ACBI Board Minutes

August 4, 2018

Teleconference

Members present: Barbara Salisbury, Don Lane, John Huffman, Rita Kersh, Dee Ann Hart, Don Koors, Gerry Koors, Rich Vonderhaar, Cindy Brooking, Bill Fierman, Bill Sparks, Lynn Powers, Deanna Austin, Ted Boardman, and Machell Philippone.

Not present: Edie Huffman, Kari Goodman

**President’s report.**

Attended the ACB National Convention (lots of attendees, spread out hotel/convention center,

Staffed the ACBI table at ADA celebration in Bloomington (saw roughly 100 people in 3 hours); printed website on card stock and brailled people’s names

Revised brochure

Planning ahead for next few meetings

Suggested a day long retreat in spring; she’s investigating free or low cost facilitators from universities; she’ll update us in fall

Convention committee

Constitution committee

Executive board meeting

Obtained signed receipt for bill of sale of what Michael had done on website

**Approval of minutes.** They had not yet been reviewed according to recording. It was suggested that known changes be accepted. John moved that the minutes be approved via email, prior to the next board meeting, after secretary’s review of recording; Don Koors seconded. Motion carried. John moved that we reconsider the previous action; seconded by various members. Motion is now that April minutes be approved at Nov. board meeting.

Known changes:

1. Bill Sparks, not Don Koors, represented ACBI for nominating committee at ACB.
2. #6 of best practices should read “previous years’ banking records, not “previous year’s”

**Treasurer’s report**Date: 07-30-2018  
Income  
Hilliard Lyons interest: $213.65  
Dues: $154  
Donations: $41.52  
Fund-raiser letter: $0  
MMS: $102 First Quarter  
ACB Brenda Dillon Walk: $0  
Convention registration: $0  
Convention auction: $ 50 From SCAVI and Heartland  
Convention donations: $0  
Total income: $561.17  
Expenses  
Fund-raiser letter:  
 Circle City: $0  
 SCAVI: $0  
 Heartland: $0  
Dues to ACB: $0  
Mid Winter  
 President’s meeting: $0  
 Legislative seminar: $0  
State convention: $0

State Convention auction  
 Circle City: $0  
 SCAVI: $0  
 Heartland: $0  
ACB convention:  
 Delegate reimbursement $800 Barbara Salisbury  
ACB auction: $150 Amazon Gift Card  
James Olson Fund: $100  
Blind Students Foundation: $0  
Bosma Foundation (Focus printing): $0  
Total expenses: $1,050  
Chase accounts:  
Checking $1,307.43  
Savings $9,235.62  
Total $10,543.05  
Hilliard Lyons Endowment Account  
Bonds $27,186.61  
Cash $16,932.53  
Total $44,119.14  
Hofstetter:  
 Bonds: $21,497.12  
 Cash: $7,800.36  
Total: $29,297.48  
Dobson $3,231.39

Rich mentioned there were some changes that need to be made to Hilliard Lyons; he will contact them before he writes the next report to make sure it is correct. Barbara asked about difference in MMS figures from other reports. Don Koors mentioned that ACB does not hold money back or save some for another quarter. Rich asked that approval be tabled until he gets further verification from Hilliard Lyons. Motion was made and carried that this report will be approved at the fall board meeting.

Discussion ensued about reporting cumulated income and expenses; it was agreed that the report should be changed to reflect cumulative totals.

Rich added the following on 8/3:

The Fourth quarter MMS rebate of $252 was correct and deposited in to   
our Chase account on February 8, 2018.  There is an error in the dues,   
thanks Don for catching.  The $154 dues figure in the current report is   
correct.  I accidentally omitted Heartland dues of $147 from first   
quarter making first quarter dues $378 instead of $231. As far as the   
amount and interest rate on recently purchased Hilliard Lyons bonds, I   
will have that e-mailed to me next week and send that to board.

Barbara asked if auction money was earmarked for anything specific. She suggested that 2018 monies be earmarked for outreach. Don Koors mentioned that it went to the general fund. He suggested that earmarking that money for outreach would require other fundraisers since the budget is set.

Bill Fierman said there were two issues to separate.

1. Should there be an earmark in principle (budget in general)
2. Decide special project, depending funds

Barbara mentioned that we need to reach out to younger demographics. College and high school students, families and children with vision problems. Don Lane can send out ACBI information to groups he is involved with (Blind Lunch Bunch; multigenerational) and a support group, run by Sarah Clark, through assisted living. He mentioned getting more involved with Bosma. He will send contact information to Barbara.

