



**STATE OF MAINE CHAPTER  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICERS**

**Executive Board Meeting  
January 12, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.  
Lisa's Restaurant & Lounge, 15 Bangor St, Augusta**

## **MINUTES**

**Members Present:** President Darryl McKenney; Vice President Joe St. Peter; Secretary Barbara Brewer; Past President Karen Scammon; Executive Board Members Natalie Andrews, Lauren Asselin, Terry Duff, and Brent Martin, and Amber Poulin. Also in attendance were Bill Brunelle and Bonnie Baker.

**Members Absent:** Clint Swett

Darryl called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.

**Secretary's Report:** Natalie moved to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2023, meeting as written. Lauren seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Clint, though absent, had reported a current balance of \$15,201.89 in an email to the Board on January 10th. Barbara moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Natalie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

- **Education:** Joe mentioned that the new assessor in Windham had emailed him requesting an update regarding the proposal for a periodic video call for new assessors to enable them to ask questions and seek guidance. Darryl thought that perhaps the new Director for the Property Tax Division might be willing to host this initiative. Bonnie will ask if this is a possibility.
- **Legislative:** Bill Brunelle stated that there was committee work session yesterday. There are a lot of proposed bills that have been carried over from last year and a lot of will ultimately be dismissed.
- **Membership:** Barbara reported that there are currently 125 members for 2024.
- **Audit:** Nothing to report
- **Nominating:** Nothing to report
- **Communications:** Joe plans to send out the newsletter just after the reception for Bill Healey, celebrating his election as the IAAO Chapter Vice President. Joe then discussed the availability of different remote options for future meetings. Google Meet is one option. There may be other options once we determine meeting locations and the availability of internet, onsite technology, etc. There was some discussion about the possibility of allowing Chapter members to attend educational events/chapter meetings remotely. Amber pointed out that a remote option may discourage members

from attending in-person. It was agreed that networking and connecting with other assessors in person is best. The remote possibilities will be addressed as we move forward with the planning of meetings and events.

- Joe is also looking to create a photo board for Bill Healey’s reception. The invitations have gone out to the assessing groups and the reception is planned for February 1<sup>st</sup> from 4-6 at the Green Ladle in Lewiston. For anyone who wishes to say a few words about Bill during the reception, there will be an open mic.
- **IAAO:** Members of the IAAO will be voting from January 25-February 9<sup>th</sup> on a couple of by-laws changes. To view the proposed changes, members can go online to the IAAO website and view the sample ballot.

**Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

- **History:** Nothing to report

**Old Business**

- **ME Chapter IAAO: Tax Exempt Status Certification**

Clint is currently working on filing for the tax-exempt status certification for the Chapter.

- **Green Ladle Discussion**

As mentioned under the Communications Committee, the reception for Bill Healey will take place at the Green Ladle in Lewiston on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The Green Ladle is the culinary arts school located on the Lewiston High School campus.

- **Board Meetings 2024 Schedule and Options for Attendance (select dates and hosts)**

The following dates were selected for the Board and chapter meetings for 2024:

Executive Committee	2/1/2024
<b>Winter Meeting</b>	<b>3/7/2024</b>
Executive Committee	4/18/2024
Executive Committee	5/16/2024
Executive Committee	6/20/2024
Executive Committee	7/18/2024
Executive Committee	8/15/2024
Executive Committee	9/5/2024
Executive Committee	10/17/2024
<b>Annual Meeting</b>	<b>11/14/2024</b>
Executive Committee	12/19/2024

Because it may be easier for planning purposes, Amber would like to see some consistency in the meeting venues. Joe mentioned that he enjoyed moving the venue each month, but he is agreeable to choosing one consistent venue if other Board members prefer it. Darryl wondered if the MMA might be an option as a consistent venue, or even the Great Wall of China restaurant that sits behind the Augusta Civic Center. He will look at some options and report back to the Board. For February, it was decided

that the Board should meet just before Bill Healey's reception, at 2:00 P.M. If we can meet at the Green Ladle we will, if not, the meeting will be held at Auburn Town Hall.

### New Business

**The following individuals were proposed to sit on these standing committee:**

- **Membership**-Barbara in her position as Secretary
- **Education**
  - **Executive Members**-Natalie (Chair & Coordinator), Amber, Lauren, and Terry
  - **Chapter Members**- if they agree to serve-Nick Desjardins, Marc Perry, Nichole Stenberg, and Nicole Twombly. (Bonnie offered to help, she just cannot participate as a committee member due to her position at MRS.)
- **Legislation**
  - **Executive Members**-Brent (Chair) and Darryl
  - **Chapter Members**-if they agree to serve, Kerry Leighton and Justin Poirier
- **Audit**
  - **Executive Member**-Terry (Chair)
  - **Chapter Member**-if he agrees to serve, Ben Thompson
- **Nominating**-
  - **Executive Members**-Barbara (Chair), Amber and Brent
  - **Chapter Member**-if they agree to serve, Donald Ferrara, Kerry Leighton, and Judy Mathiau
- **Communications**
  - **Executive Members**-Joe (Chair & Newsletter Editor) and Amber
  - **Chapter Members**-if they agree to serve, Kyle Avila, Bill Brunelle, Fuyu (Frank) Xu, and Ben Thompson
- **IAAO**
  - **Executive Members**-Karen (Chair) and Natalie

**The following individuals were proposed to sit on the History ad hoc committee:**

- **Executive Members**-Lauren (Chair), Darryl, and Terry
- **Chapter Member**-if she agrees to serve, Becky Nolette

Natalie moved that the slate of committee members be approved as discussed. Brent seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- **Proposed By-Laws Amendments** (to allow for remote meeting attendance and voting privileges)

Joe proposed changing the word "personal" to "personnel" in the current by-laws without a chapter vote as this appears to have been a typo based on his research of previous by-laws. For the other changes he is proposing, we can address those at a later meeting as there may be other changes needed. The Chapter votes on by-law changes at the annual meeting (usually held in November), so the Board has time to review the current by-laws and propose other changes as may be needed.

- **Proposed Changes to Michael Austin Memorial Scholarship Policy**

Barbara circulated a proposed policy revision to the 2009 Scholarship Policy based on her review of past Board meeting minutes and newsletters. Over time, this scholarship has been expanded to allow the recipient to use funds for the cost of travel (2013). The Board (2017) also instituted the condition that an award could not be given to the same recipient within three years.

Natalie requested that the middle paragraph of the proposed edited policy be changed by removing the statement regarding how the Board chooses the scholarship recipient. Barbara agreed to remove that sentence and asked if there were any other suggested edits. As they were none, Natalie moved that the policy be accepted as edited, Terry seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- **Chapter Meeting Date and Venues**

Natalie will ask Nick Cloutier, the previous education coordinator, for any notes he has on arranging last year's Chapter meetings. Joe mentioned that the Augusta Civic Center appeared to be a good venue for Chapter meetings. The winter meeting is planned for March 7<sup>th</sup>. Some topics discussed included current and pending legislation, mapping in GIS, Marshall & Swift, personal property (including BETE and BETR), and public relations and the withdrawal of the State's property tax stabilization initiative in favor of two other State programs (property tax deferral and property tax fairness credit). Natalie will also reach out to Nick to see if there were unused educational topics discussed in the past.

Lauren moved to adjourn the meeting, and Brent seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed and the Board adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Brewer, Secretary