

NSH Region IV Meeting Minutes **Sunday, August 24, 2014, Austin, Texas**

Present: 29 Representative members from Region IV signed in and Jean Mitchell NSH Region IV Director

Called to order by Region IV Director Jean Mitchell at 4:45pm

Secretaries Report: The minutes from the 2013 Region IV Meeting in Providence, Rhode Island are available for all attendees to read. Since this report has already been published a vote to accept the minutes is not required.

Financial Report: All Region Directors receive \$1000.00 (upon submission of receipts) from NSH annually to offset attending state meetings in their region. A question was raised by Skip Brown (Illinois) if that \$1000 is sufficient for attending all of the Region IV state meetings. Jean Mitchell stated it does not cover all expenses but each of the Region IV states have all generously offered to offset travel/accommodation expenses whenever possible.

Old Business: Jean Mitchell attended the majority of the Region IV state meetings (with the exception of Ohio) this spring, staffed the NSH booth in five states, gave presentations at three states and participated in all scheduled NSH Board of Directors (BOD) teleconferences and NSH appointment teleconferences and meetings (Joint Commission, ASCP and NSH Strategic Planning Task Force). She used scholarship funds to attend the 2nd Central American Histology Congress (June 2014), taught 8 hours of muscle biopsy related wet workshops and assisted in the NSH booth at this meeting held in San Jose, Costa Rica.

New Business:

1. State Meeting updates:

Indiana:

- Members: 73 state members with steady numbers and good financial standing.
- Spring meeting: 70 attendees with 24 vendors in Indianapolis.
- Website: www.inhisto.org
- 2015 spring meeting: March 6-7, 2015 in Indianapolis.

Kentucky:

- Members: 64 state members.
- Spring meeting: 55 attendees and 22 vendors in Louisville.
- Newsletter: Slice of Life; Website: www.kyhistotechs.com.
- 2015 Spring Meeting: February 27-28, 2015 in Louisville.
- 2014 Election results: Debbie Luttrell-President, Ezanya Obeten-Vice President, Ashley Byerly-Secretary, Melissa Peak-Treasurer.

Michigan:

- Members: 193 state members.
- Spring meeting: 77 attendees and 19 vendors in Lansing.
- Fall seminar: November 8 in Royal Oak.
- Newsletter (Stephanie Allan-Editor) and Website: Both in good shape. www.mihisto.org
- 2015 spring meeting: Bay City, May 1-2, 2015.
- 2014 Election results: Paula Canfield-President, Michelle Martin-Vice President, Carrie Schray-Secretary, Rachel Fowler-Treasurer.

Wisconsin:

- Members: 70 state members and in good financial standing.
- Spring meeting: Tri-State Histology meeting in Rochester, MN with 130 attendees and 34 vendors.
- Newsletter: In Focus (Mark Sadowski-Editor) and Website (Andy Fortune-Webmaster): www.whs.wildapricot.org
- 2015 spring meeting: Tri-State in Madison, WI, May 6-8, 2015.

Ohio:

- Members: 90 state members and in good financial standing.
- Spring meeting: 86 attendees and 22 vendors in Toledo.
- Website: www.ohiohistology.org
- 2015 spring meeting: Beaver Creek April 24-25, 2014.

Illinois:

- 90 state members.
- Spring meeting: 60 attendees and 20 vendors in Bloomington.
- Newsletter/Website: Electronic newsletter available on their website www.illinoishistologysociety.org.

- 2015 spring meeting: Schaumburg May 14-15, 2015.
- 2014 Election results: Maureen Doran-President, Ray Ortiz-Vice President, Lori Bellafiore-Secretary, President/Secretary shared position-Treasurer.

2. HOD Agenda

- A. Elections that will take place: Speaker of the House, Secretary of the House, By-Laws & Credentials Committee Chairs, Judicial Committee Chairs/Members, Nominations Chair/Committee.
- B. By-Laws Committee and update of NSH Membership Classifications:
 - a. Currently: Six separate categories of - Charter, Active, Student, Honorary, International and Sustaining
 - b. Proposed: Three separate categories of – Individual, Institutional and Commercial. Falling under Individual would be six categories: Student, Retired, Lifetime, Charter, 1st Year Professional, and Professional).
 - c. Fees on all of the classifications are determined by the Board of Directors and are a part of NSH Policy and Procedures.

Questions/Comments: Would “Institutional” cover a university setting with multiple labs? The use of the word “Commercial” has a negative association to it. More information and details on membership levels needs to be available.

3. BOD Agenda:

- A. Moving the banquet to Saturday night from Sunday night: discussion supporting the move and against the move. Saturday is too soon and not enough time to settle in and connect with friends prior to the event; not enough seating room at the banquet and/or people attending without tickets. Lena Spencer (Kentucky) noted that an international attendee with a ticket was distressed because there wasn’t any room to sit; Lena offered to give up her seat but the person declined. Also mentioned by Ada Feldman (Michigan) that people were entering the banquet room from a number of unmanned side doors and no way to control if they had banquet tickets or not.
- B. NSH elections and candidate guidelines: A discussion on use of social media to endorse candidates, use of membership lists for campaigns and guidelines for these actions. Motion: Region in agreement that guidelines should be in place.
- C. Awards Committee - possibility of un-blinding and request for \$8000 for face to face meeting: Region in agreement that committee should remain blinded to the public and discussion as to whether the committee can be known to each other. Motion: Region voted against the allocation of \$8000 for Award Committee use and communications via email, skype and teleconferences should be used.
- D. HOD seating of BOD and Committee Chairs: discussed the possible conflict of interest and undue influence of Executive BOD and Committee Chairs seated within their home state regions. Discussion only.
- E. Under consideration for 2015: Eliminating state partnerships with NSH and NSH Summer Symposium. Looking at S/C sites for 2018 and beyond: currently under consideration are Kansas City and Minneapolis. Discussion only.
- F. Peggy Wenk and appropriate way for NSH to recognize her: discussion included student, mentor and teacher scholarships with further input requested from the Michigan society at a later date.

4. Open Discussion:

- A. Going Paperless/No On-Site Handouts: Remains a concern from the stand point of both presenters and attendees. Main concern is that all registered attendees have access to all S/C hand-outs and the region would like to see that addressed and rectified. Michelle Martin (Michigan) stated it has taken a large burden off of organizing the workshops and cut down on the number of volunteers needed in the workshop room. The region felt that this issue has not been adequately addressed by the office in the past year.
- B. Posters: Carrie Schray (Michigan) asked if the Poster Chair/Committee would consider adding a Management Category. Jean Mitchell suggested Carrie bring this up during open discussion at the General Membership Meeting on Tuesday afternoon.
- C. Region IV NSH award recipients in 2014:
 - a. NSH Student Scholarships: Hlee Vue, Margaret Dennis, Sydney Hein – all from Michigan, Katie Bailey - Indiana
 - b. Newcomer, Newcomer Award: Brandon Ward – Wisconsin
 - c. NSH New Member Scholarship: Brittany Campbell – Indiana
 - d. J.B. McCormick Award: Ada Feldman – Michigan
 - e. Epitomics IHC Award: Paula Arrowsmith – Michigan
 - f. Biocare Medical Excellence Laboratory Award: University of Michigan Animal Medicine
 - g. Cardinal Health urEssential Award for Laboratory Professionals: Deb Wood - Indiana

Meeting adjourned at 5:45. Respectfully submitted by: Dawn Schneider, WHS President.