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Steven Hinckley

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dbausch@leo.vsla.edu
blbrown@vt.edu
osbaldid@law.law.sc.edu

From: "Steven D. Hinckley" <shinckle@gmu.edu>
Send reply to: "shinckle@gmu.edu" <shinckle@gmu.edu>
To: 'Sue Burch' <sburch@pop.uky.edu>,
Subject: RE: A Few Items for Discussion
Date sent: Thu, 2 Apr 1998 11:00:05 -0500
Organization: George Mason University

Dear Sue, Donna, Diana, and Ladd, *Sue Steve Donna Ladd Diana*

Although I am new to all this, I am weighing in with my two cents worth on the subjects that Sue brought to our attention in her recent e-mail.

- > 1. I had an inquiry about SEAALL having two
- > open bar receptions in New Orleans. We
- > hadn't done that in the past (at least
- > recently) and the issue of liability, not
- > to mention cost, was raised. Connie Matzen
- > has offered to look into old minutes to see
- > if we have a "rule" or have had discussion
- > on this in the past. Is this something
- > the Board can just decide on its own -- to
- > have or not have open bars? Should I recommend
- > to Bill and the Tennessee folks that we go back
- > to cash bar and free soft drinks? Does anyone
- > remember previous open bars?

I am unclear as to the source of this inquiry. Did it come from a SEAALL member questioning our use of association funds for open bars? Or, did it come from someone at AALL? In any case, I have scoured our bylaws and can't find anything that speaks directly to the question. I also searched AALLNet's archive to see if the national association has a policy on this matter and couldn't find anything there either. The only thing I see in SEAALL's documentation that could be germane is Article X, Section 1 of our Articles of Incorporation which states that "assets and income derived from the assets of this corporation shall be used solely for educational and scientific purposes." I suppose that someone irritated by open bars could use that as some justification for their position. Perhaps someone should check with Jim Heller to see if he knows of any AALL policy statement on this issue?

As for any suggestion that we should go back to having cash bars and free soft drinks, one could carry the "anti open bar" argument to its logical conclusion -- if folks who like to have an alcoholic beverage can't be subsidized by SEAALL funds, why is it any more appropriate for the Association to hand out free Coke and Pepsi?

As attested by the fact that this year's socials were very well attended and seemed to be very well received, I hope that we can resist the temptation of the few who have to be upset when people are having a good time, and continue to "host" one or two socials with "complimentary" beverages of all kinds. > > 2. Several SEAALL members were under the impression > that our committee appointments were for 2 years. > I'm pretty sure that is not correct. I've been > on committees since '89 and don't recall ever > serving two years on a committee unless I somehow > got appointed to the same

committee by different > Presidents. Anyway, Connie Matzen and I
discussed > this at the meeting in New Orleans. She was one >
of the people who asked about it. For the sake > of continuity, we
wondered if each new president > could appoint 2 year committees
for 3 committees. > That way there wouldn't be total upheaval every
> two years (or if left like it is upheaval every year.) > The
Committees that have appointed Chairs and > members are: Educ. &
Public Relations, Government > Relations, Membership, Nominations,
Placement, > and Scholarship. I left off Newsletter because > I
assume we don't want to change editors every > two years if we
don't have to! The other committees > (Local Arrangements, Service
to SEAALL and Bylaws) > are not really appointed committees.
And the Program > Committee is usually appointed by the
President-elect. > > This year I had several committee chairs from
last > year ask to stay on as chair. I didn't allow that >
because we had enough new people volunteering to be > chairs, and I
thought it might cause discouragement or > even resentment by some
of our members. On the other > hand, I do think that it takes a
year for chairs to > "get the hang" of what's going on and two year
> appointments may help our organization run more > smoothly.
So, my questions are: what's your > opinion of revolving two year
appointments and does > this just require a Board vote or should we
discuss > this with the membership in Anaheim and get their >
advice/opinion?

Our Bylaws currently seem to make two year appointments to committees
a possibility "when appropriate." I agree that this is a little
sketchy and could be defined a bit more clearly. I also agree that
serving two year terms would provide some continuity. Are there
annually so many members clamoring to serve on committees that our
membership would be offended if people were willing to serve two-year
committee terms (probably the same folks who don't want to have free
drinks!!!)? Whatever we do, I think this is the kind of thing the
Board has to discuss, officially, and consider proposing an amendment
to the Bylaws to accomplish. > > 3. Donna faxed me a letter from
Martha Brown at AALL > headquarters. Orlando, FL is under
consideration > by AALL Executive Board as the annual meeting site
> for 2002. Martha asked for comments from SEAALL > because one
of the selection criteria is whether > "the site will attract local
interest and support > from chapters and members". I will fax a
copy of > her letter to each of you so you can look it over. >
She also included the procedures from the AALL > Site Selection
Policy so we can see what's expected > of "us". Personally, I
think it would be difficult > for SEAALL to sponsor this meeting.
As Donna > mentioned to me, we include a lot of territory!! >
Local Arrangements would be rather difficult for > members who
don't even live in Florida, much less > the Orlando area!! I'm a
little uncomfortable > offering SEAALL's support without knowing
whether > there are Floridians interested in handling this >
kind of a responsibility. Martha wants our comments > by June. > >
Perhaps several of us can contact some Florida members > to gauge
their interest. SEAALL could "co-sponsor" I > guess, but it seems
we need to find out if there > really are any Florida SEAALL
members who would be > interested in taking this on. Comments,
suggestions??

I certainly agree that all of this depends on Floridians' interest in

working on local arrangements for both AALL and SEAALL. My guess is that the folks in Orlando would love to have a national meeting down there, but I don't know that for a fact. I don't have many contacts there -- how about the rest of you?

Talk to you all of you soon-

Steve Hinckley
shinckle@gmu.edu
703-993-8110
703-993-8113 (fax)

*This is a bit late perhaps, but I have now rejoined this side of the world and am catching up on stuff.
open bar receptions: I don't recall any purely open bar receptions - except for*