



IRGE Call Notes
Friday, January 10, 2020
12:00 to 1:00 p.m. ET

Dialing Instructions
Phone Number: 202-580-6262
Conference ID: 74 92 79

Attendees: Alan Zais, Irma Gorham, Kerron Barnes, Liz Glenn, Jeff Mosley, Zsa Zsa Heard, Sheldone Packer, Jerome Ryan, Jeff Du Manoir, Kia Fuller, Robin Walls, Ramsey Jay, Betsy Morris, Lloyd Halverson, Saeed Hajarizadeh, Julie Brewen, Don May

Liaison: Jori Solomon

Optional: Lori Myers-Carpenter

A. WELCOME

Alan welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. Alan thanked Irma and Saeed for the assistance with the continuity of the committee.

B. NAME CHANGE – LANGE AWARD

Lori from the national office joined us for this item on the agenda. For marketing purposes the committee was tasked with discussion of a name change to the Lange Award to focus on the International aspect of the committee.

Betsy responded that she understood why.

Julie suggested the International Research and Global Exchange Award.

Kerron suggested the John D. Lange International Award and Julie gave some perspective as to why we should move away from a “name-sake” award title.

Sheldon asked about the history behind the name of the award and Julie was able to share some history.

Saeed suggested that it seemed that it would be difficult to come to a consensus at this moment and recommended that Jori send out an email with suggestions to vote on, the outcome of which would be presented to national as the new name.

C. 2020 WORLD URBAN FORUM/CHRA/2021 INTERNATIONAL FORUM

Kerron made the suggestion that we improve the notification process on studies and forums because the turnaround time in the past has been unusually short because of the internal process of being sent to the BOG first and then disseminated. The thought would be to send it out to the BOG and our committee at the same time.

a. INVITATION TO ATTEND THE 2020 CHRA ANNUAL CONGRESS IN SASKATOON

Saeed gave some background on the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association, explaining that Jeff Morrison is Adrienne Todman's counterpart with CHRA. CHRA holds a conference once a year that has about 700-800 attendees – including international guests and academics. He explained as IRGE members, this conference is informative because CHRA brings agencies together to discuss issues, presents data, and research.

b. 2021 INTERNATIONAL FORUM

Alan gave details on the 2021 International Forum – Canada. Jeff Morrison is exploring hosting this in St. Johns, Newfoundland and gave some prospective on the area – 200,000 population, 5560 units of affordable housing that serves about 14,000 people. Alan believes that this is one of the reasons why this area was being selected as the location to hold the forum.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ASSIGNMENT

Alan discussed how he did not get much buy-in from committee members on sub-committee participation and was contemplating how to appeal to members since he had only received 7 responses back before our teleconference. He brought up the suggestion that Julie give a brief orientation in March at the conference. Alan mentioned that he was looking to past members to assist with the orientation.

Liz mentioned that she feels it is important to give the history of the committee – that NAHRO has international roots.

Lloyd agreed that an orientation was a good idea.

E. LUNCH & LEARN IDEAS

Alan asked if anyone had any ideas to keep IRGE's profile out there.

Betsy asked the question, “who would we like to have come speak with us since we are in D.C. with access to so many resources at our fingertips?”

Saeed suggested WUF10 attendees and asked if anyone was attending, could they come back to present in March. Don May and Julie mentioned that Tami Fischer was going to WUF and that we should contact her and copy Peter Lifari on the email too.

F. NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING

Alan explained that Ms. Todman and President Shaw are not seeing that as needing an international MOU or agreement since they see NAIHC as a grouping of Indian tribes as we are an association or grouping of housing authorities. What they see as our role is that they would like for us to look for research

opportunities that involve indigenous people and their programs – i.e., migrant worker research we did in Shanghai or indigenous populations in Australia. There is a plan to have more discussion on this while in Santa Fe and Alan will report back.

Kerron asked whether Ms. Todman/President Shaw want a formal MOU and Alan responded that we do not. Kerron also asked will we have something in writing about what the expectations for us will be. He also mentioned that the NAHRO Monitor does a great job with breaking down the budget, but it never mentions how the Indian Housing Block Grant fares – i.e., was it approved or expanded. He suggested that this one way their existence could be made more visible to all of us. **Betsy** felt this was an excellent idea.

Alan mentioned from an advocacy standpoint, we would want to step very carefully into their political world to make sure that it is understood that we could offer advocacy on their behalf; however, we would follow their lead.

Kerron asked if this information could be provided to us, perhaps requesting Tony Walters meet with us again in D.C.

Julie reaffirmed that this was not our role as a committee. The committee's role is to research housing issues within indigenous populations not just within our country but globally.

Alan also offered that the Native America population does not view themselves as an international entity so for us to look at them in that manner is unfamiliar.

Saeed added that there appears to be an interest among IRGE members to learn how Native Americans are being housed and if there is anything we can do to learn more by going to their conferences and exchange ideas with them.

Liz mentioned if we can find a nexus to some research of indigenous people within the global framework – Australia, Canada, U.S., maybe we could collaborate on a paper. NAHRO is an evolving organization and that is why it took us so long to recognize the “I” in PIH. Recognition of the “I” is just a testament to how the industry has been a little isolated from the other challenges in the country. Alan thought research on this was a great idea.

Kerron suggested that we exchange the Monitor with NAIHC and they provide us with a copy of their journal. We have never had this type of exchange for us to learn from and we do not communicate with each frequently at this level.

Jeff D. mentioned that Roger Boyd who used to head PIH, is focusing on international indigenous housing and it might be beneficial to reach out to him on a research standpoint in the future. Alan asked what Roger was doing now. Jeff thought he was a consultant. Liz thought maybe we could invite him to D.C.

Don M. suggested that these thoughts should be pushed forward to Sunny since this was her platform to see how we could assist, and she can give us some structure in the future of some framework.

G. NEXT STEPS

Jori will email out suggestions given regarding Lange Award.

Alan mentioned that Adrienne would like to share more information about Austin and addressed Kerron's email that we would have to address his questions/comments at a later time.

Liz mentioned that a Pan African Symposium is possible for September. The national government liked their idea and she will keep us up to date on it.

1st: Jerome Ryan

2nd: Sheldon Packer

Next meeting: February 14, 2020