Press Club of Metropolitan St. Louis Board Meeting Minutes, 4/15/2013

Attending: Joan Lee Berkman, Amanda Cook, Suzanne Corbett, Thomas Eschen, Cynthia Kagan Frohlichstein, Richard Gavatin, William Greenblatt, Alice Handelman, Jared Henningson, Betty Kagan, Thomas Keller, Ben Lipman, Carol Lundgren, Pamela Niehaus, Charlotte Petty, Barbara Shuman Bill Smith, Ellen Soule, Rick Stoff, Aisha Sultan, Trish Muyco-Tobin, Dick Weiss – Also executive director Glenda Partlow and spring intern Alexy Irving.

**Presidents Report and Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by President Bill Smith. Smith announced:

- An email request from the Cleveland Press Club for volunteers to judge their radio competition; if interested email Bill at <u>tpc1@stlbbb.org</u>.
- Gloria Ross will be representing the Press Club at the Mathews-Dickey Boys' and Girls' Club "Sky's the Limit" scholarship luncheon on May 17.
- A reminder to the judges for Ladue News Charity award to review their packet and if they did not receive one yet, contact Trish Muyco-Tobin.
- Suzanne Corbett was awarded the MPC Communicator of the Year award.

**March Minutes and Financial Report:** Cynthia Kagan Frohlichstein moved the minutes be approved as written, the motion was seconded by Ben Lipman and unanimously approved. The March financial report was distributed. The checking account balance at the end of March was \$25,277 and the value of all assets was \$148,629.

**Nominating Committee**: Alice Handelman reported that Jessica Brown, who had been appointed previously, but had declined, is now able to serve. The nominee for the final board position is D.J. Wilson. Trish Muyco-Tobin, Alice Handelman and Barbara Shuman interviewed him and are pleased that he is willing to serve. His resume was distributed and his background discussed. Ben Lipman moved he be appointed to the board, the motion was seconded by Aisha Sultan and was unanimously approved.

New board members Betty Kagan and Jared Henningsen were welcomed to their first board meeting and asked to introduce themselves to the rest of the board.

## Fundraising event reports:

- Amanda Cook asked members to attend and invite all their friends to the Movie and a Cocktail Night, April 23, 2013 beginning at 6:30. Beer for the event has been donated and the wine has been donated by board members. Joan Lee Berkman asked if students are welcome if they are over 21, and Amanda Cook replied they are free to come as the event only recommends a donation.
- Bill Greenblatt reported that he had positive responses from a prospective print journalism nominee concerning Media Person of the Year and from a nationally known prospective candidate for a life time achievement award, who has agreed to speak. Timing of the event is important because of potential conflicts; November, December and January are best. Concerns were expressed about the club's finances by waiting for a November 2014 date. Lipman reviewed the budget and the anticipated annual 2013 income and expenses. Questions about pending scholarships, grants, forum costs, dues, and other expenditures were discussed. Smith asked for committee volunteers to assist

Bill with MPOY issues. Tom Eschen and Tom Keller volunteered. Final decisions will be made at next board meeting.

## **Programming Reports:**

- Cynthia Frohlichstein announced the next Press Club at the Gatesworth program will be April 30 with Ray Hartman. Speakers for this series are all Press Club members, however Kathy Davis of the Gatesworth makes the final decision concerning the programs, which need to be of interest to older adults.
- Pamela Niehaus reported the Photojournalism Media Hall of Fame tour will be the afternoon of Saturday, May 18. She is keeping in touch with Bill Miller about the event which will be concurrent with the Washington art and wine festival that weekend.
- Rick Stoff reported on the St. Louis Public Library Media Archives reception and tour, which is likely to be a Saturday afternoon in May. (other than the 18<sup>th</sup>) Stoff gave a brief history about the St. Louis Public Library Media Archives for the members who are new and hopes to get Press Club members more involved.

**Enterprise Journalism Committee:** Dick Weiss gave a brief history about these fellowships for members new to the board. He announced that two recent proposals have been reviewed and approved by the committee. The first will be by a University of Missouri senior and is about an environmental issue. It is for \$500. The second is from Terry Ganey for \$,500 and is about a Missouri legislator. Handelman suggested a future forum focus on the experiences and process of past recipients. A forum featuring enterprise journalism fellowship recipients was held two summers ago in conjunction with the scholarship luncheon.

**Publicity Report:** Carol Lundgren met with Matt Murphy, who has volunteered to serve on the publicity committee. They discussed numerous ways to better publicize the Press Club, however more members are needed to implement these ideas and board members are asked to serve on this committee.

## **New Business:**

Richard Gavatin passed out the current advisory council and past-president list. Past-presidents no longer serving on the board automatically become advisory council members. Others are appointed by the president. He asked the board to consider that those appointments end with the presidents' term. Also, the by-laws will need to reflect those policies.

Greenblatt questioned the Club's number of board meetings and proposed that only four to six be required. He feels that the majority of the work should be done in the committees and their reports be given at the board meetings. Several members confirmed that other non-profit boards meet no more than six times a year. Discussion focused on the pros and cons of this suggestion. By-laws would need to be approved if the board chose to meet less than nine times a year.

**Directors Report:** Partlow requested members inform her of their committee choices. Also there has been little interest received in the scholarships. She requested assistance in spreading the word. The deadline for all scholarship applications is May 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Greenblatt, Secretary Prepared by Glenda Partlow and Alexy Irving