



MINUTES

General Business Meeting—Galveston Conference

January 13, 2010

Present / Roll Call:

Mike Smith
Martin Aberg
Judy Vollbrecht
Ian Lance
Jay Pragman
Donna Conick
Don Ellingsen
Jeff Torchio
Shelley Laird
Eric Lundin
Simon Lofting

Bill Dobson, nor Ron Morris were present.

Reading of the minutes waived by motion from the floor by Kevin Kelley

Quorum is present

39 Members in attendance.

Presidents Report—Mike Smith

IAATI relationship remains productive. At the conference, they asked for IAMI training on HIN 101 to bolster their effectiveness. This is planned.

NICB database is still on hold due to funding issues. This has been the case for the last couple of years, and there is no change anticipated. Grant funding will make it happen, as it is not a priority.

NASBLA conference was productive, IAMI made excellent connection with our partnerships.

501C3 is done. We are now eligible for grants with tax exempt status. Mike attempted to engage a grant preparer, but was not able to get much done with him. He was hired by the State and is now unable to help. Search continues. Would like to do more regional training. Grant funding is the answer to this.

2009 was a good year, most of what we attempted was done.

First VP Report—Martin:

Recognizes the attendees at the Conference and thanks them for their support of the training and IAMI. 138 attended IAMI 2010—which is excellent. Thanks go to Randy and the SO for their help—without them, it could not have been accomplished.

Either Orlando or Chattanooga will be city to host 2011 conference—we are looking into it, and it will be posted to the website ASAP.

Washington DC, Charleston, Daytona Beach are on the list for 2012. We are looking into dealing with Hospitality Performance Network to increase the cost savings and efficiency—Intro to SAM:

SAM: Doing conference planning with HPN is expected to be no cost, but provides excellent service. Group buying can lower costs. HPN makes money from the hotels—like a travel agent. No contract to sign, if we don't like it, we don't take it. Goal is to lessen Board workload on scheduling and save on attendance costs for members.

2nd V.P—Judy Vollbrecht:

New Membership 2009:

33 LE

34 NLE

67 New

Current Membership:

158 LE

282 NLE

16 PR

456 active members

Reviews last two years, sum is that we are increasing slowly.

Membership rolls include 16 lifetime members, 1450 inactive.

At the Galveston Conference: 21 new members— 5 NLE, 16 LE

International membership includes:

67 in Europe

22 in Canada

2 in Africa

2 in Antigua.

Sec/Treas—Ian Lance:

Reviewed presentation, account listing, general ledger, and current bank balances. Read 2010 Budget (due to tech difficulties, the overhead was not connecting to the laptop), motion to approve by Randy Burrows—Seconded. Unanimous approval.

IAMI Europe—Simon Lofting:

Thanks conference attendees for their hospitality. Prime issue in Europe is fighting thefts (especially outboards) right now—groups from Eastern Europe have been identified that are actively stealing outboard engines—as they are high value and easy to steal. Cowlings are also a target, due to their high replacement costs.

Conference for IAMI EU is 10/13/10—two days in Mallorca, Spain. Training will be focused on combating theft of motors. There is an open invitation to all present, and IAMI membership generally, to come. Expects high level of training.

Steering Committee is presently working to adapt the CMI exam to Europe. General format is expected to be the same, but without the items specifically centered on only in the US. (Simon and Eric have been working on this matter for most of the year)

Simon has collected a lot of ideas from Galveston Conference, as well as members in attendance, to apply back to Europe.

IAMI EU Membership update: Currently there are 78 Members who are not in good standing. Christina will be focusing on getting the members back into shape—this was the primary reason for her EU Steering Committee appointment.

LE - Jeff Torchio:

Thanks to Randy Burrows and Galveston SO for conference. It was fantastic. Galveston #1 was good 10 years ago, and this was also a successful conference. Jeff suggests we come back for 2020—just to maintain continuity.

Committee sends a “Thank You” to Jay Pragman for his work in getting IAMI POST certification for training classes. Certification will help with attracting LE to IAMI—as over 20 states currently recognize POST, and thus require certification for training credits.

Committee also wants to recognize Jeff Edge and Richard Kooren for putting on Niagara Falls training less than two months after Portland Conference. This was the first major training ever put on by IAMI in Canada—and was specifically geared to the Canadian membership. Notable attendees were RCMP, Provincial police and Niagara Falls PD.

IAMI Canada—Judy:

No new report—as it was well covered by Jeff and LE)

CMI and Bylaws, SOP - Eric Lundin

87 Current CMI. 2009 was the first year for recertification; 22 completed recert before expiration, and were issued a letter of recert from IAMI Office. In 2010: twenty four CMI are due for renewal by June 30, 2010. More info will be posted on the website. However, the 5 year criteria for recert will be the same as this year. Five members will be sitting for CMI testing in Galveston.

