MNIAI
Board of Directors Board Meeting
Buca di Beppo, Maple Grove
April 7, 2022 ~ 1410 hours

Members present: Board Chair Nicholas Smith, President Brad Litke, 1st Vice President Teryn Richsmann, 2nd Vice President Ryan Fitzgerald, 3rd Vice President Jessica Slavick, Sergeant at Arms Scott Wenshau, Editor Janet Nelson, and Secretary/Treasurer Jennifer Jaspersen.

Members absent: Historian Mark Uttermark and IAI Division Representative Patrick Warrick.

President Brad Litke called the meeting to order at 1410 hours. Secretary/Treasurer Jennifer Jaspersen distributed the minutes from the 09-09-2021 General Membership Meeting along with the current Treasurer's report. President Litke moved to accept the minutes. 1st Vice President Teryn Richsmann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The report indicated that our cash on hand as of 04-07-2022 is: $18,107.54 in checking and $1,334.80 in savings for a total of $19,442.34. The current count of inventory is $10,537.00 (if merchandise is sold at full price) for a total asset amount of $29,979.34. President Litke moved to accept the current Treasurer's report. 1st Vice President Richsmann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. Editor Janet Nelson asked what the 'bank charge' is for. Secretary/Treasurer Jennifer Jaspersen replied that it is a fee for check images that Wells Fargo assesses each time a check written from the MNIAI account is cleared through them. A photo copy is provided and sent with monthly bank statements. The charge is $3.50 and is only assessed when checks are cleared in any given month.

Old business: Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen mentioned the task given to Historian Mark Uttermark regarding recording changes in our Constitution that were voted on and accepted at the September 9, 2021 General Membership Meeting in Duluth. This task was not completed by him so she took it upon herself to do so. The Constitution has been revised and posted on the MNIAI website. All new membership packets created and mailed since September, 2021 included this revised version. These are the proposals and revisions made:

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

Section 4. The Professional Certification Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the MNIAI whose duty shall be to administer examinations for certification and if appropriate, for re-certification.

- The proposed change is to eliminate this section. The MNIAI does not have a certification process in place on a state level because the parent body of the IAI conducts all of its certifications electronically.

SECTION ELIMINATED

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Section 7. The Board of Directors must approve expenses entailed in carrying on the business of the Association, unless the sum is under $250.00, in which event the approval of the Board is not necessary.

- The proposed change is to increase the expense approval sum from $250.00 to $500.00 due to the increase in pricing on most goods and services.

DOLLAR AMOUNT INCREASED

New business: Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen reported on how many members the MNIAI currently has. We have 207 Active, Life Active and Associate members, as of this writing.

President Litke started a discussion on how better to advertise our Conferences. We already have a Facebook page that anyone who subscribes to Facebook can post to; Conference agendas can be sent to Sheriff's associations for publication in their newsletters; MNIAI Board members can forward all pertinent information received from Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen; a brochure can be created and distributed to various courses hosted by Board member's agencies; general membership can be solicited to share Conference information. Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen has a brochure 'template' for this purpose. Once the 2022 Conference agenda is completed, she will send the brochure in PDF format to everyone on the Board for use in various distributions. She will also send it in a mass mailing to our general membership and ask them to share with their coworkers and supervisors,

Sergeant at Arms Scott Wenshau opened a discussion regarding the 2022 Educational Conference by asking President Litke if there will be concurrent sessions. President Litke answered in the affirmative and provided an incomplete list of topics.

- Session in blood spatter
- Session in Photoshop
- Session on new technologies regarding crime scenes
- Lector on investigative genealogy
- Lector on gun shots and death in America
- Session on behavioral science
- Session on courtroom testifying
- Session on forensic entomology
- Case study on the murder of Iowa student Mollie Tibbetts
- Minnesota case study (Kruse) and debate

Sergeant at Arms Wenshau asked if Board members pay Conference registration fees. Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen answered that they do not. It is one of the perks of being a Board member. He then asked if hotel room costs are covered for Board members. Only the President's (upon request) and the Secretary/Treasurer's rooms are covered by the Division. For 2022, President Litke indicated that his agency will pay hotel room costs for him.

Editor Nelson addressed the Board members present regarding the role of the Editor. She has proposed changes to the MNIAI Constitution, to be voted on at the 2022 General Membership Meeting during the Conference in Duluth. Editor Nelson informed the group that a newsletter for this Spring has not been completed. She opined that information that would be published in a newsletter is redundant because virtually the same information is posted/listed on the MNIAI website. She proposed revising the Board position of 'Editor' to 'Media Editor'. This position would consist of the nominal duties of publishing information of interest to the members of the MNIAI two times per year by posting an e-newsletter on the website and posting information on the MNIAI's Facebook page. Since her retirement from law enforcement, Editor Nelson feels she is out of touch with current affairs and believes that more up-to-date and pertinent information could and should come from those currently working in the fields of forensics and law enforcement. With this said, she has informed the Board of Directors that she wishes to step down as Editor. Creation of a Media Editor would take a revision of our Constitution. Editor Nelson proposes the below Constitutional changes. Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen suggested that content contribution collection could be assigned to our 1st, 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents. If this is implemented, then the duties of these three positions will need to be updated in our Constitution as well.

