

INSSWA Board Meeting Minutes  
September 23, 2006

Board Members in Attendance: Terry Miller, Mil Penner, Jyoti Weaver, Lucy DiMichele, Linda Temme, Dee Kempson, Jeanne Milligan, Rebecca Bringle, Beth Hoban, and Michelle Alvarez.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved and sent out to membership prior to this meeting.

#### Treasurer's Report

From 7/1/06-9/22/06 income was \$5004.98 and expenses were \$6055.58 for a net loss of \$1050.70. There is presently \$15,000 in a CD and our balance is \$9,872.19. There was consensus that we should enclose a copy of the budget in the upcoming INSSWA conference packet. It was noted that DOE has contributed \$1000 per year to INSSWA and that this contribution has added substantially to the amount in our treasury. IPS has also contributed through their donations and services for which we otherwise would have paid.

Ten scholarships were offered to the Midwest Conference, but only five were given. The remaining \$875 from unused scholarships will roll over to allow more scholarships to be offered to the SSWAA national conference.

#### Membership

The board looked at a map of proposed new regions. If adopted, there will be eight instead of six. The reason for the proposed change is to make smaller regions thus making it easier for members to attend regional meetings.

There was a discussion of possible mileage reimbursement for representatives to attend board meetings. This will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

Presently there are 186 INSSWA members, and 78 have not yet renewed membership. The membership committee plans to have a directory of INSSWA members in the packet for School Social Worker Week in the spring. The committee is working on putting together informational materials for regional representatives- such as how to apply for funds. Twenty-eight members attended the northern area regional meeting which was held in the Valparaiso public library. INSSWA funds were used for a speaker, and the meeting was a success.

#### Nominating Committee

It was recommended that Rebecca Bringle and Jeanne Milligan be reelected as Secretary and Treasurer, and that Mil Penner and Lucy DiMichele be reappointed as members- at-large.

#### Legislative Committee

The committee reported that there is a need for more people on this committee. Their goal is to form a consortium of student services personnel (including nurses,

psychologists, etc.) together with principals and superintendents to take stands on various issues, such as corporal punishment. Michelle suggested that we may want to use the services of a professional lobbyist. The committee members will investigate this possibility.

#### Department of Education

##### IDOE Update:

The Student Services Advisory Board, co-facilitated by Dee Kempson, has completed its work on the Student Assistance Initiative: Collaborating for Student Success. Dee explained that this framework for improving the delivery of student services, using existing resources, will be piloted in Pike Township beginning in the New Year. She mentioned that the advisory board hopes to publish the document in 2007 and disseminate it to all interested parties. The document contains the legislation that supports student services, a definition of the barriers to learning that impact student achievement, the statistics which inform us of the prevalence and impact of these barriers, the difficulties and solutions to the delivery of student services, the Tiered Intervention Core Team framework for delivery of services, as well as the training in this new approach made available by the Department of Education.

Dee also spoke about the new Response to Intervention (RTI) language in the recent Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) that supports the early assessment and strength-based interventions commonly used by school social workers. Dee did mention the importance of the documentation of such interventions because, in the event that the student does not need the level of intervention provided by special education, there are no legal safeguards ensuring that the student continue to receive services.

Dee mentioned that the Children's Social, Emotional, Behavioral Health Plan (CSEBHP) is now complete and on-line at the IDOE website. Training is now available for school social workers to become certified to use the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) screening tool, recommended by the plan, but, as space is limited, she is suggesting that SSWs wait until the training is available on-line (2007).

#### Communications Committee

The new webmaster, Sierra Weaver, has done a good job with the web site; a remaining problem is that because of its original design, not much can fit on each page. Sierra will try to correct this within the original design; if this is not possible, the site will need to be redesigned.

Links will be changed to include USI (under conferences), IDOE, and state organizations. Possible upcoming pages will include school social work programs and employment opportunities. (Many other ideas were listed in June 9 Board Meeting Minutes.) Items that can be added now are School Social Worker of the Year and a calendar of events with the newsletter.

The board decided the position of webmaster should be a paid position, and the cost will be \$100 initially and \$25/month paid twice per year. This will be a line item in the budget.

## Newsletter

The newsletter will be published quarterly. Articles for the next edition are due November 11.

## School Social Worker of the Year

Jane Zobel, IPS school social worker and past president of INSSWA, has been chosen as the Indiana School Social Worker of the Year. Congratulations, Jane! At the upcoming INSSWA conference, Jane will receive a corsage, a flower arrangement, and a plaque from INSSWA. All school social workers who were nominated will receive a certificate.

## Indiana Mentoring and Assessment Program (IMAP)

Eight school social workers received two days of training this summer as mentors for the new Beginning School Social Worker program called IMAP-SW. Also, the first four scorers of the participants' portfolios have completed two days of training. They will have continuing training for the next two years.

## SSWAA Leadership Summit

In July, INSSWA President Terry Miller, President-Elect Beth Hoban, DOE Consultant Dee Kempson, attended the SSWAA Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C. Board member Jyoti Weaver joined them on Capitol Hill Day. Highlights of their trip included: interacting with school social work leaders from throughout the country; learning about strategies for marketing school social work services; and having the opportunity to lobby on Capitol Hill. Meetings were held with legislative assistants from Senators Lugar and Bayh's offices, as well as from Representatives Burton and Carson's offices, addressing issues including the continued funding of the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program. The INSSWA contingent was able to educate the contacts on what school social workers do for students and how valuable their services are. INSSWA members are encouraged to contact legislators throughout the year.

## Midwest Fall Conference

The fall conference will be in Lincolnshire, IL October 19-21. Jeanne Milligan agreed to put together a basket of things unique to our state to take to the conference. She showed the board her choices: a book by IN author Phillip Gulley, a Red Gold tomato product, a candle and a bottle of wine from Brown Co., a pen from Dough Makers, and an IN map. Some other ideas from the board included Orville Ridenbacker popcorn and Clabber Girl baking powder.

Mil Penner, Terry Miller, and Dee Kempson will take turns manning a retail table at the Midwest Fall Conference.

INSSWA awarded five scholarships to the Midwest Fall Conference. As Jane Zobel is School Social Worker of the Year, INSSWA will pay half of her registration, her travel costs, and one night's lodging.

#### INSSWA Fall Conference

The INSSWA Tenth Annual Fall Conference will be held on Friday, November 3, 2006 at the Garrison at Fort Harrison. The keynote speaker will be Janice Harris Lord.

The gift to INSSWA members at the Fall Conference will be a change pouch with a logo on it. One of the items for sale will be IN limestone coasters. Conference chairperson Beth Hoban asked that \$1300 be added to purchase retail items.

There was consensus that INSSWA will pay (1) registration costs for the conference chair and INSSWA president, (2) mileage and half of one night's hotel cost for regional representatives who attend the regional meeting the night before the conference, and (3) the first year of INSSWA membership for those attendees paying the non-member rate.

#### Mini-grants

The deadline for the mini-grant program is December 1, 2006. Up to \$500 can be given in a particular grant, and the line item is up to \$1000.

#### Other

Beth Hoban asked for permission to offer CEU's for the Annual Conference for Prevent Child Abuse, Howard Co. This will be April 17, 2007 in Kokomo, IN.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

The next INSSWA board meeting will be held directly after the INSSWA Fall Conference, Friday, November 3. At that meeting, dates for the next two meetings will be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Bringle  
October 27, 2006