**CORNELL ILR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**ILR Extension Program Office NYC**

**MINUTES**

**June 12, 2017**

**INTRODUCTION**

President Esta Bigler called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.  She welcomed everyone and asked for introductions from the Board and all the summer Research Fellows/interns.

Introductions were taken from all Directors present and on the phone: Tom Barreca, Valerie Benjamin, Patricia Charise Fitzgerald, Richard Lovely, Susan Panepento, Marjorie Wittner, Jasen Nhambiu, Dawn Levy-Weinstein, Susan Youngblood, Jennifer Fitzpatrick, Ames Collins, Jason Jendrewski, Joel Friedman, Suzette Simon Rubinstein, Jaqueline Brady, Howard Byck, Philip Capell, Mark Dembo, Elizabeth Greenridge, Nicole Kuzdeba, Alyssa O’Connor, Mary Zitwer- Millman, Esta Bigler, Joe Cartafalsa, Jordan Berman, Don Zinn, David Matthews, Beth Florin, Ellen Dember, Rick Lustig, Marion Zinman and Lisa Hunter.  Sue Sappington and Haley were also present.

Esta Bigler announced that the newly elected Board members [terms expiring in 2020] were seated. She thanked the departing Board Members.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Esta Bigler announced that the slate of officers were: Joe Cartafalsa, President, Beth Florin, Vice-President and Susan Panepento,Vice-President- Secretary.  Both Don Zinn and Dave Matthews expressed interest in the Vice-President-Treasurer position, so a vote will be taken by secret ballot.  Each candidate for the contested position was given an opportunity to speak.  Paper ballots were distributed, completed, and counted by Sue Sappington.

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Draft minutes of the January 9, 2013 Board of Directors Meeting were presented by Susan Panepento.  No amendments were offered. Beth Florin made a motion to approve; Tom Barreca seconded.  The motion to approve was unanimously approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Don Zinn presented the financial report [attached]. The proposed budget has increased spending recommendations from the Executive Committee to support the increased activities of Affinity Group and Chapters.  Zinn recommended that the ILRAA eliminate one of its bank accounts.  Beth Florin made a motion to approve the proposed budget.  Rich Lovely seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**ELECTION RESULTS**

Esta Bigler announced that the new officers are: Joe Cartafalsa, President, Beth Florin, Vice-President, Susan Panepento, Vice-President- Secretary, and Don Zinn, Vice-President-Treasurer.  Bigler thanked the Board and turned the meeting over to Joe Cartafalsa.  Cartafalsa thanked Bigler for her many years of service to the Board.  Bigler explained that she began her service to the ILRAA in 1977 and has been an active participant ever since.  The Directors presented Bigler with a gift and applauded her service.

**EVENTS REPORT**

Joe Cartafalsa reported that the May event for seniors was very well received and thanked Sue Sappington for her help.  Cartafalsa reported that planning for the Fall event on campus is proceeding.  The Dean has identified Ken Sunshine as the keynote speaker.  Under consideration is to have thematic discussions with the students that would be continued by staff throughout the year.  Also the committee is considering doing speed panels in combination with the moderated panels.  There will be doing a barbeque on the quad.  Volunteers to join the planning committee are welcome.

Joe Cartafalsa announced that he would like to encourage Board members to attend the CALC meeting in Philadelphia in January and have the Board meeting in conjunction with that meeting.  The ILRAA will still do a January event but it will just be a social function. No objections were heard.

**STATE OF THE SCHOOL**

Associate Dean Alex Colvin gave a report on the state of the school.  He explained that the school’s strategic planning committees began in 2016 and continue to focus on examining and proposing ways to improve the student experience, research and outreach.  The committees have come up with recommendations in all areas that include: Building one ILR – creating greater interaction and connections between undergraduate, graduate and outreach operations; collaborating on teaching technologies; improving faculty diversity; adapting to the changing world of work.  As a result, an undergraduate curriculum review is being conducted.  This is a thorough and wide ranging review that will not conclude until sometime in Fall 2018 and may influence future faculty hiring.  Faculty and administration are discussing use of an annual academic theme, prioritizing research, alternative locations for outreach [beyond NYC], investing NYS funds in a wider array of constituents, and increasing alumni engagement.  In addition, a new Assistant Dean of Human Resources has been hired, Valerie Benjamin ’90, to improve the school’s HR practices.

Associate Dean Colvin answered questions from the Directors.

Break 3:20.

The meeting resumed at 3:40 pm.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jordan Berman gave a presentation on the news app platform VoiceStorm that was demonstrated at the January meeting.  He explained its usefulness in getting content to Alumni by real-time messaging.  Berman explained that the ILRAA would get to use the platform free for one year.  He recommended that we use it and commit to have 20 ILRAA users create content and conversations.  Don Zinn made a motion to allow the Executive Committee to decide if the ILRAA should commit to the app.  Esta Bigler seconded the motion and it was approved.

**ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ellen Dember gave the report [attached]. Most notable was the improved nomination process using a web-based form and excel report.  There was a reduction in the number of nominations for the first time in three years.

**BY-LAW REVISIONS**

Susan Panepento gave the Committee’s report on proposed revisions and highlighted the most significant aspects, which included expanding the Nominating Committee’s role to include officers, clarifying the election of officers by slate unless a position is contested, and clarifying officer eligibility requirements, succession and position term limits. [See attached report]  The proposed amendments were discussed and questions were answered. Rich Lovely made a motion to approve the proposed by-law revisions, Esta Bigler seconded the motion and the amendments were approved.

**FUNDRAISING REPORT**

Rich Lovely encouraged Directors to contribute to the schools fundraising effort in any amount possible by July 1.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

Beth Florin reported on the three spring activities, the book project and two webinars.  The book project appeared popular, but was halted when the author cancelled.  Due to enthusiasm for the event, Florin recommended that we try this again.   Both Webinars went well but Florin is concerned that they are not reaching a wide enough audience and will have the committee rethink the attendance issue or reconsider the using these programs.

**AFFINITY GROUPS**

Esta Bigler reported on activities of the Finance and Women’s Councils since the last Board meeting.  She advised that a Minority Council has expressed interest in forming. Susan Panepento noted that the Board may not have approved the formation of the Finance and Women’s Councils after Executive Committee approval.  Panepento made a motion to approve the creation of both the Finance and Women’s Councils.  Beth Florin seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The meeting concluded at 5:05 pm.