Cindy asked about how and when to share ACBI information for outreach. Barbara mentioned the need for business cards, which It should at least have phone number and website. Large print would be most effective; very few people read Braille. Cindy will investigate cost of printing. Ted asked what kind of information we want to share with our target audiences; it might be better to create informational packets about services, rather than about ACBI. Barbara said we need to gather ideas, in order to build a plan and talking points. Dee Ann mentioned portable Braille labeler/embosser, which would make Brailling cards cheaper and quicker. We could share information at churches and other social action groups, school fairs, job fairs, resource fairs at schools, etc. We could just make contacts at such events, without a table. We will send out a mass mailing to get word out about convention. Barbara asked if anyone would be willing to attend resource fairs and begin to network.

Bradford Woods would be a perfect site for outreach for younger people, in years we don’t host convention. There have been a limited number of cabins. Ohio does fitness events.

John asked who monitors our phone number; Google number forwards call to another phone, Barbara’s at present.

Maybe membership committee can incorporate outreach ideas.

Barbara sent out a message about the accessible/absentee voting test website; comments include that it was easy to use. There was no provision for identity verification/security, but it is still in design process. She spoke about the need for this to be available to everyone, regardless of disability. John has been following Indiana legislation; he found a synopsis for SB327 but he couldn’t determine how far in the process it got this year. Writing a resolution for a bill that hasn’t passed is different from writing one asking for a specific legislative outcome. Don Lane spoke about how voting has and will continue to evolve. He said we need to be prepared to stay involved. In the future, it will be probably linked to the governmental system. In 46 counties, there is no tie to the system. Rich suggested that they do want feedback but also that ACBI make its support known. Cindy mentioned that she knows a lot of people who don’t have or use computers or have a printer, so she questions how accessible as it could be.

Barbara asked if we have enough interest/information to draft a resolution in support of accessible absentee voting. John moved, Don Lane? seconded. Motion passed. John will draft the resolution.

**Constitution and bylaws committee**

1. Item to amend constitution to require that president and vice-president be blind or visually impaired and that the majority of elected board members also be blind or visually impaired. (ACB language is “blind” only.
2. Item creating new bylaw, requiring fiscal year to begin January 1 and ending Dec. 31.

Don Koors mentioned that those dates are on our 501c3 paperwork. Question arose about definition of visually impaired; there are definitions in various statutes. There is one for legal blindness. People self-report; there is no official paperwork they have to sign to say what their visual acuity is.

These amendments will be presented at the Nov. 2018 convention for a vote.

**Convention committee**

18 vendors; planning to have at least 20. Barbara, Rita and Cindy went to the hotel recently to view the current renovations. They also met with the local Lions’ Club. Barbara thanked Cindy for driving.

**Website committee**

No changes; updates to website have gone smoothly. All is good. Michael has been very responsive. His assistant Ryan has worked with visual material.

**Membership committee**

Rich called people who are no longer ACBI members with information about the convention. Many of them were very pleased to be contacted. Barbara asked for more of the board to offer assistance with membership and outreach. Rich asked how many people attended chapter meetings on average.

Bloomington, 30; SCAVI, 15; Circle City, 10-12

Barbara suggested that the presidents of the chapters talk via conference; various issues.

**Nominating Committee**

Gerry Koors will chair; other members will be sought.

Don Lane goes off

Bill Sparks can run again

Machell can run again

The committee will provide names in nomination for two awards

ACBI’s auction item was turned in but was not made available at the auction. This is the 2nd time our item has not been put in the convention auction. If it happens again, we will pursue it. Don Koors moved that it be put it in the Holiday auction, ? seconded. Motion passed.

Executive committee discussed spring one day retreat, 10 am-4/5 pm. Topics will include;

1. Board development,
2. Organizational growth
3. Strategic planning

Talking with IU, IUPUI, Purdue about a facilitator.

We would take only an hour for a meeting, if needed. Consensus was favorable for the retreat. It would be an ideal way to orient new board members.

Focus deadline is too late for convention deadlines; so release Sept. 15 would work better. Deadline for Focus is end of August or before.

Next meeting post-convention at hotel, Sunday morning.

Motion to adjourn by Rita, seconded. Meeting adjourned approximately 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Edythe Huffman, Secretary