

TASL Executive Board Meeting – August 7, 2010

10:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Alice Bryant

Pam Renfrow

Becky Jackman

Anne Smith

Lynn Lilley

Cathy Kendall

Beth Frerking

Mona Batchelor

Carol Burr

Hannah Little

Karen Cragwall

Becky Jackman called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Information Item: Barbara Winningham stepped down from Middle TN Rep due to illness.

Note: Presentation at 11:00 by Student Representative

Motion made to correct and approve minutes by Pam, seconded by Mona. Minutes were corrected and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Beth Frerking presented her report. Summer expenses for the summer workshop have not been submitted at this time. Becky asked for all members to make certain they have joined TASL. Karen Cragwell moved to accept the report. Pam Renfrow seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Becky's Report:

Race to the Top – Becky did attend and gave input. Becky pointed out that the committee has been hijacked by an education consulting group. Basically they have discussed that only 40% of teachers are covered by TVAAS scores and they do not know what to do for the other 60%.

They now have an advisory committee that has been appointed. The 15 member committee tried to “bail out” because of the huge task. Given the time constraints it was too difficult to come up with a solution. There have been many “packages” created for how to interpret data. There is no idea for how to implement how the law will be implemented. Many teacher members encouraged the Board to do the “right” thing. There will be three or four pilots throughout the state. There was a concern about teacher accountability and the implementation of the data produced from the pilot programs. They have created a monster they cannot control.

There is an entire section on the TEA Website on Race to the Top. Updates are posted and it is the best way to stay informed through the Website.

Donna Jerdan has requested something from Read across America from NEA.

On back cover of TEACH Magazine. Clinton 12 videos – these videos were supposed to have sent out 4,100 to public schools. A Website and You Tube Link is available. Clinton 12 is the story of African American students entering school in Clinton, TN. Lesson plans are available. Source documents are available as well. Board members each received a copy of the video and information about the Website and videos. The TEACH magazine is also available online at <http://www.tea.org>.

Email from Nancy Dickinson was sent to keep librarians communicating and in the loop. Diane Chen asked why there was no resolution from school librarians directed toward TN Legislatures.

As staff our TEA Representative cannot draft a resolution, but encouraged the Board to draft a resolution from school librarians. Becky requested if she could contact Janette and begin to develop a resolution from librarians.

Department Reports:

Membership –Nancy Dickinson written report submitted:

As of August 6, 2010 TASL has 416 members. Two years ago at this time there were 33 members. The year before there was 329 members. This looks like a good trend!

Awards-Karen Haggarty - Written report submitted:

The Awards committee stuff is not finished. However, I can tell you that I received NO nominations for the 3 program awards. We had lots of nominations for the Administrator's Honor Roll--my committee (which is yet to be determined) will look at these to see if we want to honor them all.

There is one nomination for the Scholarship, and there has been a nomination for the Hasbrouk. We will have a definite report for the next meeting.

Conference 2010:

I'm hoping to get applications for TASL Showcase this week. If we don't receive applications, the committee will "encourage" some folks to participate.

Bookstore committee has not yet met--we need conference info to proceed.

However, I will send out a survey to all members this week or next to get feedback. We will also contact ASLA about having copies of the standards available for purchase.

I think that's all you need from me. If not, please let me know. I'll do my best to make it in October. Do you have a date for that one yet?

Becky's comments:

No nominations for three program awards – Innovative Library Media programs.

TASL Showcase is on the Website and has presented in the Listserv. Area reps may receive some communication through email to contact librarians about deadlines for the TASL Showcase.

Side comment: Becky encouraged members to print minutes to insure that the continuity of the organization stays intact.

