

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards	Session #:	
Committee Chair:	Ray Novitske	Vice Chair:	Megan Lassen
Minutes recorded by:	Ray Novitske	Date/time of meeting:	March 25, 2017 8:00 pm EDT

Motions Passed:

1. MSA that Walt Reid receive the full support for the committee's nomination to IMSHOF as Honor Contributor.

Number of committee members present: 8

Absent: 6

Committee members present: Ray Novitske (chair), Megan Lassen (vice chair), Carolyn Boak, Rich Burns, Chris Campbell, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Nancy Ridout, Laura Val, Chris Stevenson (EC vice president), Tracy Grilli (ex officio)

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 p.m. EDT.

1. Dan Cox, USMS Futures Task Force, presented a description of the board's plans for a 5-star system measuring volunteer's service on national committees, and their service in mentoring future leaders. Stars would be awarded by USMS, tracking volunteer's participation in national committees and offices. After a committee discussion, Dan clarified how the board sees our committee's role and responsibility in this new system. We are asked to develop a plan to recognize the accomplishment of achieving the final star which will be based on fulfilling a set of criteria for mentoring. The new system would likely be introduced at this year's convention.

Our committee will review and discuss suggestions in the coming months with a goal of developing proposals for the board to consider this summer.

2. Project updates were presented. Selection committees were assigned during the November conference call and included in the meeting minutes.
 - a. Ransom J. Arthur Award – Ray mentioned that there are a good number of nominees this year. Ballots have been sent out to all voters and committee members.
 - b. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award – Ray reported that there are no nominations yet for 2017.
 - c. June Krauser Communications Award – Nancy reported there were no nominations yet for 2017.
 - d. Club of the Year Award – Laura reported that there were no nominations yet for 2017. The rule that allows clubs that receive the award to be nominated again after five years was reviewed, but no change was proposed. A suggestion was made to allow nominations for clubs not receiving the award be automatically renominated for the following year after receiving modest updates to the nomination. It was felt that no change to the current policy was warranted at this time, since clubs not receiving the award are encouraged to do this already.
 - e. IMSHOF–Nancy reported that the subcommittee considered two potential nominees and selected Walt Reid. The R&A committee unanimously voted to support Walt's nomination for Honor Contributor in 2017. It was pointed out that the nominee not selected for induction will be considered the following year.
 - f. Awards Bios on the Web Site – Ray reported that a first batch of Dorothy Donnelly bios were written. Recently, USMS posted lengthy bios for some DDSA recipients. We will replace them with the bios we have written to ensure consistent format and style. The goal is to complete DDSA bios by convention time, and to prepare bios of the Communications Award.
 - g. Local Recognition – Ray reported that the subcommittee recently sent notices of the Online Volunteer Store to all LMSC officers responsible for local recognition. They were given ideas on who might be recognized and/or thanked for volunteer service on the local level. We plan to remind them in the future and to also present suggestions for local service awards to those LMSCs where such recognition is not yet given. We also plan to contact LMSCs that have ordered materials in order to inquire about their experience and ask for suggestions. It was noted that one purchaser was surprised by the high cost of shipping and handling.

Kyle Deery indicated that the sales from the online store to date has been disappointing. He will monitor sales and check back again in May to determine the effectiveness of our contacts.

- h. Increasing nominations – An ad created by Rich Burns calling for nominations, will appear in *Swimmer* magazine and the Spring Nationals meet program. Megan reported that it will also be sent to LMSCs along with another mailing. Nominators of volunteers not selected will be contacted to encourage renominations this year.
- 3. Officials Award – Ray reported that information for instituting a new service award was sent to the Officials Committee this year, but no other further communication was received.
- 4. Convention Workshop - Our committee has been asked to present a workshop at the 2017 convention that focuses on recognizing volunteers. Discussion included suggestions of making the workshop fun and interactive with audience participation, using imagery and objects in the presentation, and using a game like Jeopardy to make it memorable. A subcommittee was set up with Cheryl, Megan, Nancy, and Ray to explore and develop a outline and program for the workshop by the next conference call (July or August) Committee members are encouraged to send ideas and comments around for all to discuss.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. EDT.