



BoardLines

July 2010

New Members Approved

ACRA is pleased to approve new members Shelley Havermann, Denise Sanders, John Turman, Kim Rupiper, Kim Rausch (colleague), and Holly Rye (CLVS). Welcome!

Management Company

Robin Hirth reported exploring possible new ways of generating revenue throughout the year, including making use of the ACRA web site to sell things like gift cards. Robin will present any new ideas to the board for consideration.

Treasurer's Report

Total assets are \$41,671.04. Bob Sipos reported that we are approximately \$8,000 above where we were this time last year. We still have expenses and not a lot of income coming in the rest of the year. A discussion was held about the importance of fundraising. Diane Sonntag pointed out the \$12,000 profit from Midyear.

Bench and Bar

Erica Grund reported that NCRA President Sue Lynn Morgan recently came to Phoenix to meet with a Maricopa County court administrator and receive a tour of the Maricopa County courthouse. Erica had an extensive discussion with NCRA President Morgan regarding the history and current circumstances for reporters working in Maricopa County both before and after President Morgan's visit to the courthouse. Erica has been appointed to the newly created NCRA committee tasked with investigating the present and future role of official court reporters.

Legislation

Diane Sonntag proposed ACRA work on new legislation requiring transcribers of ER/DAR to be certified and bringing them under the jurisdiction of the CR Board. A discussion was had regarding the positives and negatives of such legislation with board members weighing in on both sides. Erica appointed a committee tasked with exploring all aspects of this potential legislation so the ACRA Board can make an informed decision on whether certification of transcriptionists would be in the best interest of Arizona reporters. The committee will be comprised of Diane Sonntag, Doreen Borgmann, and Cindy Lineburg. The committee will also speak to lobbyist John MacDonald regarding the feasibility and logistics of getting legislation such as this passed, should the board decide this is something it would like to pursue.

Certified Reporter Board

Erica Grund reported that at the latest meeting of the licensing board, language recommended by the 7-206 subcommittee was approved. This language is intended to tighten up sections pertaining to contracting. The language will next go into a public comment period, and ACRA will be asking not only that its members comment on the language, but that reporters ask their clients to comment on the language as well. The language also includes a provision prohibiting attorneys from stipulating away the statutory obligations of court reporters. The licensing board held discussions regarding several new complaints, including complaints against both official court reporters and complaints concerning violations of the Code of Ethics. The licensing board also voted to recommend to the AJC that an ethics advisory board be formed specifically for the Certified Reporter Program.

Superior Court

John Bouley reported that a new reporter has been hired at Pima County Juvenile Court. Cindy Lineburg reported that Maricopa County has gotten approval to hire part-time court reporters. Cindy also reported that she has received assurance that provisions have been made for court reporters to work in the new criminal towers in Maricopa County.

Third-Party Control

Tony Garcia reported that reporters should speak to their clients about the bills they are receiving from depositions booked through firms that may be violating Arizona's anti-contracting language.

June 2010 Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Erica Grund, Diane Sonntag, Doreen Borgmann, Bob Sipos, Karen Kahle, Tony Garcia, Cindy Lineburg and John Bouley.

Other Participants: Robin Hirth, ACRA Administrator

Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2010:

Money Market	\$37,524.96
Checking	\$ 517.25
PAC Fund Account	\$ 1,527.92
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 1,968.75
LCD Projector	\$ 654.16
Total:	\$41,671.04

Mentoring/Education and Recruitment

Linda Christensen reported via email that three reporters passed the May RPR! All three new RPRs were attendees of the RPR prep classes held by Linda Christensen, Jennifer Schuck, and Doreen Sutton. Linda, Jennifer, and Doreen have plans for another RPR prep class, as well as a "Court Reporter Charm School" for beginning reporters. Linda, Doreen, and Jen also recently met with representatives from Bryan College, a court reporting school who will be setting up shop in the Phoenix area in the near future. Linda also met with personnel from Gateway College. Linda reports that Gateway is working on starting an online court reporting program.

Diane Sonntag reported that she and Allen Sonntag attended the Gateway Advisory Committee meeting. Gateway will be implementing a new attendance policy.

Fundraising

Robin Hirth is working on new fundraising ideas to present to the board. Tony Garcia will be working with Marty Herder to plan a golf fundraiser late this summer.

Seminars

Doreen Borgmann reported she has an almost-full slate for the ACRA Annual seminars. Doreen has one, possibly two open slots and is seeking suggestions. A discussion was held regarding holding a one-day seminar in December as a last chance for members to receive credits.

Old Business

Diane Sonntag reported the tentative lineup of ACRA officers and directors for next year. There are still a few slots that need to be filled. An email blast will be going out soon asking for nominations.

New Business

Robin Hirth researched possible locations for the 2011 ACRA Midyear Seminar. Robin received several proposals; however, the Holiday Inn in Mesa offered to match our best offer. The board voted to approve the Holiday Inn in Mesa for the 2011 ACRA Midyear seminar.

A discussion was held regarding the DSA nomination deadline and the makeup of the DSA committee. The board requested the bylaws committee explore a possible bylaws amendment regarding the appointment of the DSA committee.

IMPORTANT DATES & UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer ArizoNotes

Deadlines for submission of articles for the Summer Issue of ArizoNotes:

August 10, 2010

Editor: Karen Kahle, hvymtlccr@juno.com
Advertising: Robin Hirth, acra@saminc.org

August 14, 2010

NCRA Exams—RPR & CRR
Registration is open until July 14
Visit www.ncraonline.org for details

September 10, 2010

ACRA Board of Directors Meeting
Phoenix

**2010 Annual Convention
September 10-12, 2010
Sheraton Crescent, Phoenix**

Look for registration information next month.



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