**Minutes of the**

**2019 Illinois Geographical Society Executive Council Meeting**

**Hotel Julien, Dubuque, Iowa**

**April 25, 2019**

Meeting was called to order at 8:07 PM by President Chris Sutton

**Members present**: Joe Kubal, Susan Holderread, Stacey Brown-Amilian, Jill Thomas, Ani Smith, Carmen Masó, Chris Sutton, Mike Sublett, Ty Liles, Mike Cornebise, Len Ealey, and Nick Goodwin

**Approval of Minutes from previous Executive Council Meeting:** Minutes from the Executive Council Meeting of April 26, 2018, in Edwardsville were reviewed. **Sutton asked** **for a motion** to approve minutes from the 2018 IGS Executive Council Meeting approved- **Brown motioned** to approve, **seconded by Cornebise**. **(Passed Unanimously)**

**2018 Annual Meeting Final Report (Liles)**

Ty Liles gave a final report on the 2018 Annual Meeting held in Edwardsville. There were a total of 69 paid conference registrants. The Friday field trip had 30 attendees, the awards banquet had 40 attendees, and the Saturday luncheon had 40 attendees. There were eight poster presentations and 13 paper presentations on Saturday. The total in receipts for the conference was $3,915.00 and total expenses for the conference were $3,985.05. $1,095.00 in donations were received. Liles expressed his appreciation for the grant received from SIUE towards the Annual Meeting.Thebanquet cost was a total of $1,412.71. Sutton expressed his appreciation to both Stacey and Ty on their efforts in organizing the Annual Meeting. **Thomas motioned to accept the report, seconded by Holderread. (Passed Unanimously)**

**2019 Annual Meeting Report (Smith)**

Ani Smith gave a preliminary report for the 2019 Annual Meeting in Dubuque. The total paid registrants are 59 and 84 anticipated attendees in total. 71 are anticipated to attend the Friday banquet. The Thursday field trip had a total of 13 attendees and Joe Kubal was pleased with that turnout. Liles asked about the Saturday field trip if weather would be a factor. It was noted weather would not play a role due to a large amount of the field trip being indoors. Crystal Cave and Mines of Spain are stops on the Saturday post field trip. Dinner is also a part of that field trip. Sutton expressed his thanks to Smith for organizing the 2019 Annual Meeting. He also thanked Joe Kubal for all his efforts in organizing the field experiences as well. Sutton talked about the story map used to describe the Annual Meeting as well. He was also pleased with the turnout given the location of the meeting being outside of the state. Discussion transpired about there were no participants coming from Iowa and Wisconsin.

**2020 Annual Meeting Discussion (Ealey/Goodwin)**

Len Ealey and Nick Goodwin gave a report on preliminary plans for the meeting next year to be held in Vincennes, Indiana on April 23-25, 2020. The field trip is about 75 percent complete in planning. The hotel will be the Holiday Inn at a rate of $95.00/night. The George Rodgers Clark trek from Illinois to Vincennes on the bus with narration from a guide and the Toyota Automobile Plant tour are highlights of the field trip. Names are needed in advance of who will be attending the Toyota portion of the field trip to submit to Toyota prior to the field trip. Talks were had trying to connect and to make connections with the Indiana Geographic Alliance as well as Kentucky. Renovations were going on at Vincennes University for where the banquet will be but it should work for hosting the banquet. Len is going to follow up with our contact for that. Nick Goodwin provided a handout of a map showing areas of interest for the 2020 Annual Meeting and another handout with details about the 2020 annual meeting keynote speaker.

***Illinois Geographer* Report (Thomas)**

Jill Thomas gave a report on the *Illinois Geographer* (IG). She gave a big thank you to Joe Kubal for all his work. She noted the editor decides what is color as opposed to what is not color in the IG. Thomas noted she has encountered some frustration from authors. She has sent out digital copies of the IG as well. She noted that the title of the edition is now on the spine of the journal so it can be visible when stuck on a bookshelf.She also noted some of the photos and images when printed are difficult to read. She thanked Mike Sublett for the new sheet for style guidelines and examples of references for citations. ISBN numbers were also added to the back of the IG as well. She noted she has lots of book reviews to catch up on. Thomas talked about a future issue focusing solely on student papers and having a student edition issue of the IG. She is also going to try to incorporate research grant award winners and having them incorporate papers into this issue as well. Talks were also had of having a list of all the recipients of the distinguished geographers. Thomas encouraged the Executive Council to reach out to people and encourage them to submit papers/articles to the IG as well.

**Community College Student Awards (Liles)**

Ty Liles gave a report on Community College Awards. There were 4 award nominees this year. There is one in attendance at the meeting this year. There were no nominations for the Charles Womack Award this year. Liles followed up with people to be sure of that. He stated that some people just didn’t feel their students met the criteria of the award.