CMI records are now kept at IAMI HQ. Formerly, Todd Schwede and his wife maintained the records—but the Board is attempting to centralize procedure and records at HQ. CMI Committee sends “Thank You” to Todd Schwede and Shelia for their hard work in keeping them up to now.

Reminder that 5 years is the renewal date for all CMI. CMI Committee is still pursuing the development of an advanced CMI in parallel tracks for insurance and surveying. Also, CMI exam will be retooled for Europe.

CMI and Bylaws, SOP - Eric Lundin, Continued

BYLAWS:

There are two suggested changes—which will have to read since the computer is down.

Article 3, sec 7—Dues. Proposed that dues are paid on application, and on August 1—to make it the same as our fiscal year. Due to our change of business form from c6 to c3, this has made for some confusion in billings at HQ. Moved and approved unanimously.

Article 4, sec 6. Officers, Terms, and Elections. Proposed to add a section 6. (Read verbatim) Purpose is to allow continuing Board members to maintain their status—even if they retire while on the Board. This will help the Board maintain the intended ratio and make for more certainty for the full two-year term. Moved and seconded. Randy Burrows has a question if the statement is in conflict with another category in the bylaws—specifically the ratio required of the Board. Eric does not see a conflict in the bylaws—in any event, the change is meant only to assist the Board in maintaining status when needed, to prevent mid-term replacements. Mike Smith explains this issue came up because Martin and Jeff’s status went from “LE” to “private sector” mid-year—the change would allow a Board member to maintain his LE or non-LE status and the Board would not be required to find a mid-term replacement, or shuffle the Board makeup if this happens again. Discussion closed with no further questions—question called, unanimous approval.

Read 5 resolutions: 4 are the customary “Thank You’s” for the supporters of the Conference.

2010-1—thanking Galveston County Sheriff’s Office and Randy Burrows

2010-2—thanking Galveston Police Department

2010-3—thanking Citizens Sheriff’s Academy Alumni Assn.

2010-4—Acknowledgement of assistance from Mickey’s Marine

2010-5—repeat of IAMI’s endorsement of 17 character HIN. Question from the floor: (Dan Rutherford asks if we are deluding ourselves by simply asking, as we have before —would like an update) Mike Smith responds that USCG is still looking at it—but it could be at Galveston 2020. NMMA opposes the idea, and only a few of the manufacturers are willing to give it a go. USCG could just make a rule—as they have been a primary driver in the past. But, because regulation from USCG is difficult, they are trying it by a softer approach. Dan ends his discussion. Question from the floor about the change supporting “homeland security” and appropriate language being in the resolution—Eric says it is, and reads the full resolution. Question called from the floor. Unanimous approval.

(All resolutions were individually moved and approved unanimously)

HIN Database—Donna Conick:

NICB still lacks funding to move forward. They have a grant application in to source needed funds from outside. This is just not a high priority for NICB, as the use is so limited. To date: Only 7 secondary HINS have been submitted from LE. Only 15 LE have used database since Portland. (Board is specifically working on a way to allow surveyors and insurance to submit data through IAMI website and link directly to NICB.)

Insurance—Shelley Lair:

Restates Board work on having surveyors provide secondary HIN info to IAMI. IAMI will provide a link off website, to foster this. Info will go directly to NICB—bypassing access problem for non-LE members.

Insurance Committee is working on getting CE credits for Insurance industry—starting first with core classes. By next conference, this should be in place—allowing private industry the same benefit that Jay got handled for LE in 2009.

Shelley reviews Facebook efforts for marketing. (And assures members that she will not post LE pictures, especially to Facebook pages) Targeted advertising review of FB ad: 958,000 ad views—ad read 131 times. Ad was very inexpensive and was targeted directly at LE and Insurance membership.

Training—Jay P:

Since Portland:

146 LE

35 NLE

181 Tot

39 at Canadian Regional

MPOC—154

Other IAMI-sponsored training—274

Europe—65

713 trained by IAMI in 2009

At Galveston Conf:

71 LE

69 NLE

Thanks to all presenters and instructors for a successful 2009 Conference and also to Board for its efforts.

MPOC is will be held on both March 10 and April 21. Training has also been requested by National Association of Wildlife Enforcement Officers of America—this will be in Pennsylvania, and IAMI will send a local trainer. Trainers will also be scheduled to attend the IAATI conference to teach HIN 101. April will also see IAMI Regional Training In Yorktown, VA. Areas requested info about sponsoring regionals in Phoenix, Oklahoma, Philadelphia, New York, and Washington DC. Training Committee will work to see that all of the needs for training are met.

Industry / Marketing—Don Ellington:

No activity to report to membership.

IAMI Web Site—Judy:

Updated for PayPal and Facebook. Judy would like “member success stories” to help visitors recognize what IAMI is about. Page has seen 895,434 hits total since last year. The #1 hit area was in New York—and Board will develop further info on this to see if there is a need for regional or Conference focus there. France, China, Germany, UK, Netherlands, Canada, Ukraine, Korea, Taiwan, Denmark, Romania, Russia—all also hit on the site.