CURRENT:
ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF THE EDITOR

Section 1. The Editor shall receive all articles and items of interest pertinent to the identification, forensics and investigation profession, edit them when necessary, and prepare them for inclusion in the Association's publications. He or she shall secure such other beneficial publicity for the organization as may be in his or her power, solicitation of advertisements, and perform such duties as may be designated by the Association and conform to the provisions of the By-laws.

ARTICLE V - NEWSLETTER

Section 1. The Editor, with the help of the Secretary-Treasurer and Division webmaster, shall disseminate to all members at least two times a year, a newsletter containing the business of the Association and all other topics of general interest to the membership. The Board of Directors shall make recommendations to the Editor regarding dates of publication of the newsletter.

PROPOSED REVISIONS:
ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF THE MEDIA EDITOR

Section 1. The Media Editor shall receive all articles and items of interest pertinent to the identification, forensics and investigation profession, edit them when necessary, and prepare them for inclusion ~~in~~ on the Association's ~~publications~~ website or in other publications or media produced by the MNIAI. He or she shall secure such other beneficial publicity for the organization as may be in his or her power, solicitation of advertisements, and perform such duties as may be designated by the Association and conform to the provisions of the By-laws.

ARTICLE V – E-NEWSLETTER

Section 1. The Media Editor~~, with the help of the Secretary-Treasurer and Division webmaster~~, shall disseminate to all members at least two times a year, ~~a newsletter~~ an electronic newsletter published on the MNIAI website, containing the business of the Association, and all other topics of general interest to the membership. The Media Editor, Secretary-Treasurer or Division webmaster shall publish the information and paid advertisements on the website and disseminate a link to the current membership. The Board of Directors shall make recommendations to the Editor regarding dates of publication of the newsletter. Media published in the e-newsletter on the MNIAI website may also be included in part or in whole on a social media site or blog overseen by the MNIAI board of directors.

By request, Editor Nelson sent the above information to the Board saying that any suggestions to changes in wording, etc. are welcome. *As of this writing, Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen has replied to Editor Nelson with some wording changes, questions and suggestions. A response is forthcoming.* Editor Nelson also included text to inform the General Membership of this position to tell them that this will be filled during the 2022 General Membership meeting. She is willing to help the Media Editor with the transition. Exactly how this statement is to be disseminated to the membership is in question. Editor Nelson has an ad that has been paid for which she wishes to be posted on the MNIAI website. Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen asked Editor Nelson to send the ad to her and she will post it. *As of this writing, the ad has not been received.* Sergeant at Arms Wenshau then asked if we can gather statistics from law enforcement groups on convictions and post them on the website. We could ask the General Membership for this type of content.

Editor Nelson presented a little known fact regarding IAI Certifications. Any Division Board member who applies for certification through the IAI might find serving on the Board counts for 25% of the certification. This must be verified via the IAI.

The Board members present discussed the idea of raising full-conference rates from $175.00 to $225.00 or more per person. Many examples were given by Board Chair Nicholas Smith, 3rd Vice President Jessica Slavik and others of lesser training sessions costing much more than what the MNIAI charges for our 3-day conferences. After this discussion continued via email (post-meeting), a vote was taken to implement this increase. 2nd Vice President Ryan Fitzgerald made a motion to accept increasing the fee to $225.00. 1st Vice President Richsmann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. Secretary/Treasurer Jaspersen has made the necessary adjustments to the online registration page so conference registration is now available on the MNIAI website.

New Members: Between the General Membership meeting on 09-09-2021 and this Board of Directors meeting, we received new Active membership applications from the following eighteen individuals: Emily Antisdel and Shay Sward from the Minneapolis Police Department; Phuong Chung, Emilee Frederickson and Richard Oesterreich, Jr. from the St. Paul Police Department; Brooklyn Adams, Kaitlyn Campbell, Colette Celichowski, Jeffrey Gumatz, Tucker Hammel, Peng Her, Kayla Oates, Carissa Rootes, Mitchell Schulner, Chloe Wickerman and Tia Yang from the MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and Nicholas Joyce and Lucas Teske from the Burnsville Police Department. Previous to this Board meeting, these applications were reviewed and accepted by the Board of Directors via email.

2nd Vice President Fitzgerald moved to adjourn the meeting and 3rd Vice President Jessica Slavik seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 1508 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Jaspersen - Secretary/Treasurer MNIAI