

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Members Present: Don Schaffner (Chair), Nate Anderson (Vice Chair), Abdullatif Tay, Deepa Thiagarajan, Evelyn Watts, Jason White, Amy Wise, Jacqueline Woods, Mu Ye, Ian Young, Marcel Zwietering, Caroline Smith DeWaal, Richelle Beverly, Paula J. Cray, Faith Critzer, Kathleen Glass, William Huntley, Bobby Krishna, Steven Murphy, Laura Strawn.

Number of Attendees: 11.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, July 14, 2024, 10:22 a.m. Pacific Time.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Laura Strawn.

Old Business: Pam Wilger provided an update from the IAFP Executive Board. Steve moved for approval of minutes; Faith seconded. There was no discussion, and there was a unanimous vote to approve the minutes as distributed. Kathy moved to approve agenda; Rachelle seconded. There was no discussion, and there was a unanimous vote to approve agenda as distributed.

The committee reviewed the 2023 Board Responses. Steve discussed some minor changes needed to the ordering of the bylaw changes on scientific editors for clarity. Don recommended that Steve bring this up at the business meeting. Steve also had minor typographical edits to the bylaws changes to Sustaining Members, and Steve will also bring these up at the business meeting.

New Business: Paula raised the issue of how the association handles a lapse in membership greater than 90 days. Lisa clarified that Membership Services (i.e., Julie) will allow a member to buy back the lapsed membership years to allow a member to keep all their years as “consecutive years”. The discussion turned to awards, and that some awards indicate: “consecutive years” not “cumulative years”. Lisa stated that the relevant IAFP Award committees are working on correcting this language.

Pam raised the issue of the status of the 3-A Committee. Lisa clarified the current relationship between 3-A and IAFP. The committee will submit a recommend to the Board to propose changes to the Constitution and Bylaws to reflect the current relationship. Nate raised an issue regarding dissolving and/or creating PDGs and committees and the lack of direction on this in the Constitution and Bylaws. The committee will submit a recommend to the board to address this.

Lisa raised the issue of the ongoing concerns that Honorary Life Members are currently prohibited from holding Board positions. The committee will submit a recommendation to the Board to address this.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. We recommend that the Executive Board direct Lisa to work to add language to the website to clarify how the association handles a lapse in membership greater than 90 days, including situations where a major life event causes a lapse in membership.
2. We recommend that the Executive Board direct Constitution and Bylaws Committee to propose changes to Constitution and Bylaws to remove/dissolve the 3-A Committee.
3. We recommend that the Executive Board direct the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to propose changes to Constitution and Bylaws regarding general procedures to dissolve and create PDGs or committees.
4. We recommend that the Executive Board direct Constitution and Bylaws Committee to propose changes to Constitution and Bylaws to remove the prohibition on Honorary Life Members serving in Board positions.

Next Meeting Date: To be determined.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:37 a.m. Pacific Time.

Chairperson Name: Donald W Schaffner