Coast Guard—Kevin Kelly:

Nothing further on 17 character HIN is expected right now.

USCG has two proposed rules in the near future:

1. Require boat manufacturers to install engine cut off switches and require operator to use it.
2. Making regulation language the same in COLREGS and VIS—to eliminate possible confusion for all users.

Legislative—Ron Morris:

Not present—nothing new in this area, per Mike Smith.

Past President—Sam Bean:

Nomination Committee: Brian Ripley, Karlton Kilby, Pat Rowland and Kevin Kelly all get a “thank you.” This year, it seemed a majority of the Board was leaving due to retirement and job changes. Nominating Committee feels they interviewed a great number of people interested, and made solid selections to enhance IAMI. Sam believes they created a great slate of Officers for 2010.

Slate of officers for IAMI 2010:

Martin Aberg —President
Jay Pragman—First Vice President
Eric Lundin—Second Vice President
Ian Lance—Secretary/Treasurer

Directors:

Randy Burrows
Chris Winch
Simon Lofting
Herb Angell
Bill Dobson
Wayne Skrdla
Earl Joyner
Scott Shaw
Shelley Lair

No additional nominations received from the floor—Sam made a call for three times. Moved and seconded.

Again, there was discussion whether the new Article 6 conflicts—as there are now three “LE” members. Karlton calls for a point of order—Karlton suggests any change would only become effective after the conference closed. Since the meeting is still going on, there should be no issue. Mike and Karlton discuss that the change is only intended to keep from forcing members off the Board and that many members can claim multiple categories of membership. Question called, unanimous member approval.

Kyle Sturm and Katie Buxman are new legal counsel—replacing Richard Stavin, who had resigned. Board is pleased to have their assistance.

OLD BUSINESS:

IAMI is actively seeking liability insurance. While the Board is obviously aware of the benefit, several trainings and Conferences have now seen this issue raised by either vendors, or service providers. Up to now, cost has been the issue. It is especially a recurrent problem for doing Regionals. Board believes the need is critical. Question from the floor if we have Directors and Officer insurance right now. Mike says we do. The difference is that liability insurance is to protect the entity—as a suit would right now mean dissolution. Question from the floor whether we should increase dues to cover buying the needed policy. Mike says maybe next year that will be an issue, but that Board believes they can fund it with current Budget. However, an increase may be necessary in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lifetime Memberships—Past President Pat Rowland nominated both Fred Messmann and Don Ellingsen. Fred has been carrying the 17 character fight for many years. Requested vote to approve from floor. Individually moved and approved to unanimous vote.

Secretary Treasurer will be seeking an accountant in Oregon to protect us—probably a CPA that specializes in C3 organizations. We are to the point of growth where we no longer have a choice. For both continuity and transparency, it is a must-do. We need to have no questions on what we do; CPA will foster that. Goal is continuing absolute transparency for finances. Board will get quotes, and put this in place ASAP.

Board will continue to actively seek LE members.

FSU will soon include some of IAMI training in their Maritime Forensic Sciences curriculum. IAMI will negotiate a fee back from Florida State University for the use of materials, and possibly instructors. Board is in agreement as to the concept, but will try several classes before committing major time and resources. Captain Ric Corley has been working hard on making this happen for several years. Board will place limited classes in their curriculum in 2010. Board expects to see membership growth and additional revenue. Calls FSU Dr. Dale Nute, who gives brief overview.

Floor makes suggestion to substitute Nashville as opposed to Chattanooga for 2011 Conference because of difficulty getting flights directly in to Chattanooga. Mike responds that Board will consider Nashville along with Chattanooga and Orlando.

Meeting moved and approved to adjourn at 2:45

NEW BOARD MEETING—following General Business Meeting

2011 Assignments:

Insurance—Shelley Lair/Scott Shaw

Training—Shelley Lair, Chris Winch, Herb Angell

Regional—Bill Dobson

International—Simon Lofting

Bylaws—Earl Joyner

LE—Herb Angell and Wayne Skrdla

Marketing – Randy Burrows

Industry – Scott Shaw

Web Site —Judy Vollbrecht
CMI—Eric Lundin

Past President, Training Committee, 1st VP will set 2011 Conference location ASAP. HPN will be used to quote Orlando and Chattanooga—one will be in 2011 and one in 2012—so they will both see a conference.

Martin plans to try monthly or bi-monthly meetings via SKYPE to keep everyone up to date—without major teleconferences by phone.

Since IAATI conference is in Orlando, we might meet there at around that time, if it is selected, to save travel costs—usually it is August to September. Will set a mid year within 40 days, as soon as we know about location for 2011 Conference from HPN quotes. Jay says they can make full contract in less than 30 days.