

Iowa Chapter IAEI Spring Educational Meeting Minutes April 11-13, 2007

The Iowa Chapter of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors held their 69th Annual Spring Educational Meeting in Johnston, Iowa at the Stoney Creek Inn & Suites. Registration began at 0700 on April 11th and greetings were exchanged over coffee and rolls. President Dennis Jordison called the meeting to order at 0800, he led the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer. Des Moines Electrical Inspector, Jeff Duehlmeyer, and Des Moines' Deputy Building Official Rod Van Wart welcomed the group to central Iowa. Minutes from the fall meeting were read by Secretary Barbara Mentzer, moved and approved as read by body. At 0830, Iowa State Building Code Commissioner Stuart Crine and Sandy Helland, lobbyist for the Associated Building Contractors organization, gave an update on the status of the state electrical licensing bill currently going through the Iowa Statehouse.

At 1030, Jay Bowermeister and Bill Schweitzer presented information regarding testing for the Iowa Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials.

1100 brought Tom Lichtenstein to the room for a very informational session on the use and need of the UL White Book. Each member in attendance went home with a current edition of the book.

Lunch was served at 1230, and the meeting resumed at 1330 with comments from Western Section President Jarrell Blair. Mr. Blair challenged everyone to bring in one new member each this year as the IO is seeing an average of 14,000 members with a yearly gain of 2213 and loss of 2370. He reminded the Iowa Chapter to work at gaining new members, and most importantly keeping those we have.

The NEMA report was given by Mike Forister who is retiring at the end of this week of April and he introduced the new representative, Jeff Fecteau.

Dwight Kramer presented the Western Section meeting report, reminding everyone the 2007 meeting will be held in St Louis and the Iowa Chapter is offering some monetary assistance to those who wish to attend. A form will be created to apply for those funds.

At 1430, Dave Sullivan presented the new UL requirements for GFCI manufacturing. Jerry DePenning gave the nominating committee report at 1515 with the following recommendations for officers:

President: Rick Chambers

1st Vice: Dave Shupe

2nd Vice: Dave Sullivan

Secretary: Barbara Mentzer

Treasurer: John Phillips

Board of Directors: Joe Mason, Mel Duncan, Rob Weber, and Tony Servantez

Western Section Representative: Dwight Kramer

Education Chair: Jerry DePenning

Publicity Chair: Gary Snell

Membership Chair: Don Thompson

Past President: Dennis Jordison

Membership unanimously elected all nominees by voice vote.

John Phillips presented the treasurer's report, showing the group's balance at end of 2006 to be \$9,585.97 in checking account with \$18,010.52 in CD's. Total net worth of Iowa Chapter at end of 2006 was \$27,602.36.

Jerry DePenning was next up to present education information. He asked the group for any ideas or areas of concern to be covered with future educational meetings. He stated the "I Am Safety Smart" program kits have increased in price from an estimated \$100/kit to \$453/kit, if any jurisdiction is interested. Possible topics for the Spring 2008 conference to include: IAEI code change class for 2008 NEC, Soares Grounding, fire pumps, and stand-by systems in healthcare and homeland security facilities.

Membership report from Don Thompson shows the Iowa Chapter is bucking the national trend and bringing in new memberships faster than the ones it is losing. 2004 membership was 145 and 2006 showed a total of 163. Don suggested different ways to have training to encourage more participation as well as additional advantages to being a member.

In-coming President Rick Chambers gave his comments on where he wants the organization to be and to grow over the next few years.

Code panel discussions began and continued until 1600, when the group was dismissed to attend the manufacturer's trade show.

Thursday, April 12, 2007

After an evening on their own, the group reconvened at 0700 with the very popular and entertaining code breakfast with Mike Forister. Many challenging questions were posed to the teams and most did quite well navigating the NEC and UL books to find the answers.

