

**AACT Region III
General Membership Meeting
Minutes
April 19, 2009
South Bend, Indiana**

The Following Persons Signed the Attendance Sheet Circulated at this meeting: Frank Peot, Toni Higgins-Thrash, Joanne Berry Dotti Peek, Harv Thompson, Wandell Gabey, Pat Wheeler, Pearl Ahnen, Mary Olendorf, Ron Ziegler, Wm Munchow, Bob Kafka, Kathie Maldonado, Darrin Murrell

I. Call to Order

Region III Representative Darrin Murrell called the general membership meeting of AACT Region III to order at 9:00 AM.

All persons present were asked to introduce themselves.

II. State Representatives

The following persons were present to represent their individual state with voting rights: Bob Kafka (Wisconsin), Toni Higgins-Thrash (Illinois), Ginny Morrison (Ohio), Joanne Berry (Michigan), Dotti Peek (Indiana). Also present were Region III Secretary Frank Peot, and Regional representative Darrin Murrell.

III. Website Report

Webmaster Bob Kafka presented a brief oral update on Region III's website. There have been 599 visits in calendar year 2009. Members were reminded the website address is www.region3aact.org. Postings, minutes, meeting dates, festivals, etc. are posted on this site.

IV. Discussion

A discussion ensued regarding events of the past years. Comments were received regarding AACT's rule for two entries to the regional festival if there were at least four entries at the state level. Persons present commented both for and against this idea. Harv Thompson commented that only the dynamic strong shows should be sent from a state. The basis of these festivals is education and we do want as many entries as possible. AACT President Bill Muchow commented the four show rule was only a test case and will be examined by the AACT Festival Commission at its meeting in Tacoma.

Ginny Morrison commented on the difficulties Ohio has been having since they lost their Executive Secretary. She reminded us that Ohio is committed to hosting the regional festival in 2011.

Some concern was voiced over the price of attendance for companies. Some states allow the first ten members of a company to attend for a reduced registration fee. This varies from state to state.

Mary Olendorf suggested having a senior citizen registration rate.

V. Comments on Region III AACTFest '09

Some of the entries were not completely familiar with the rules especially the 10' x10' on deck space. Also there were no microphones available for any of the groups. It was felt there was a definite lack of communication regarding this festival. The awards brunch has usually been an option, which it was this time, but it was vague.

Some concern was expressed about the performance order. We will have to revisit this at our next regional meeting. In the past it has been by random order and not by distance.

MOTION Berry/Morrison A motion was made by Joanne Berry and seconded by Ginny Morrison to instruct the secretary/treasurer to forward \$200 to the winning company to help defray their travel expenses to the national festival.

The secretary/treasurer was asked to send out annual invoices for \$25 each to the five states in the region.

NOMINATION: Berry/Kafka Joanne Berry nominated Ginny Morrison to be the new Region III Representative to AACT. Bob Kafka seconded the nomination. There was a unanimous vote to accept Ginny Morrison as the new Region III Representative to AACT.

MOTION: Peek/Higgins-Thrash A motion was made by Dotti Peek and seconded by Toni Higgins-Thrash asking Darrin Murrell to resign at the end of this meeting so Ginny could take the AACT Board position at the beginning of the AACT Board Meetings in Tacoma, rather than waiting until the end of the meetings. Darrin agreed to this, as he is not going to be able to attend AACTFest '09 in Tacoma. The motion passed. The secretary was instructed to notify the AACT Office and Executive Vice President Rod McCullough of this decision so the change can be made prior to the June meetings of AACT.

MOTION: Kafka/Berry A motion was made by Bob Kafka and seconded by Joanne Berry to accept Columbus, Ohio, as the host site for the Region III AACTFest '11. The dates would be from April 29 – May 1, 2011. The motion passed.

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: Kafka/Berry A motion was made by Bob Kafka and seconded by Joanne Berry to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting of Region III AACT was adjourned at 10:11 AM.