**Society for Disability Studies**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 22, 2016**

**In Attendance:** Funmi Akinpelu,Juliann Anesi,Brenda Brueggemann,Mel Chen, Ibby Grace,Helen Meekosha,Mallory Kay Nelson,Sami Schalk, Phil Smith,Joanne Woiak

**Absent:** Frank Wyman

**Regrets:**

Meeting opened at 4:03PM EST

**Meeting Notes and Minutes Discussion:** Brenda opens up discussion about meeting notes and minutes. Notes are the longer detailed information Sami has been taking for people missing and minutes are the summaries posted online. Brenda informs us that unless we are Executive Session, our notes AND minutes can be made available to any member. Current minutes are online, but not notes from the previous year. Discussion on what to do with these notes.

Helen motions to put a notice onto the website which states there are notes, but not minutes available for these meetings and they are available to any active member upon request. Ibby seconds. Motion pass unanimously.

**Hyatt Updates:** Our lawyer, Tim Soloman, has been in contact with both the Atlanta and Phoenix Hyatt to negotiate our contracts and debts. Discussion of the details we know so far and whether or not to solicit membership money, and if so, when. Brend wants us to consider what we will do with membership money, for example, we are keeping DSQ viable for at least another entire year and we have contacts to support it if SDS cannot.

**Caucus Updates:** Brenda notes the message from the Student Caucus and asks if we should respond directly to the Student Caucus or respond in a more open and public way to parts of the message. Discussion of response and need for transparency. Discussion of producing a new memo soon for membership/

**Virtual Conference Conversation:** Brenda opens conversation about the unconference/virtual conference. Joanne shares that the ad-hoc committee for this has a really robust conversation about possibilities for this, but no conclusions, especially given continued financial and organizational uncertainties. Discussion of who should lead this task and decision to wait until we know more from lawyers about the financial negotiations.

**By-Laws:** Brenda says we need to make changes to section ten of our bylaws which discussions dissolutions. Brenda notes our current bylaws are not compliant with the Oregon statute for non-profits. Currently the by-laws read that we need a majority vote of the board to dissolve, but Oregon state law requires us to also have a majority vote of the active membership. The proposed new text reads:

“The Society for Disability Studies may be dissolved by (a) unanimous vote of the membership of the Board in conjunction with (b) majority vote of the active membership of the Society for Disability Studies. Upon dissolution or liquidation of the Society for Disability Studies, any funds or assets will be distributed by the Board to another nonprofit corporation organized and operated exclusively for promoting the development of social scientific knowledge concerning disabled persons in society and which has established its exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code; or (2) by the trustees of Willamette University to a nonprofit agency meeting the criteria stated above and which has established its tax exempt status.”

Sami is concerned that about a third of the board is rolling off in June and we would need to vote well before this occurs.

Ibby quickly adds DSQ update. DSQ editors would like the board to institute and vote on an IRB policy and an editor communication policy. Ibby motions for the research and scholarship committee to work on those policies ASAP. Phil seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35PM EST