0900 brought everyone back to the classroom and the code panel discussion continued where it had left off from the previous afternoon. The code panel was made up of Mike Forister as moderator, Jeff Fecteau, NEMA; Rick Chambers, Chambers Electric; Tom Lichtenstein, UL; Bill Noack, WLN Enterprises; and Jarrell Blair, Western Section President. Very constructive discussion was held on a variety of code topics.

After lunch at 1300, Dave Sullivan, Joe Bertsch Sale Company, presented a session on NEC Article 517. Bill Noack, WLN Enterprises, then presented information on how inspectors can use NFPA 70E until the end of the session at 1700.

The evening began at 1800 with cocktails before the banquet and installation of the new officers, awards and entertainment. A few members will be remembering the hypnotist show for quite awhile!!

Friday, April 13, 2007

The final day of the conference began at 0700 with coffee and rolls. At 0800, the code panel resumed and continued until about 1100. At this time, the educational portion of the program ended and the business meeting was convened.

Minutes of 2007 Spring Business Meeting

President Rick Chambers called the 2007 Spring Business Meeting of the Iowa Chapter IAEI to order at 1115.

In the reports section of the meeting, the minutes of the fall meeting were read by Secretary Barbara Mentzer and approved by body. John Phillips presented the Treasurer's Report: 2006 ending balance of \$9,585.97 in checking and \$18,010.52 in CD's, total net worth of \$27,602.36; motion to approve by David Neyens, 2nd by John Claerys, approved by voice vote. John also presented the auditor's report, move to approve by Dennis Jordison, 2nd by Rich Seiser, approved by voice vote. Jordison also made a motion to approve the treasurer to pay all bills incurred from this meeting until the Spring 2008 meeting without prior approval of membership, second by Seiser, approved by voice vote. Don Thompson gave the membership report of 163 members for current 2007. The Iowa Chapter is gaining members unlike the national average. Thompson mentioned ways to gain and keep members in the organization, also discussed how the new state licensing law may effect the numbers in attendance to receive CEU's. In old business, discussion was held about the Iowa Chapter website and if anyone was interested in taking over duties. Suggestions were made to hire a small company or person to maintain the site. Need to discuss with Dave Sullivan on route to take. Jordison made a motion to set aside \$2,000 for sponsoring members to attend the Western Section meeting, up to \$500 per application, applications to be submitted to secretary by date set by board. Board to approve disbursements. 2nd by Neyens, approved by voice vote. Mentzer and Sullivan to design form. Jordison also moved to purchase an ad similar to the one printed in the past in the Western Section program for the 2007 meeting, 2nd by Seiser, approved by voice vote. Mentzer will coordinate with Ed Lawry. The nominating committee for 2008 was set as Jordison, Sullivan and Thompson. No other old business.

Under new business, discussion was held regarding the fall 2007 program. The dates are October 18 & 19 in Waterloo. Jordison made a motion to allow the education chair to develop the program based on membership need and state bill, 2nd by Seiser, approved by voice vote. Joe Mason moved the cost for the fall meeting to be set at \$15 for the dinner business meeting and \$25 for the education program. 2nd by Seiser, approved by voice vote. Discussed possibility of a July meeting for the executive board, was left up to President to arrange. Future dates of meetings to include: April 9-11, 2008 in Waterloo; Butch Forbes made a motion to change fall 2008 dates to October 16-17, 2008, 2nd by Seiser, approved by voice vote; Seiser made motion to have Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 meetings in Fort Dodge, 2nd by Neyens, approved by voice vote; April 16-18, 2009 in Fort Dodge. Discussion was held about the possibility of having the meeting in the central Iowa area every other year.

The 2008 spring educational program will be developed by the education chair and discussed at fall meeting.

In other new business, the secretary will provide a list of all email addresses of current members to membership.

Door prizes were given out to those in attendance and the big winners were: \$200 to John Kerger, free hotel night each to Tony Servantez and John Lazdins, and dinner at Okoboji Grill to John Phillips.

Meeting adjourned at 1233.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Mentzer

IAEI Iowa Chapter Secretary

