IHLS Nominating Committee
Minutes, May 16, 2012

Members present: Chair Diana Brawley Sussman, Nina Pals and Kim Keller.
Absent: Deanne Holshouser and Nancy Huntley.
There were no additional attendees.

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m.

Approval of April 12, 2012, minutes -- A motion to table approval of the minutes was made by Nina, seconded by Kim. Motion carried, and minutes will be reviewed at the next committee meeting.

Discuss solutions for determining and eliminating any duplicate/illegitimate votes -- (i.e. multiple people voting from the same library or from multiple locations within a shared membership; any voting from non-member libraries) –

Voting ended May 15 at midnight.

Diana was able to resolve 11 instances of duplicate voting from people who either: forgot they'd already votes; submitted an incomplete ballot and then went back to finish; or simply did not follow instructions and voted subsequent times. Diana was able to reach the voters by phone in each instance where there were discrepancies between completed ballots, in which one person voted multiple times, but for different candidates. She kept the vote requested by the voter, and deleted the person's other votes.

Diana was still in the process of examining branch libraries/shared memberships listed in the survey to determine whether any additional duplicate voting was done by branches or schools that share a system membership with any library that already voted.

Need a solution for dealing with duplicate votes in the future. Motion by Nina, seconded by Kim, to keep the first completed ballot when multiple votes are cast by the same single-entity library or multiple branches of the same library (or school) district. Motion carried.

Diana noted that, although combing through the ballots looking for duplicate votes is tedious, the solution would be more tedious. The solution would be to send a link from survey monkey to one specific person from each member library. A different survey link is tied to each person's email address, and they can only vote once. However, the problem is that survey monkey requires the inclusion of an "opt out" link. When people accidentally click that link, they can no longer receive surveys at their email address. Then we have to comb through the list of people who "opted out" and send them a generic link. We had this problem last year, and dealing with it last year was more time consuming than searching for duplicate votes this year.

She also noted that 22.6 % of the respondents had multiple locations. It is complicated to catch multiple votes in situations where the names of the branches or schools varied dramatically from the district headquarters.

Motion by Nina, seconded by Kim, that in cases when branches or schools from one district/IHLS-membership share equal authority, the first completed ballot will be accepted as the valid vote. Motion carried.

Diana noted that the PRELIMINARY results are:
Susan Mendelsohn, 142, vs. Andrew Vincent Wolkiewicz, 65;
James D. Matthews, 110, vs. Susan Justice, 96;
Karen Bounds, 146, vs Donna Cameron, 8, vs. Alayna Davies-Smith, 52;
Jacob Roskovensky, 159, vs. Laura J. Naugle, 48;
Joan B. Rhoades, 69, vs. Richard Lee Eiche, 7, vs. Marsha Grove, 13, vs. Victoria A. Hart, 22, vs. Michael Keepper, 47, vs. Susan McKinney, 26, vs. Lois M. Morse, 19, vs. Leander Spearman, 8.

The committee was unable to finalize the results at this point as we are still searching for multiple votes from branches/school districts.

Diana reported that there were initially 221 responses, and she is keeping a record of instances where determinations must be made when multiple responses occur from numerous sources of one IHLS membership. Therefore, the number of responses was not set in stone at the time of the meeting.

Committee members decided that if there was a tie, a subsequent election would be held immediately to determine the race(s) with ties.

Committee recommendation -- The committee recommended to the IHLS Board that the organization's bylaws be clarified to establish the process/criteria for counting votes. The committee also recommended that the IHLS Board establish a solution for resolving ties. The motions made above may guide the board in those tasks.

Diana volunteered to certify the election results at the IHLS June 26 meeting.

Committee recommendation – The committee recommended that at least 2 of the nominating committee members be switched out to begin a replacement process. It was also noted that at least 1 or 2 of the existing members should continue to serve on the nominating committee so that the process can be developed from the foundations already established.

Nina and Kim thanked Diana for her hard work. This was her second year chairing the committee, and she has put in a tremendous amount of work to come up with a process by which the elections can be conducted fairly.

Diana commented that it would probably be a good idea for a different committee chair to be assigned next year, so that the knowledge of how to organize the process can be shared. Diana promised that she would work with the next chairperson to learn the ropes.

Committee recommendation -- Because organization bylaws stress a need for geographically-equitable representation and equal representation among the various types of libraries, the committee recommended that the IHLS Board consider a limit on the number of candidates running for each seat and the process by which candidates would be eliminated. Because the present process allows self-nominations, the committee questioned if there would be an instance when several candidates would seeking 1 seat – and many of those candidates might be from one city/location.

The committee also suggested that the IHLS Board discuss whether the committee should have the stated authority (in the bylaws) to limit the number of nominees and if so, the process for doing that. There have been competing pressures put upon the committee because while some people believe every willing candidate should (or will) be put on the ballot, the bylaws require a geographically balanced ballot. Meeting the expectation of all inclusiveness, and the expectation of geographic balance simultaneously may not always be possible.

Next Committee Meeting – May 23, 2012, phone conference meeting at 2 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Diana, seconded by Nina. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kim Keller