

Chapter President / Past President Call
Discussion Notes
Thursday, May 25, 2017

Invited participants:
Chapter Presidents, Chapter Past Presidents

Please mark your calendar to participate in the next quarterly Presidents call. You will get a Ready Talk invite for the call.

- August 1
Choose the time that works for you:
 - 8:00am Pacific/11:00am Eastern
 - 4:00pm Pacific/7:00pm Eastern

Calls facilitated by Trisha Poole, NEWH, Inc. President, as well as Helen Reed and Julie Marks.

TOP ID GUIDE TO CRITERIA AND NOMINATION PROCESS

All presidents and VPs were emailed the new TopID criteria for 2018. It is also available in the Board Resources section of the website.

There was some discussion on the question: “Have you hosted an NEWH event before?” Some designers were concerned that the bulk of all of their design was out of the area, and chapters are wondering if that is a good criteria to have. Many of a firm’s design may have different locations. Can we make this statement a little more broad? Some chapters have helped host a student event, or maybe have done a tour at their office, or have sponsored a scholarship, so there are other ways they are supporting but not necessarily just hosting an event. (suggestion – rewording the question to “how have you supported NEWH throughout the year?” and then have an open-ended answer of ‘what have you done’ or something like that.)

NEWH likes the fact that the awards are given at a scholarship event – not at as sundowner, etc. We want to really make it special and present them in conjunction with an event that receives good attendance. It will give respect to the award.

Trisha mentioned there is another layer of the TopID that may be introduced next year that would include a higher level of judging. There was some discussion about having another chapter review a submittals in order to remove any bias. Maybe taking the top 5-10 and really acknowledging those top firms. (although it was noted that timing may be an issue, i.e. relying on another chapter to get back to you)

Another concern was the timeframe set forth for the 2018 nominations. NEWH does want to announce it by BDNY – so the dates were backed up from that date. Once we get through the first year, it will be easier to follow when everyone is on the same schedule. If any chapters have concerns or questions, please contact the NEWH office.

You can find the TopID Criteria and schedule in the Board Resources area of the website.

Chapter Status/Updates:

Houston – has had some board member issues coming into the year – many with different viewpoints, etc. They have new people with NEWH as well as new people on the board. Everyone did decide to stay on the board, and so far this year it has been going well and less cliquy but more united. This has set a good foundation for future years in terms of not having to pull teeth to get people on the board. Great to hear it's going well!

Los Angeles – continuing with three anchor events and filling in with other smaller events – this has worked well in terms of getting the board time to tweak the anchor events. TopID concern is just finding those who are members to nominate.

Suggestion – present the value to them – at one of your biggest attended events, do a brief presentation about the TopID. (Reach out to Trisha Poole for talking points if needed.) Let the firms see the TopID firms are being published, that there is PR going out for them, they are featured as panelist/speakers, etc.

Dallas – with TopID nominations last year, some design firms approached the chapter wondering why they weren't nominated and they actually didn't have any members from those firms.

Idea – create a letter from the office to design firms – have you considered a membership to NEWH, and tell them about TopID – and the letter goes out to the wish list chapters have of firms they'd like to be members. Inc. could send the letter out to everyone – (some of these firms may not know they are not members). Send with description of different types of membership.

Some chapters do not have a lot of firms to choose from in their area. Not sure how to get people excited about TopID. This letter may help of ways the TopIDs are benefiting from being a TopID recipient.

NEWH Inc. did post quotes/testimonials from TopID recipients on the TopID page. (you can find that here: <http://newh.org/quotes-newh-topid-recipients/>)

Vancouver – having a ping pong tournament get together soon. Did have a trivia night - was a great fun and interactive event and provided good networking. Partnered with a restaurant, geography, pop culture, still image of Leonardo decaprio, design round – with newh related. \$5 buy in and the winner received the pot, but they donated it back to the scholarship fund. In June – start selection process of scholarship winners. They are planning to do year end event at a casino that's opening. Their steering committee is mostly suppliers and it's hard to nail everyone down when they are travelling. They have done a good job of adding chair positions, which is working well.

Other... Suggestions

Board Burnout

Dallas had a suggestion for board burnout – in the middle of the year (July) when it's a bit slower so instead of a full board meeting they have a lunch to just regroup. They also start to look at the nomination slate at that time. This allows them to still together during a slow summer, but with minimal business being discussed.

Other suggestions:

- bring people in at committee levels first – so they can see what the board and positions are all about. Some chapters are reaching out to younger designers and reps in order to have a good mix.
- invite new members to a board meeting – LA has had success getting volunteers that way.

If you as the president are having issues with board members following through, make sure you give them deadline dates which does help.

CEU event – how to make it more exciting... try piggy backing it on a hotel tour – have the CEU prior then the tour and networking. Or look for CEUs that are a bit out of the box that people may be very interested in attending.

Financials

With new board members, you do need to remind them of being fiscally responsible, making sure budgets are created and being followed. Walk through the whole budget with them so they can see where funds are being spent, and how much is coming in – show the long-term vision. Somehow try to make it fun!

Use Available Resources

Have an issue or something you want to discuss? Please reach out to the Inc. office or the individuals below for any help you need. Think of us as an extension of your chapter board and know you have support when needed.

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Or feel free to call the NEWH office if you have any questions. – 800-593-6394.
We look forward to assisting you in any way we can to make your job easier!