

Welcome/Call to Order: Bruce Hester, President

Minutes- read by Paige Eisemann, secretary. Minutes were amended. Motion to accept as corrected made by Becky Jackman, seconded by Cathy Kendall. Motion passed unopposed.

President Bruce Hester called the meeting to order at 10:28AM At Trevecca Nazarene University, Waggoner Library.

Those present included: Bruce Hester, Paige Eisemann, Carol Burr, Donna Jerden, Cathy Kendall, Allison Roberts, Pam Renfrow, Nancy Dickinson, Becky Jackson, Barbara Winningham, Jeanette Lambert, and Hannah Little.

Treasurers Report, presented by Carol Burr-

Motion to accept made by Cathy Kendall, seconded by Barbara Winningham, approved by unanimous vote.

Area Representative Reports

Cathy Kendall has been contacting librarians in her area. She will be updating the spreadsheet and submitting it to Nancy in the near future. **Pam Renfrow** asked Bruce to clarify that all names should be updated on spreadsheets. Nancy Dickinson stated that we discussed holding off on updating the spreadsheets until we have established our documents on Google Docs. This should include all regional contacts to include members, non-members, potential members, etc. **Barbara Winningham** mentions frustration in locating librarians in some counties in her region. Nancy shares that her area has historically been difficult to gain participation from, or even to find information to contact potential members. Donna Jerden presented a compiled spreadsheet of members of TEA who have listed librarian as their job assignment (approximately 900 people). This information will be very beneficial for the area representatives. Donna will filter this list and send to reps, as well as sending the whole list to Nancy for membership and Jeanette for Advocacy purposes. **Hannah Little** discussed finding “point people” in each system in her area. She has been fortunate enough to even get one county’s librarians ListServ. She also states that with conference being in Murfreesboro our Rutherford County membership has increased greatly. Carol mentioned that the workshops have also worked to increase interest in our group and have increased membership as well. She also posed the question of our student memberships. Nancy mentioned that students who are seeking library certification frequently contact her, and they often need a membership certificate for class credit. Nancy agrees to contact universities to inquire about promoting membership to their students. Bruce thanked the reps for their continued diligence and hard work. Nancy points out that we should change Canina to Laura Black on our records as area rep.

Committee Reports

Membership- presented by Nancy Dickinson: We will still gain more members when conference registrations begin to come in, but we would like to exceed our previous high membership numbers of approximately 650 members. Nancy gave an example of speaking to someone at a workshop and asking him or her to renew their membership. We were all encouraged to continue to encourage membership. Jeanette suggests that she, Carol and Betsy will hand out membership forms at Metro library in-service this week.

Professional Development- presented by Allison Roberts: In her report Allison states that all workshops were great successes. Judy Bivens requested that she be reimbursed for some of her expenses. Allison hopes that we will be able to do that as well as our obligations for Karen Lowe expenses. Her own expenses she often does not even submit unless she is certain that we will make a profit. The group discussed that Allison does attend all workshops and her organization and effort are appreciated. Her expenses should be covered as a result. Thank you notes have been sent to our hostess, and email thank yous have been sent to vendors who attended. Majority of participants have requested a workshop on Grant Writing. Karen Lowe does an excellent grant writing workshops, and all participant feedback has been very positive about her presentations, pacing and teaching style. Other presenters are considered, but Karen is library specific. It is agreed that Allison will approach Karen about doing these workshops for summer 2010. Rhea County librarians produced a matrix of new TN science & social studies standards with the Dewey Decimal Classification. This matrix is shared with the board, and if approved Allison requests that it be posted on the TASL website for all members to use. At Morristown workshops the middle and high school librarians began working on similar matrix for their levels, but these are not yet completed. David Burros, John Zeller, and Dwight Lanham spoke with Allison at the workshops about the “Temp Tour” currently being done in Alabama, as used to be done in TN. Because summer is the best time for our group, Allison is looking at setting up this program in our state for next year in five cities over a five-day period. Vendors would defray the cost and will present in the morning and would then move on to the next city to set up for the next day, while participants would take part in the “one-day mini-conference” of sorts. Allison proposes the last week in June, while Jeanette suggests the first week of June. Many dates in the summer are discussed regarding when the most members could attend. Allison points out that it might take a few years to discover which week we can consistently use for this program. Nancy asked that we consider providing lunch because we are asking participants to pay for attendance. Allison discussed the set point for cost, what “special incentives” to offer, etc. Nancy suggested that we hold these in areas where we want membership to increase, because by offering professional development in these areas we can generate interest in TASL. Bruce commented that Allison does an exceptional job and the board trusts her judgment and appreciated her hard work.