Professional Development:

TASL Professional Development Committee
Submitted by Allison Roberts

This was a good year for TASL professional development. The book repair workshops (that were held) were successful. We tried getting off the beaten path due to people's request. There were 18 in Kingsport, 17 in Clinton, 10 in Chattanooga, 9 in Gallatin, 11 in Cookeville, and 22 in Nashville. The last two workshops had to be cancelled due to lack of participation. Due to inclement weather, the one in Chattanooga had to be postponed to a later date. Kary Barth always does a great job. She is well received and people always want her back.

The grant writing workshops were also successful. Karen Lowe was great with all the information she shared about the steps to writing a grant. There were 19 people in Kingsport, 10 in Chattanooga, 29 in Nashville, and 12 in Memphis.

All of the hostesses did a great job. It is a joy to have such accommodating people. Would it be possible to change on the membership form "Professional Development" to "Workshop Host/Hostess"? That would be a good way to help with professional development. Just a thought. (Becky asked Pam to look at the form and decide if that change could be made.)

Cathy Kendall and I have been talking about 2011. We would like to see each area rep organize a workshop in their area in the spring. They could do the same one, or each one could be different. Either Cathy or I would coordinate the workshops. We have talked about having a mini-conference in the summer where there would be lots of vendors and a couple of presenters. The week of July 6 - 9 worked really well the last two years. We would like to keep the summer workshops during that week. The vendors would be available in the morning and then move to the next city for the next day. Dianne de las Casas has agreed to come next summer. We haven't talked about having someone else with her, or just her. This fall Cathy and I are going to go to Alabama's workshop that is designed similar to what we want to do. David Burrows has been helping us with the planning of our workshops/mini-conference.

Having people pay for the workshop and then be refunded worked quite well. I don't know how much it actually cost TASL to fund the workshops this year. To be able to continue doing that would depend on how much money TASL has available to cover expenses. Next summer the vendors would help cover the cost of the presenter.

Cathy has been great about working with me on planning. I hope she is willing to continue working with professional development.

Becky's additional comments: There are many options available especially for area reps. Becky encouraged reps to communicate with the Board if they have any ideas about professional development/communication sessions for local workshops. Expenses also determine if a program is viable as well. Workshops that are geared toward all levels: elementary, middle, and high would be the best option.

Cathy added information: She and Allison are working out ideas for future workshops. Cathy asked Beth about Diane Las Casas' charges for a workshop.

Becky then added: AASL Empowering 21st Century Learners Workshop. Becky would like to pursue this type of workshop. Capstone is underwriting some of the costs in some areas. February 27 through April 29 – April 16, 2011 is the date Allison and Becky would like to suggest. They would like to have the workshop in Middle Tennessee to insure attendance from Alabama and Kentucky. Pam asked if there was a guarantee for Capstone to underwrite 50%.

Melissa Williams – Student Representative

Attempt to start a student organization at UT in conjunction with TASL. Benefits of student chapter – local student representatives, learning how TASL works (constitution and by-laws), start setting up ideas as they enter the work force. The Universities would also support this effort. University of Tennessee already has other organizations from different disciplines and adding a library organization would benefit the profession.

Becky asked what the requirements of TASL are:

Melissa: Not many – the constitutions of both organizations could be similar. Students could also sit in on Board meetings and see the inner workings of TASL. Future possibilities include: To determine if other library programs might want to join with this group at TASL meetings as a collaborative venture.

Diane Chen mentioned student attendance at conferences is very high and she thinks this student group would be a viable program. There is a mentoring portion within ALA Connect.

Pam asked about the membership of the student organization of TLA and Melissa mentioned they are reorganizing. There is a minimum of ten members required to set up an organization and at the present time there are ten students interested. Pam asked if there would be a fee for students. A minimal fee is being considered in order to provide some funding for the organization. Another question was raised about the possibility of reaching out to other students in non-ALA accredited programs. Melissa answered that she did not think there would be a problem with other programs having student organizations as well.

Becky was concerned about any legal ramifications that this venture might produce. Becky informed Melissa that a vote would be taken at the end of our meeting.

Becky – Cathy asked if we could see other student led organizations structures/constitutions/documents. For example the student group at UT for ALA.

