IWIRC Ontario Network
Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

March 9, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. EST

Meeting held at Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

Present: Melaney Wagner, Chair
Andrea Yandreski, Treasurer
Andrea Lockhart, Secretary
Natalie Levine, Director of Membership
Caroline Descours, Director of Programs

Phone: Kyla Mahar, Vice Chair
Deborah Hornbostel, Director of Community Service
Rachel Bengino, Director Website
Karen Kimel, Director at Large
Dina Milivojevic, Director at Large
Michelle Pickett, Past Chair

Regrets: Tushara Weerasooriya, Director of Programs
Kathryn Esaw, Director at Large
Katherine McEachern, Director at Large
Amanda Favot, Director at Large

The meeting commenced at approximately 9:00 a.m.

1. Minutes from February Meeting

- **MOTION**: Motion by Mel to approve the Minutes of the February Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Natalie and carried by the Board.

2. Programs

(a) Feedback on Wine Sisters Event

- People thought the Wine Sister was really great.
- Constructive criticism:
    - Try to have some refreshments available prior to start.
    - A lot of small, light snacks. Maybe something more substantial next time.
    - Consider putting food on tables, as people felt awkward interrupting the speaker.
    - One person mentioned AGM was a little longer – may be better if they had a drink in hand.
    - Started a little later than people thought it would, although we had to wait for quorum.
    - In future, make sure Board is there early to establish quorum and to hand out drinks near the door.

- Someone indicated that we have too many events – one per month.

(b) Planning for 2016 Events

(i) April Lunch 'N Learn

- Social media panel.
- Tushara ran into former lawyer who is now a social media consultant and they have a call set up for Monday. This individual was interested in participating as the main speaker on the panel. Karen also indicated that she could speak on the panel.
- No location yet. Proposed April 19 or 20 for possible dates, or April 12 as an alternate date.
- Can be sponsored by law firm hosting the event, but does not have to be. Consider making this a free members event.
- Natasha MacParland was interested in hosting an event. Dina to chat with her.

(ii) Run for Women

- Have not focused on organizing this event yet. Does not have to be the same as last year, but want something tied to women.
- Discussed June 11 for Women's College Hospital in Toronto, subject to golf days in June.

(iii) Summer Yoga/Spa or Tennis Event

- Amanda has contact at Mayfair clubs. Discussed a few hours of tennis, an hour of yoga and dinner for approx. $90 per person.
- Jim Grout is on the board of the Toronto Lawn Club and DJ Miller is a member of the Boulevard Club. Kyla to reach out to them and provide contact information to Caroline.
- Consider adding a spa option.
- Proposed timing is end of June.

(iv) TFC Event

- Amanda has a contact with MLS or TFC, and has suggested possibility of attending a TFC game. We would have access to the VIP area, food/drinks, etc.
- Discussed possible dates. Do not want too many events this year or to interfere with our Gala Event. There is a game on Wednesday September 28. Fall IWIRC conference is October 25-29. Could hold Gala Event in mid-October.
- Will cost out this event.

(c) Spring Conference – Washington, DC

- Mel, Kyla, DJ, Leanne, Tushara and Caitlin attending.
- Attendees to coordinate networking dinner.

3. Planning for Leadership Summit

- Have commitment from Sara Ross to present free of charge on emotional intelligence. Will prepare a pre-conference survey for attendees that she will use as part of her research and in her presentation.
- In the process of entering into contracts with respect to opening night dinner.
- Goodmans' marketing department has agreed to design 20th anniversary logo. Mel will circulate to the Board and then to International for approval. Once approved, will use on brochures and email communications this year. May need one hour of someone's time to make it look professional (cost of approx. $200).

4. Finance Update

- Small surplus of $236 from last event. Sitting at just over $18,000 now.
- Need to consider TMA donation for next month, and keep a small kitty for the July event.
- Maybe consider TFC game as a members no-charge fun and casual event.

5. Membership

- New members from Duff & Phelps over the weekend. Now at about 60.
- Dina had been working on master list of women in insolvency. Natalie to update list and circulate.
- No notices yet of expiring membership. Natalie to obtain form from Dina and will use that going forward.
- Natalie to send names of new members to Rachel for email list.
- Would like to keep cocktail party at Leadership Summit as a membership drive.

6. Community Service

- Deborah has looked into team building events. Most want commitments during mornings in the week for a large block of time, which is an issue.
- Every date for 2016 with the Soup Sisters is booked. Consider booking event at end of February 2017. Deborah to explore dates with them.
- Deborah agreed to take over coordinating Run for Women event.
- Consider event relating to donating used sports equipment to schools.

7. Website/Communications

- A few people have reached out to Rachel to tweet about them after the AGM.
- Rachel to reach out to members advising them of the networking opportunity and opportunity to post articles on IWIRC website.
- Karen gave tips to Rachel on social media presence.
- Discussed possibility of posting Facebook ads for a few dollars an ad. However, given that our targeted group is so narrow and many people have limited information available on their profile, it would likely not be effective to target our potential membership.
- Consider Facebook page for IWIRC Ontario.
- Rachel to draft email to members outlining member benefits for Board to review.

8. Other Business

(a) Nominations for TMA Women of Excellence Award

- Award this year is for women who have 10-20 years insolvency practice. People are encouraged to submit nominations before April 15 deadline.

(b) Annual Report

- Like to see one submission in the newsletter per year. Consider potential submission, it does not have to be scholarly.
- Discussed possibility of submitting article relating to our 20th anniversary. Shari Bedker can let us know who have been the past Network chairs.
- Newsletters are quarterly, would have to get article in the next newsletter. Ask Amanda if she would be interested in drafting the article.

(c) Next Board Meeting

- Next Board meeting is scheduled for April 13 at TGF. However, this is the date of the IWIRC Spring Conference. Agreed to hold Board meeting on April 5 by conference call right after leadership summit planning call.

(d) AGM Minutes

- Andrea L. to prepare AGM minutes based on Mel's notes and Tushara's notes.

The Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Andrea Lockhart
Secretary