



International Association of Electrical Inspectors

Minnesota Chapter

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President: Wade Hoffman
Vice President: Mark Hunter
Secretary/Treasurer: Wade Schlie

MINUTES

MINNESOTA CHAPTER 2019 WINTER MEETING

MN Chapter IAEI Winter meeting was called to order by President pro-tem Chip Jespersen at 4:16 p.m. on January 9, 2019 at the Earle Brown Heritage Center, with 37 members in attendance. Secretary Schlie read the minutes of the fall meeting which were approved without change.

With no additional old business, President pro-tem Jespersen asked for the treasurer's report. The Treasurer gave a report on the state of the Chapters finances. He gave the totals of each of the Chapters Accounts. The checking account has a total of \$3400.26, GEODA savings has a total of \$2619.58, and the CD savings account has a total of \$10,291.87 for an all funds total of \$16,311.71. The financial report was approved as presented.

The Secretary noted that there were no Chapter correspondences since the fall meeting.

With no correspondence, President pro-tem Jespersen asked for the committee reports.

- Auditing – Marty Ignatowicz did not have anything to announce.
- Sunshine – Sunshine Chairman Neil Furman reported that he had sent a sympathy card to John McNamara, area Rep. for the MN DLI. John's sister passed away unexpectedly. Chairman Furman also reported on sending out a sympathy card to Bill Bickner with the passing of his wife Mary.
- Education – Chairman Dean Hunter reported that the executive board made a determination that the Chapter will hold three (3) meetings each year, the winter, spring, and fall meetings. The winter meeting would always follow the AIBO conference on the first day. The spring meeting would rotate between the Minneapolis Conventions center in conjunction with the trade show, or the after the contract inspectors meeting. The fall meeting would be in October. We are looking for consistency with our meeting so the membership can count on and expect these meetings. As part of these meetings Education Chairman Hunter is looking at having two hours of continuing education. These two hours of CEU's would help the members get some training as part of their IAEI membership. He asked the members present to give him feedback on what types of training they would like to get. Chairman Hunter also mentioned that this training would take place at the next Chapter meeting which will be directly after the contract inspectors meeting April 12th, 2019 at the Minneapolis JATC Building in St. Michael. This training would start at approximately 2:00 p.m. The training would only be given if the JATC agrees to allow us bring our trainer into their building.
- Membership – Membership Chair Robert Sogla started his report with a gloom and doom projection for our Chapter. He stated we had 208 members in 2014, and then in 2015 we had 182 members a loss of 26. Then 2016 we were down to 171 with a loss of 11 members. 2017 we were at 161 members a loss of 10 members. In 2018 we were at 148 with a loss of 13, and as of January 9th 2019 we were at 129 members an

additional loss of 19 members. Chairman Sogla predicted that at this rate of loss, our chapter would be gone by 2029. He talked about the expense of the membership to the average member. \$120.00 for 6 magazines “that’s a hard sell” said Chairman Sogla. He also mentioned that the meeting times did not work for most members. It is too hard for most members to make meeting. Secretary Schlie commented that there are new memberships available to our members that may make a difference to the current members and possibly new member too. He also talked about the need for a greater web presents for our Chapter, maybe Instagram or Twitter. There was also discussion about changing up the location of the meetings. There were comments that maybe we need to move the meetings out of the metro and go to outstate locations. A comment was made that in the past there were outside meeting and they were discontinued because the meeting would be all setup and then only 6 or so people would attend. This was embarrassing for the Chapter when they had a presenter and no one showed up. There was talk of maybe having satellite meeting and not one main meeting. Someone also mentioned that maybe we need to have “Skype” meetings to help the outstate folks. This would make it more available to everyone, and not make going to a meeting so time consuming. Education as part of the membership was talked about as being very beneficial to our members. Chairman Sogla volunteered to setup a venue for September to have a two hour continuing education class. Dean Hunter and Marty Kumm volunteered to teach this two hour class for the IAEI if Bob Sogla gets a location. Area Rep. Scott Higgins threw down the gauntlet. He challenged everybody in the room to attract one new member in the next twelve months.

- Scholarship – Scholarship Chairman Steve Dudley thanked all of the business that contributed money to our scholarship fund so we can give out \$2000.00 in scholarships. He asked all in attendance that if they know of any company that would be interested in sponsoring a scholarship to get in contact with him.
- Legislative Liaison – John Williamson stated that Commissioner Ken Peterson retired from State service. John said that a new Commissioner was announced, her name is Nancy Leppink. She has worked in Minnesota State government in the past, she will start March 1st. The department will be monitoring any legislation that might be unfriendly to the electrical industry as a whole.

President pro-tem Jespersen looked for motion to accept to approve all committee reports. A motion was made and second; a voice vote was taken which passed.

President pro-tem Jespersen called all of the new officers and board member to the front for the swearing in ceremony. Jeff Fecteau did the honor of swearing in the officers.

- Immediate Past President – Wade Hoffman
- President – Mark Hunter
- Vice President – Steven Dudley
- Secretary/Treasurer – Wade Schlie
- Membership Chair – Robert Sogla
- Education Chair – Dean Hunter
- Board of Director Members - Joe E. Sobanski, Chad Kurdi, Daniel Jager, Brian Lee Gray, and Scott Higgins
- Western Section Representative – Dean Hunter
- Ex Officio – Dan Neeser, Eaton-Bussman Corp.
- Ex Officio – John Williamson, Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry

Following the swearing ceremony President pro-tem Jespersen called Mark Hunter to the podium and presented him with his President’s gavel. President Mark Hunter thanked Marcus Sampson for get him involved in the IAEI and he thanked everyone present for having the confidants in him to lead the Minnesota Chapter for the next year.

President Hunter asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. One was made and second, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:51p.m.

The next Chapter Meeting will be Friday, April 12, 2019, at the Minneapolis JATC building in St. Michael.