Comments:

Becky recommended that we get back to Melissa and tell her to get started with the development of a constitution and by-laws so that the Board of TASL could approve. We could vote through email to approve the group. Most important – all members of the student organization at UT must become Student TASL members as well.

Becky will go ahead and contact Melissa to begin by submitting the new organizations constitution and by-laws. We need to look at the TASL Constitution to determine how affiliate organizations could be added.

From our constitution – 60 days prior to a meeting, changes should be made. Becky asked for a Volunteer Board member to look at the parent organization of affiliate groups to determine how groups are formed so that the constitution and by-laws of TASL can be amended appropriately. Karen Cragwell volunteered to work with Melissa Williams on submitted appropriate materials and information and how various organizations work.

Diane Chen

SLJ Leadership Summit – Friday and Saturday, October 22-23, 2010 – held in Chicago, IL

TLA Snapshot Day – Hoping for September 7, 2010. Becky will be attending the Board meeting next week for TLA, but this is another event. The information gathered for this day will create advocacy materials in the “day in the life of....”

Why I need my Library - Diane is the sponsor of this event. There is a committee developing this program which will be held - Probably in November. Students will be encouraged to submit videos and school and public libraries will be receiving monetary awards. There was a question about what incentive students would receive for participation in this event.

Sponsorship: (Conference)

Definite commitments (from vendors) will be given after summer sales meetings. A variety of vendors have made commitments at this time.

Ask Diane to send you the form.

One initiative from ALA is frontline fundraising/endowments.

Leah Allison would like to help Diane in working on sponsorships. – From Pam Renfrow

Becky's Comments:

Becky will send a letter to Capstone request sponsoring of TASL leadership for the SLJ Summit. Becky mentioned that she needed Board approval before attending. She also recommended that a specific amount should be stipulated.

Conference Update

Becky and Pam presented a conference update and there is no information available regarding programming from the Conference Program Chair.

After discussion, a motion was made to appoint a new Conference Program Chair and to send a letter notifying Bruce Hester of the change. Hannah made the motion. Motion seconded by Anne. Motion carried. There was no dissention.

Nominating Committee –Becky conferred with the Nominating committee and the slate of officers is as follows:

Pam Renfrow - President

Hannah Little – President Elect

Alice Bryant - Secretary

Beth Frerking – Treasurer

Alice Bryant will help coordinate speakers, etc.

Pam Renfrow – Update on conference 2012

November 2012:

Second weekend of November may be a conflict with Veteran's Day

Pam commented that she would like to consider the last week of October of 2012

The 2011 Conference will be Sept. 22, 23, 2011

Other Business:

Becky will email area reps. Regarding their commitment for the coming year: Barbara Winningham's must be replaced.

Pam Renfrow:

Allison Roberts and Nancy Dickinson both are Representatives to AASL. They receive no financial support and must attend all meetings from AASL or TASL. Pam thought that funding was given in the past, but there is nothing in minutes or records that show Allison and Pam were reimbursed. Pam recommended that we provide a stipend to Allison and Nancy since there is funding available.

TASL will provide financial support to those members attending ALA/AASL functions in elected leadership positions at a reimbursement rate up to \$500.00 per person for attendance in one calendar year.

Motion made by Mona Bachelor, Beth Frerking seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mona Batchelor, Beth Frerking seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TASL Officer Qualifications and Duties Handbook

The document was presented at the meeting. A motion was made to approve the document as a draft. Carol Burr mentioned all documents must be dated. Beth Frerking moved to accept the draft. Anne seconded the motion – First reading first draft of Officer Qualifications and Duties Handbook. Motion carried.

VSBA

The committee needs TASL to approve their changes to the VSBA Committee Rules and By-Laws. The principle members of the committee have retired and the VSBA Committee is in the process of restructuring. The Board will be voting on the upcoming TASL changes at the next Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Bryant