2009 Conference- presented by Becky Jackman: Becky stated that she is concerned we will have lower attendance this year, partly due to the economy and partly due to early registration dates. The incentive we offered for early registration was done to avoid overwhelming our membership and treasurer when school starts and budgets are handed

out. Several vendors have not yet paid their fees, and due to the economy we are having trouble getting vendors to sponsor things. Scholastic will not be sponsoring Friday night banquet, due to TN no longer being in Atlanta region (now in St. Louis). Instead of breakfast we will be doing box lunches during the business meeting. Hotel information will be on the website next week and will also go out on the ListServ this week. Speaker slots are already filled, mostly with paid speakers so no call for speakers will be going out.

Awards- presented by Pam Renfrow: A committee meeting was held to judge awards. There were 2 for Clara Hasbrook, 11 entries for Innovative Library Award. There is also a scholarship recipient. We do have winners for elementary, middle and high school areas. Winners have not been notified yet, but Pam and committee have drafted a letter to send to winner as well as principal and school system director. Pam requests that instead of a printed certificate (and a check) a plaque be given. Nancy asks that instead a better-framed certificate be given. The Clara plaque is always made in Kingsport; Pam will contact Brenda Moriarty regarding that issue. The committee would also like to ask winners to submit a writing article for Footnotes. Pam asked that the winning administrators be allowed to attend banquet without paying for attendance. Carol points out that the original intent was that all administrators be recognized. Nancy posed the question if we want to continue to pick ONE administrator or if we choose to recognize all nominated. Nancy and Bruce state that the idea of one exemplary administrator is best. Carol stated that all nominated should be recognized. Pam and Bruce will research what the guidelines state regarding that and will discuss it with the committee. Prior to voting on which way to go we will determine what the guidelines state our intentions were.

Intellectual Freedom-presented by Nancy Brown: (not in attendance)

Technology Committee- presented by Barbara Winningham: no report

VSBA Committee- presented by Patty Williams: (Not in attendance)

Certification Committee- presented by Judy Bivens: (not in attendance)

Legislative & Advocacy- presented by Jeannette Lambert: Plans are to enact one of the statements discussed in May. Jeanette and Bruce attended National Library Legislative Day on May 11 & 12. Included in the delegation was Tre Hargett, secretary of state. The delegation visited with congressional representatives from Tennessee as well as Senator Bob Corker and Senator Lamar Alexander. NCLB was a primary topic of discussion as were library appropriations, internet/telecommunications and copyright issues. In June Jeanette represented Metro Nashville Ed. Association at the Political Academy at Paris Landing State Park, an event sponsored by TEA. She learned information and lobbying techniques at this academy that will be beneficial for TASL. The grassroots level approach can be used not only to impact our libraries but the school climate as well. She states that this is a way to impact TEA and TASL members to take part and share in this opportunity to impact their schools. Bruce stated that he enjoyed

and learned a lot from this opportunity. He was impressed with Tre Hargett and Jeanne Sugg and their interest in libraries as a whole. Donna stated that the plan this year is to identify a teacher in every congressional district in TN and match them with a legislator so that there is a line of contact when an issue comes up.

Constitution and By-Laws- Bruce asked the group if anyone has a listed contact person for this committee. Mary Jean Smith was thought to be the chairperson, and confirmed that in January. Recently she stated that she is not so the post needs to be identified or filled. In May 2007 Joann Smith was listed as Chairperson.

OLD BUSINESS

Reflections on ALA Chicago- presented by Becky Jackman, Nancy Dickinson, Allison Roberts and Nancy Brown. Allison is officially Region 4 Director; Nancy is officially Chair of Affiliate Assembly in 2011 (next year will be chair elect). Allison spent time at AASL meetings.

Changing Constitution & By-Laws in regard to committee chair being part of TASL Executive Board

NEW BUSINESS

Learning 4 Life- presented by Becky Jackman AASL asked each state to send one person to learn about Learning 4 Life. The seminar was not what Becky anticipated. This is the campaign to get these standards adopted by the state departments of education. Books given to Becky will be given as door prizes at conference. She feels that our position should be to get librarians knowledgeable so that when they speak to legislators they will understand what we need and how we want the implementation to be handled. These are not being implemented as stand alone standards, but instead are imbedded. Hannah mentions that at independent schools these are used school wide. We should consider doing a session and including private schools in this effort.

Nancy mentioned quantitative standards and contact Morgan Branch in P21 efforts (or lack thereof) in TN. The only way we are going to get a set on the table in this discussion is to start at the local level so that we can be equally represented. Bruce has been contacted, and this is the first time we have been asked for our input on this issue. Bruce will consider being the person who will pursue this avenue of getting our group involved.

