The IAL Annual Meeting of Club Delegates, Minutes

Sheraton Westport Chalet, St. Louis, MO
Saturday, May 13, 2023

Sargent of Arms: Len Black, Dennis Sullivan

Board Members Present: Kyd Dieterich, Jennifer Malkiewicz, Anne Ammenti, Cindy Gordish, Susan Bruemmer, Michael Dreisbach, Cora Jackson-Fossett

Roll Call: Attendance was taken at the door by the Sargent of Arms. Thirty members were present, representing nine dues paying clubs. A quorum was established.

Call to Order: 8:10AM by Pres, Kyd Dieterich
Meeting Adjourned: 11:22PM by Pres, Kyd Dieterich

President: Kyd Dieterich
Welcomed Delegates, introduced, the Board and called on the Committees.

Committee Reports

Speech Standards: Cindy Lee Gordish, MSEd, CCC-SLP Chairperson

Happy Hour; sponsored by InHealth June 2022 through May 2023 presented four “Happy Hour” support group meetings via Zoom. These meetings were conducted with the IAL VI Director Dr. Caryn Melvin and IAL Board Members.

Conversations with the Experts; conceived and hosted by the IAL’s Voice Institute Director; Dr. Caryn Melvin. The episodes are posted to the IAL website, the IAL’s FaceBook public page, The IAL’s support group and VI groups on FaceBook as well as many other FaceBook support groups.
The IAL Annual Meeting of Club Delegates, Minutes

Speech Standards, cont. Community Outreach; through her graduate Laryngectomy course offered at University of South Carolina, Dr. Caryn Melvin pairs each SLP grad student with a Laryngectomee mentor for the semester to help create an understanding of the life and challenges a Laryngectomee faces.

Guest Lectures; provided by CindyLee Gordish to Speech Pathology Grad Students from Old Dominion University re: Dysphasia Related to Head & Neck cancers. CindyLee Gordish also presented on Oral and Dental Challenges After Cancer Treatment, via Zoom to the Orlando Health Laryngectomy Support Group.

The ES/AL Support Group conducted by Susan Reeves, MEd, CCC-SLP and Jennifer Malkiewicz, IAL-VP is every Monday via Zoom.

First Steps for Laryngectomees; David Blevins initiated revisions for the publication, this continues to be available on the IAL’s website. Dr. Patrick Morgan, the new IAL Medical Director will review and edit the publication for accuracy and relevance.

2023 IAL VI; Speech Pathologists; Susan Reeves, Caryn Melvin, Alissa Yeargin, and CindyLee Gordish provided instruction on ES, EL, TEP, and AAC in dedicated therapy sessions.

Inventory of the IAL’s ALD Equipment; has been completed. Excess equipment will be donated to the Web Whisper’s Loaner Closet.

Rehabilitation and Medical Affairs: Cindy Lee Gordish, MSEd, CCC-SLP Chair
Medical Director; The IAL Board is pleased to announce Dr. Patrick F. Morgan as their new Medical Director. Dr. Morgan is an Otolaryngologist with the Head and Neck Oncology Division within the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) in October of 2022. Dr. Morgan earned his medical degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School, after which he went on to Charleston, South Carolina to complete his otolaryngology training at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). With a passion for treating those with head and neck cancer
Rehabilitation & Medical Affairs, cont. and performing reconstructive surgery, Dr. Morgan completed fellowship training in both Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery as well as Microvascular Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Miami / Jackson Health System in Miami, Florida. Prior to joining as an Assistant Professor at EVMS, he held academic appointments at both the Medical College of Georgia and the Charlie Norwood VAMC, where he also served as the Chief of the division and residency site director. Dr. Morgan specializes in head and neck oncology, including Trans Oral Robotic Surgery, microvascular reconstructive surgery, and endocrine surgery, where he treats both malignant and benign thyroid and parathyroid disease. His has research interest in both oncologic and reconstructive clinical outcomes, but a true passion for peri operative patient and caregiver education as it pertains to life saving/changing procedures and the relation between comprehension and outcomes/expectations. He is currently working on better understanding how patients retain complex reconstructive information in a clinical setting, as well as furthering providers, survivors and caretakers understanding the psychosocial implications of head and neck cancer.

The Emergency Responders Session; from 2013 has been re instituted as the Kick Off to the ’23 IAL AM&VI. Dr. Itzhak Brook was the Keynote speaker. Other speakers included; Corey Sullivan, an EMT-B, Lauren Freeman, Clinical Nurse Manager of the Otolaryngology Unit from Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Neonatal Masks donated from Sentara Medical Center to the IAL were distributed to the attendees. These masks are used with Ambu Bags during Rescue Breathing/CPR. The current Division Chief of EMS for the Fenton fire Protection District would like to partner with the IAL to provide continued education re; Emergency Airway Care for Laryngectomees.