**Four Year Student Awards (Brown-Amilian)**

Stacey Brown-Amilian gave a report on Four Year Student Awards. There were 12 nominations, and two were denied this year. The reasons two nominations were denied was due to one nominee being a biology major and the other nomination was poorly written. University of Chicago was a late submission. There are ten awardees total and four will be in attendance at the meeting. (Augustana, Illinois State, Western Illinois, and Eastern Illinois are the schools represented at the meeting)

**Treasurer Report (Ealey)**

Len Ealey highlighted the trends over the last 15 years and noted that the total revenue is up. The Savings and Certificate accounts are pretty consistent in numbers he mentioned. He emphasized he does the most work in the checking account. He highlighted various costs and expenses on the back side. There were a few donations on the field day under special funds. We are in the negative on student awards overall, but we did receive a few donations. There are 12 lifetime memberships to be given away in total. 10 are from Len Hodgman and 2 were from an anonymous donor. Talks were had concerning online registration and the costs it has for the IGS when we utilize that method. Online registration is convenient but cost us a little more to do it that way. The registration fee for conference (last year) and membership fee was discussed about the option to do it online. **Motion to approve treasurer report by Holderread, seconded by Brown-Amilian. (Passed Unanimously)**

**Audit report committee (Masó)**

Carmen Masó reported that Larry Resutko and Mary Ann Hanlin met with Len and found the records of the IGS were in good order. They emphasized Len continues to do a good job as treasurer of the IGS.

**Field Days (Kubal)**

Joe Kubal talked about field days of 2018. 11 field trips scheduled in total last year. 4 were successful and 1 was mildly successful. A few were cancelled as well. An email was sent to Executive Council Members prior to the meeting outlining the tentative field trips of 2018 and 2019. Joe is measuring success of the field days on if the trips break even. He reported good turnouts are happening with the Annual Meeting field days this year. He noted the further away and more costly tours are the ones that tend to be cancelled. Sutton encouraged anyone who has ideas on field days to let their voices be known. He thanked Joe for all his work on the trips.

**IGA Report (Sublett)**

Mike Sublett gave a report for John Kostelnick. on the IGA and provided a handout. He talked about a workshop for educators that will be held at Illinois State in 2019. Contact for social media with the IGA is Amy Bloom. He reported the IGA was able to get approximately $795,000 back from National Geographic. The new endowment has been established with the ISU Foundation. National Geographic is getting out of the Alliance arrangement and John Kostelnick was able to get the endowment sent to ISU, which will generate around roughly $25,000/year. Overall, the IGA is alive and well.

**Central Office Report (Masó)**

Masó reported she and Susan Holderread met about various items in relation to the Central Office. She has worked on the website and updated the new office address and tax forms. Research grants were sent out and advertised on the IGS Facebook page and also West Lake AAGs site. All four of the research grantee applicants received awards and are presenting at the Annual Meeting. Masó also outlined the membership. The IGS has 129 members in total- 70 lifetime, 29 regular, 27 retirees, 1 sustaining member, 2 students, and 8 institutional members. She also talked about some members that were sponsored this year by other members. Website has been showing the field day information as well. She is talking about adding pictures from the field days on the website as well. Ideas for other things to advertise on the website were recent award winners and what they are studying, etc. She is also talking about adding some items to the IGS Facebook page as well and also created an Instagram account as well. Talks occurred about the necessity to have insurance in the case that something would happen in case the IGS would be liable.

**Other business**

**Slate for officers:** President (Smith)’21, Vice President (Brown-Amilian)’21, Treasurer (Ealey)’21, Central Office Director (Masó 3-year term) Editor (Thomas)’21

**Motion to approve the slate, Cornebise motioned, Holderread seconded. (Passed unanimously) President, VP, and Treasurer voted on during IGS Business Meeting.**

IG Editor, Central Office Director is voted on and appointed within the Executive Council.

**Motion to make Thomas editor, Masó Central Office Director Motioned by Smith, Holderread seconded. (Passed unanimously)**

Discussion of Len Hodgman Lifetime membership award member was held. Dean Butzow was talked about. **Motion to make Dean Butzow the recipient of Len Hodgman Lifetime Membership award by Cornebise, seconded by Brown. (Passed Unanimously)**

Sutton talked about the Geography Bee and stated it was held at Heartland Community College and encourages people to be involved in it if they want to be.

Business meeting appointments of council will be announced at business meeting include: Elementary Member: Ani Smith, Joe Kubal to be Applied Cartographer, Mike Cornebise 4 year college member, Chris Sutton- immediate past president, Ty Liles 2 year college representative, and ILGISA rep Judy Bock to replace Carmen.

The Geography Bee continues to receive a recurring contribution of $500 from the IGS.

Sutton encourages people to take the IGS commemorative coin with them to wherever they travel and take pictures. There were also talks about having IGS gear down the road.

A discussion was had of membership being renewed at the Annual Meeting as opposed to January to December on a yearly basis. People could pay and renew their membership at Annual Meetings. A person could also become a member when they get registration packet at the Annual Meeting.

**Motion to have membership year coincide with FY April 1- April 1 membership by Thomas seconded by Ealey. (Passed Unanimously)**

**Motion by Brown to have a convenience fee for online transactions to be assessed by the Executive Council Yearly at the Executive Council Meeting, seconded by Smith. (Passed Unanimously)**

Brown brought up idea of potential poster competition at the Annual Meeting in the future. A similar event was done in the past at Eastern Illinois University.

**Sutton asked for motion** to adjourn the Executive Council Meeting**, Brown motioned, Thomas seconded. (Passed Unanimmously)**

**Adjourned at 10:37 PM**

**Respectfully Submitted, Nick Goodwin**