2013, 2014 and 2015. These are the years that make up the \$40K in withdrawals. JM confirmed that she was still working to get that information clarified once and for all.

Judy Mazurkiewicz asked if it could be resolved by asking the previous treasurer. AD explained that there were several treasurers in place over the past few years, and Bob Ireland was even working on the Janney Fund accounting separately from the treasurer. It transitioned over to Donna Monahan shortly thereafter making the trail a bit more challenging.

Suze Craighead explained how she represents many banks in her practice and the banks would be able to assist in uncovering any money trails. Suze also asked about the board meeting that was held the previous night and what members should know about it. Additionally, members should have the right to attend board meetings. AD said the meeting was held and it was not communicated to the members. This was an oversight, yet all board meeting minutes will absolutely be available to all members, and members will receive notice of board meetings going forward. It was not in intentional exclusion.

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Lisa Foreman asked if there was a decision made on the raising of membership dues as she is in favor of the increase. JM explained that the board felt it necessary to balance the budget first and see how close The Club came to work within this budget for this year before making any increase in dues. JM further explained that the board was hoping to see a bump up in voluntary donations which could be more of an increase than flat dollar increases for each member. She also noted that there is a fund-raising committee looking at ways to gather additional income.

Lisa also asked about the discussion noted on clubs moving away from independent specialty shows, and if there was any progress. AD told members that many plans for this year have been put on hold due to COVID 19. She further explained that the biggest expense is the IWANE Specialty, but it is also one of the biggest educational forums The Club holds, as well. Discussion will be on-going as to work within budget and explore other options that will help reach budget goals. Jill Bregy added that she is in favor of keeping expenses down, and if it means holding an event in conjunction with another to share the burden she is in favor.

PC moved the motion to accept the meeting minutes of November 9, 2019 as written; KE seconds. Motion approved unanimously.

Annual Election of the Board:

JL cast a vote for the 2020 slate as presented by the Nominating Committee.

President – Andrea Dormady

Vice President – Colleen Brown

Treasurer – Janel Milner

Secretary – Joni Light

Director, Class of 2021 – Pat Campbell

Director, Class of 2022 – John Fitzgerald

Director, Class of 2023 – Karen Eberl

Update on Annual Fun Match and Specialty Show:

JL confirmed that the Annual Fun Match for this year is officially cancelled. As per the property management of the 4H Fairgrounds in Westford, they have cancelled all events as per a governor directive through the end of June. They expect additional events to be cancelled as there has been no lift in the emergency order limiting the numbers for public gatherings. The pre-payment that IWANE made for this year's event will be put

towards the 2021 Fun Match, also to be scheduled in June. Planning of the event will continue with the Fun Match Committee.

AD moved the discussion to the 2020 Specialty currently planned for end of July of 2020 in CT. There are several concerns to holding the event, provided the state of CT lifts or loosens the current restrictions on public gatherings. Hotel closures, ability to keep social distancing, insurance liabilities and travel restrictions imposed on travel regarding our UK judge, were all discussed with members. AD further asked the members to consider all of this and settle on a group decision to cancel the show for this year. KE added that most AKC events and fairs have been cancelled in CT and RI through end of year. Jill Bregy confirmed the cancellations in CT and explained that the liability to The Club is extreme and it is not wise to put the judge or any participant at such risk. Sue Bleakley, Suze Craighead, Lisa Foreman, Clary Healy were other members that concurred in this consideration.

AD asked for a motion to be made to cancel the 2020 Specialty due to COVID 19 restrictions. Judy Mazurkiewicz moved said motion and Sue Bleakley seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business:

Lisa Foreman discussed the possibility of a one-day specialty, and suggested that the grounds in Keene, NH be considered. Wheelock Park was used in years past. Her experience at this location was positive and she reached out to the property management to ask if they would consider our show to be held there again, at which they said yes. Lisa commented that the lack of shade was a concern for her in the heat of July. In reference to the one-day specialty, Lisa felt the entry numbers no longer support a two-day event. AD explained that members of the board investigated the costs and, while the Keene grounds are not expensive to rent, the tent rental is significant. Additionally, there was considerable support for new CT location and with the event moving to the end of August in 2021 it is expected to be cooler. Several people have commented that a two-day event is more of a social event which gives people the opportunity to spend time with others who they do not see on a regular basis. JF commented that he had a poor experience with the Keene location, and felt that the Cheshire Club were not accommodating to the Irish Wolfhounds, in particular. CB said the location could potentially draw more folks from NJ, MD and NY.

Lisa Foreman then asked about the show secretary. AD said it was Rau in the past but as we move to reduce and eliminate costs to The Club, we have a new superintendent with very reasonable pricing. KE said this person has been overseeing shows for many years and has worked with her all breed club.

The general meeting was adjourned at 2:31pm with a motion by Suze Craighead and seconded by Karen Eberl.

Submitted and approved: July 25, 2020

Joni Light
IWANE Secretary