

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION IN SAN DIEGO,
CALIFORNIA ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017

President Diane Calhoun-French called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM. Secretary Michael Marsden did a roll call of members and verified that a quorum had been attained.

Voting Members Present: Roger Adams, Lynn Bartholome, Bruce Drushel, Gary Edgerton, Diane Calhoun- French, Sam Grogg, Gary Hoppenstand, Michael Johnson, Michael Marsden, Sue Matheson, Cynthia Miller, Jay Nelson, Carl Sederholm, Phil Simpson, and Elwood Watson.

Voting Members Absent: None

Non Voting Members Present: John Bratzel, Kathy Merlock Jackson, Ann Larabee, Peta Long and Brendan Riley.

Non Voting Members Absent: Joe Hancock

Opening Remarks: President Diane Calhoun-French welcomed everyone and thanked them for all of their work on behalf of the Popular Culture Association. She then turned the meeting over to the Governing Board Chair, Gary Edgerton.

1. Fiona O'Connor of Wiley Publishers was a guest at the meeting and provided updates on both the *Journal of Popular Culture* and the *Journal of American Culture*. She noted especially the good international readership of JPC and the strong increase in downloads for articles from JAC. She also discussed the process for selecting a new Editor for JAC when Kathy Merlock Jackson's term is concluded at the end of 2017. She also discussed the process of selecting a new logo for the PCA.

2. The Executive Director of Operations, Brendan Riley, reported on: a. the current state of the PCA budget, b. the election results, c. an update on the web site redesign, d. the current registrations for the conference at 2135, and e. the timetable for the development of a PCA calendar.

3. President Diane Calhoun-French announced that she had appointed Gary Burns to serve as the PCA/ACA Historian. The Historian's duties were discussed and supplemented with several additional areas of responsibility.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Historian be invited to attend meetings of the Governing Board for the next two years. Motion passed 15 Yes, 0 No.

4. Discussion followed about the goals to be achieved by having Vice President/President Elect Phil Simpson attend the POPCAANZ in New Zealand in the summer of 2017.

It was duly moved and seconded that Vice President/President Elect Philip Simpson attend the POPCAANZ meeting in Wellington, New Zealand in the Summer of 2017 on behalf of the PCA. Motion Passed: 15 Yes, 0 No.

5. Gary Edgerton presented several updates on behalf of the Executive Director of Events, Joe Hancock.

6. Vice President for Area Chairs, Bruce Drushel, provided an update.

a. For the San Diego Conference there were 2400 proposed presentations in 700 sessions with a drop rate of 11%.

b. There were 14 changes in Area Chairs with 120 Areas and 150 Area Chairs.

c. He suggested the need for the consolidation of some areas.

d. He also outlined the process whereby a new Area is established: first a Special Topic Area is identified to prove the viability of the new Area. Then once it proves viable, it could become a permanent new Area.

7. Vice President for Awards, Roger Adams, reported on this year's awards.

a. There were 20 award winners this year and 1 honorable mention.

b. He noted that the \$500 travel grant for award winners has resulted in half of the winners attending to receive their awards in person.

c. He noted that there was strong interest in the awards this year.

d. He suggested the need for a LGBTQ award.

It was duly moved and seconded to form a subcommittee to propose the establishment of a LGBT award.

Motion passed, 15 Yes, 0 No.

8. Discussion turned to the selection of a major speaker for the 2018 meeting in Indianapolis. It was proposed that the PCA attempt to secure RuPaul for the conference.

It was duly moved and seconded that the PCA approve a one-time expenditure of \$75,000 plus up to \$10,000 in expenses to bid on having RuPaul as the Ray and Pat Browne Awardee for Distinguished Contributions to the Popular Arts at the Indianapolis Conference, with the understanding that if the conference loses money the Board Members would relinquish their travel funds. Motion passed: 13 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstention.

9. Discussion turned to the need to establish a Bylaws Subcommittee to work with the Endowment Board on their bylaws revisions to make certain they are properly aligned. A legal review of the results was deemed prudent.

10. It was recommended that the incoming President, Phil Simpson, establish a selection committee to begin work on the 2019 Ray and Pat Browne Award. It was noted that suggestions for the 2018 Eminent Scholar Award should be forwarded to the Vice President for Awards, Roger Adams.

11. Discussion turned to the implementation of Article XVII of the bylaws regarding the hiring of full-time Executive Director. The job description was circulated and the incoming President, Phil Simpson, will form a search committee with an intended start date of January 1, 2018 for the Executive Director.

12. Following a debriefing on the 2017 elections, it was noted that there may well be a need to reconsider and possibly revise sections 5.7, 9.3 and 10 of the current bylaws. Board Chair Edgerton referred the matter to incoming President, Phil Simpson, to create a new bylaws subcommittee to address the issue.

13. It was also suggested that going forward care needs to be taken to communicate not with just some members of the Governing Board, but with all members to avoid any confusion or disharmony.

16. Board Chair Edgerton suggested the need to establish a specific weekend in the summer for the Governing Board to convene in Indianapolis to update the PCA Strategic Plan.

It was duly moved and seconded that Gary Edgerton continue to serve as the Board Chair, that Lynn Bartholome continue to serve as Board Treasurer, and that Carl Sederholm serve as the Board Secretary. Motion passed: 13 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention.

Meeting was formally adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael T. Marsden, Secretary

PCA Governing Board