Barbara Winningham suggested updating an old state library handbook to create a draft to be considered for approval. This book could then be sold to fund our scholarship. When a draft is created we will vote to approve and discuss how to distribute and sell.

Creation of TASL Officer Handbook Bruce has spoken to Brenda Moriarty regarding the creation of a policy manual (or updating of the one that Carol Burr shared with the group). This document should be available on Google Docs or the website for all future

officers. Carol also presented the TASL policy sheet (from previous executive boards) that should be updated by the end of next year.

Committee Chairs- Term Limits: Nancy is of the opinion that in order to get people involved we need to set a 2 year term but the discretion of the President to extend or shorten. The constitution currently states that no officer should hold a position for more than two years. Bruce points out that there are some area reps that have not been present at any meetings and do not contact. Nancy mentioned that area reps and committee chairs are supposed to be appointed by past president. She stated that Betsy Stubblefield, Cathy Kendall and Belinda Castille are rotating off the board this year. Pam Renfrow should rotate off next year, but because she will be president in the next year she will be replaced by Cathy Kendall (Nancy asked her in lieu of Lynn). Next year rotating off will be Carol Reams, Becky (who will not be off), and Hannah Little. Three years from now will be Barbara, Emily. Nancy stated that this process has not gone as it was intended to (according to the By-Laws) and she will write down the rotation for our records. Hannah pointed out that the three-year term limit is helpful for accumulating area lists. Bruce stated that this process has not been easy and documentation will be helpful in the future. When Scott posts potential slate of officers he needs our years of service listed on the site as well.

Constitution and By-Laws Task Force: Nancy discussed the difference between a committee and a task force. She stated our need for task forces on projects such as the handbook, the By-Laws, etc. The committees could be modeled and structured after AASL to move our organization forward. She is of the opinion that these people should be appointed by Becky now so that they can begin in January. Becky read from the By-Laws on the statement for our committees. Bruce has already enacted one task force already that will continue into Becky's term. The situation with committee chairs is part of this discussion. Any changes to the constitution and By-Laws must be made available to the membership for 30 days prior to a vote (which will be at conference).

Conference Theme Selection- Whose Job Is It Anyway? Bruce discussed with the board that the person choosing the speakers should have a stake in choosing the conference theme so that the two are cohesive units.

VSBA Questions: Nancy posed the question of whose responsibility VSBA is in actuality. Is it a particular TLA or TASL duty? Do we have any input on who is on the committee? We have many participants who indicate that they are interested in serving on that committee, and those names need to be forwarded to Patty. Those names can also be submitted to Kathy Patton. Either we agree that we sponsor it but have no control over it, or change things to have more involvement in the process.

TEA Affiliations: Nancy states that Pam has joined TEA (and not a local because she is a private school librarian) so that she can be president of TASL. Nancy made the point that she feels since Pam did that TASL should pay her dues for TEA. Others state that if we are going to do that then we might need to consider paying that for the other four

officers. Nancy made the point that she did not want to limit ourselves on people who might serve as officers because of this TEA requirement. Carol points out that when we reimburse Presidents the airline miles are not claimed, goody bags, etc. Also ALA membership is paid for two years.

TEA News: SCORE info came out Thursday morning. This is the “fact” portion; recommendations will be released in September/October. The plan is to be set up at conference to collect RAA ideas pertaining to Dr. Seuss books. These ideas will be submitted and published in a RAA guide for teachers. She plans to email all library members about this plan, which will be app. 900 emails advertising our conference. She will pull out names for prizes, etc. This is an excellent promotion that will draw more interest in RAA as well as our conference.

History of TASL: Cathy has been working to update the booklet on the history of TASL. She has gone through old conference programs, newsletters, etc. She intended this project to research previous winners of Clara Hasbrook, but her work has evolved into compiling a list of award winners and officers (which we did not have a master list of). These things need to be on our website. Nancy asked if we are going to publish another booklet or if we will just archive this on the web.

Newsletters: Jeanette posed the question of newsletters still being mailed once a year. Bruce asked if all newsletters could be web-based instead of mailing any. Carol states that the printing/supply/ mailing cost is \$1566. Majority of that expenditure was typesetting and supplies.

Slate of officers for next year to be presented at conference: Nancy contacted Lynn regarding this list. Lynn will contact Bruce with this list which will be distributed ASAP.

We will be meeting on November 21, 2009 as well as at conference in September.

Adjourn Motion to adjourn made at 1:40 by Hannah Little and seconded by Carol Burr.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Eisemann, secretary