

**AMWA Chapter 14 Officers Meeting
Minutes
January 14, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by chapter president, Rebecca Bigelow. Members present were Natalie, Leslie, Susan, Lisa, Heather, and Joanne.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Events in St. Louis

Joanne and Lisa gave the update on events in St. Louis. They had a luncheon on January 10th on "IT Security for Your Home Office", presented by Ruth Thaler-Carter at J Greene's Pub. There were 14 attendees. The handout from the event is posted online.

Upcoming events in St. Louis are:

- 2020 Tuesday, March 31- Find Customers -- Do Work -- Get Paid, presented by Betsy Frick, 11:30am at CJ Muggs in Webster Groves
- Monday, May 04 - "Medical ghostwriting: ethical and practical controversies" by Pranali Pathare and Dana Delibovi
- Wednesday, July 22- Ten Tips for Networking - and Practice! organized by Lisa Balbes
- September is currently open.
- November - Best and Worst Books of 2020, coordinated by Leslie Niestadt

Events in Kansas City

Nothing to report

Events in Nebraska

Nothing to report

Events in Iowa

Natalie reported that she is considering having some events in Iowa City.

Webinar

The chapter held our first Q&A Webinar on "Jumpstarting Your Freelance Career in 2020" on January 9th. There were approximately 15 attendees, and the board received very positive feedback.

Treasurer's Report

Leslie Neistadt made the Treasurer's report.

Newsletter

Susan thanked the board for their contributions to the last newsletter. The next chapter newsletter will be released in early March.

New Member Report

Heather noted that there was 1 new member in the St. Louis area in January, and 2 new members in December.

CAC Update

Nothing to report.

Other Business

Chapter selection issues

Joanne discussed the issues that we are facing regarding chapter selection. We have approximately 80 active members on our chapter roster, but currently 21 of these members have home cities in other states not in our chapter region. These members may be missing out on valuable resources, events and information for chapters in closer proximity to their location. Additionally, chapters are not receiving accurate membership rebates if not all local members are present on their chapter rosters. Heather previously sent an email to national regarding this issue; however, nothing has been done to address this yet. Joanne developed a statement and plan to solve the problem on the AMWA website regarding chapter selection, and Leslie will bring this to the attention of the CAC members at the next meeting.

Spam Issues

The board discussed spam issues. The majority of board members have been receiving spam supposedly from other board members requesting money or gift cards. Other chapters have also had this issue. National has addressed this by removing chapter officer email addresses from their website. The board discussed ways we could alleviate this problem. Rebecca stated that our chapter and one other chapter have personal email addresses on their chapter website. She explained the majority of other chapters have either general chapter-based email addresses or a “Contact Us” form. Lisa mentioned that setting up email addresses would be easy to do; however, the board agreed that the best solution to reduce spam would probably be to have a “Contact Us” form. Lisa will explore how to set up a page like this. Alternatively, it was discussed that we could completely remove all contact information and state that AMWA members can search the directory for contact information. Rebecca will post on the Engage Chapter Officer forum to find out how other chapters have been trying to reduce spam.

LinkedIn

Rebecca mentioned that she would like to see the chapter develop a LinkedIn page as an additional resource for members. Guidance on how to manage an AMWA chapter LinkedIn page is on the AMWA website. We would need a person to manage the site. Rebecca asked the board members to consider taking on this responsibility for the future.

Next Chapter Meeting

Scheduled for March 10, 2020 at 2:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Signed,
Rebecca Bigelow, PhD
President, AMWA Chapter 14
In absentia Raesa Gupta, PhD