Public Outreach; Per individual request from the IAL’s FaceBook page and website; orange emergency cards and window stickers are provided to Laryngectomees.

    Neck breather awareness items and pens, donated by Susan Bruemmer were included in the ’23 IAL AM /VI swag bags.
Continuing Education Opportunities for Healthcare Professionals; Cindy Lee Gordish obtained approval for CEU’s as follows; ASHA CEU’s for both Texas Laryngectomee Association Annual Conference, March 2023 and the International Association of Laryngectomées Voice Institute, May 2023. EMS CEU’s were also obtained for the IAL’s Emergency Responders Session, May 2023.

Annual Meeting: Jennifer Malkiewicz, VP and Chairperson
Most of the year was spent planning the Annual Meeting. Added to the AM this year; Emergency Response Session and Laryngectomy Community Education Certification. These programs will be brought back next year.
The ES/AL FaceBook and Zoom Support Group with Susan Reeves meets consistently on Mondays.
Revision of “First Steps” is being worked on by David Blevins, Cindy Lee Gordish and Jennifer Malkiewicz. The edited version should be ready this summer.
For the upcoming Fire Department Instructors’ Conference, FDIC, The IAL Board is considering having a booth staffed by Laryngectomées to answer questions and provide pamphlets.
The 2024 IAL AM/VI will be repeated in St. Louis at the Sheraton Chalet once again. Great Faculty, Host Club, and Location as well as an opportunity to save money by deleting multiple site visits.

Treasurer’s Report: Kyd Dieterich, President
Due to the health of our Treasurer we do not have a Financial Report available at this time. We are in the process of turning the Treasurer’s position of over to Michael Dieterich.

Public Affairs: Co Chairs; Anne Ammenti, Website-Social Media and Cora Jackson Fossett, Newsletter Editor
Website; In early July’22 our Webmaster, David Cleveland did a refresh of our website. The IAL Board now has new dedicated email addresses through google workspace and a new website address, theIALvoice.org. A correction to our Website email address has been made. All emails are being answered by the Board.
Public Affairs, cont.
Social Media; The IAL has joined Constant Contact, an online marketing company. The IAL now has a public page on FaceBook to facilitate IAL postings to the various FaceBook Support Groups. Mike Dreisbach has reached out to Marianne Kooijman from the Netherlands, she is reaching out to European groups in an effort to update club contacts.

Newsletter; Cora Jackson Fossett is our newsletter editor. She would like anyone with a story of interest or with news to send their articles to her at; cora.jackson.fossett@theialvoice.org

Nominating Committee: Anne Ammenti, Chair
The Call for Nominees went out in late December and throughout January. The Call was sent via USPS to our Club Membership along with the invoice to pay their dues. In addition, the Call was posted to our website as well as the FaceBook Public Page and to 21 FaceBook Support Groups.
The IAL Delegate Packets were mailed out to 34 Dues Paying Clubs. Four packets were returned, “undeliverable.” It was reported that two clubs did not receive their packets.
The Board has received three applicants for Board seats and is pleased to endorse and announce;
Tarah Huberty (Laryngectomee) from Omaha, Nebraska, Alissa Yeargin, SLP from Greenville, South Carolina & Kevin Berry (Laryngectomee) from Barrie, Ontario each are willing to serve as Directors on the Board.

Motion made by Steven Cooper to elect the Nominees listed.
Motion Seconded by Sapp Funderburke
Motion Carried

By Laws Committee: Michael Dreisbach, Chair
Committee members included Board members; Kyd Dieterich, Jennifer Malkiewicz, Anne Ammenti and from out side the Board we had a great amount of help from Delegates; Len Black and Tom Whitworth. Upon examining the ByLaws it was decided that there were many inconsistencies and typos. Also, Robert’s Rules of Order had recently released provisions for continuing to operate the Association in spite of Pandemic shut downs. We wanted to adopt the new provision; RONR #2020-1 immediately. All of the changes and recommendations before you
The IAL Annual Meeting of Club Delegates, Minutes

By Laws, cont. were discussed at length by the Board in 3 special meetings and unanimously agreed upon by the Board. In order to get through the ByLaws in a timely fashion we have a few rules; if making a Motion, a Second, or to offer discussion, please raise your hand. Our Sergeant of Arms will recognize you and bring you the mic, please state your name for the record. We will limit conversation on each item to 10 mins.

ByLaw review and voting began at 8:47AM and was completed by 11:10 PM.

Three suggested By Laws were tabled for further Board review and will be presented again at the next Annual Meeting for Delegate review and vote.

Unfinished Business: Kyd Dieterich
There is no unfinished business.

New Business: Kyd Dieterich
No new business.

Kyd Dieterich called for a motion to adjourn at 11:22AM

Motion; to adjourn by Tom Whitworth

Motion seconded; by Sapp Funderburk

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by; Anne Ammenti, Secretary