

TASL Executive Board Meeting

2/4/2010

Call to Order:

Becky Jackman, President, called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance included:

Pam Renfrow

Cathy Kendall

Donna Jerdan

Beth Frerking

Karen Cragwall

Carol Burr

Mona Batchelor

Barbara Winningham

Laura Black

Nancy Dickinson

Minutes:

Minutes were presented in Google Docs and emailed to the group.

The minutes of the November meeting were reviewed and corrections were made. In the treasurer's report Kathy asked that we strike the sentence beginning "Carol clarified that in some documents..." She also asked for the name "Dana Moore" be removed from the Professional Development report. Lastly, the word brochure under History should be changed to booklet. Kathy made the motion to accept the amended minutes. Beth seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Beth Frerking presented the treasurer's report. Laura made a motion to accept the report, Kathy seconded and the motion carried.

Information Presented by Becky Jackman:

Becky began the meeting with introductions of those present and with suggestions of names to fill vacant positions of committee chairs and area representatives. Carol Burr suggested putting out a posting on the listserv requesting volunteers for the vacant East Tennessee representatives.

Area Representatives-Committee Chairs Proposed by Becky Jackman:

Highland Rim Region Representative	Lynn Lilley
Appalachian Region Representative	TBN
Volunteer Region Representative	Karen Cragwall
East Tennessee River Region Representative	TBN
Advocacy/Legislation Chair	Jeanette Lambert
Awards Chair	Karen Haggard
Certification Chair	Dr. Judy Bivens
Constitution and Bylaws Chair	Carol Burr
Finance Chair Committee Members Two past treasurers	Beth Frerking
History and Archives Chair	Clare Patterson
Intellectual Freedom Chair	TBN
Membership Chair	Nancy Dickinson
Nominating Chair Committee: Lynn Caruthers Brenda Moriarty	Bruce Hester
Professional Development Chair	Allison Roberts
Publicity Chair	
TEA Liaison	Donna Jerden
Volunteer State Book Award Chair	Patty Williams

Becky has a goal for TASL to grow through committee involvement. She asked that all committee reports include the names of all committee members. A motion to accept

Becky's roster of names was made by Beth. Barbara seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Becky suggested the following **Task Forces** be formed:

Estate Planning- Becky explained that a Task Force is a way to assist people in organizing their estate planning to leave money to TASL. This Task Force will not be formed at this time.

Leadership Handbook-Carol stated that she had an older handbook. Carol and Mona volunteered to chair the task force to revise and update the handbook. She will then submit the document to the Board for approval.

- ❖ Becky asked that all Task Force Chairs include the members of their task force in their reports.

Race to the Top-Becky explained that Race to the Top would be a focus for public school librarians. Seven educators will serve the state's committee. Donna stated that TEA will have a say in recommendations to the committee and suggested that TASL write a letter with a specific person named as a potential committee member. This is especially important because librarians have a broader focus than most classroom teachers. Race to the Top uses test scores to determine incentives for teachers. Special area teachers often do not have this data for their students. Karen stated that Harry Brooks was her representative and she is willing to keep dialog going with him. Donna suggested that TEA data and survey results could be used to pull together information.

Becky suggested that we as librarians pull together information and "standards" for the committee. If we don't tell the committee what the standards are and how to assess those standards then the committee may choose to set the standards themselves without consulting librarians.

There was lengthy discussion of standards with the majority stating that standards must be simple and measureable.

Principals, guidance counselors and librarians could possibly all be judged on the same data. Becky recommended a two-prong approach as a possibility for consideration: Standards developed and assessments given.

Nancy Dickinson recommended that a contact be made with Morgan Branch. Mr. Branch is receptive to the idea of standards for school librarians.

The Task Force should maintain close contact with the Board.

Donna stated that letters be written to Earl and Harry Brooks as soon as possible. Pam suggested that Diane Chen would be a good spokesperson for our profession as she serves on ALA Board of Directors. Karen is willing to chair the task force. Karen will

investigate what is already available throughout the United States. Becky will see that the letters are written and that Diane is agreeable to serve on the committee if asked. Barbara made the motion for TASL to send letters to representatives suggesting Diane Chen as a committee member and to establish the Race to the Top task force with Karen as the chair. Mona seconded and the motion carried.

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Area Representative Reports:

Becky showed the group Nancy's membership spreadsheet and where to input their regions information. Nancy discussed how everyone has not submitted information to her as recommended. Betsy Stubblefield did a report that was not included in Nancy's spreadsheet.

Kathy Kendall discussed another librarians group. (There is a group called The Northwest School Librarians that was discussed. There is a president, Cheryl Roth.)

Kathy Kendall told the group she was now on the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Education Board for the Memphis area. Kathy also spoke at a Northwest Tennessee Librarian's group about the benefits of joining TASL and promoting the upcoming workshops.

Becky explained in further detail how Area Reps could save and add to Nancy's Document so that better communication could be noted via the spreadsheet. The document should be saved, sorted by County, and then completed. Also new representatives should be added to the document.

Two email groups have been set up: Board Members and Committee Chairs. Becky asked if the group wanted to see all of the Board Members. It was decided it would be better if names were listed.

Two concerns with Nancy's report: Becky talked to two people about filling Area Rep. Positions. If the people asked cannot agree to fill the position Becky asked if she could send out information on the Listserv about vacancies available.

At this point a reference was also made about the Leadership Handbook that all members should be able to see the old handbook to assist with revisions of the new handbook.

Nancy Dickinson mentioned the possibility of developing a Mentoring Committee as well.

BREAK at 11:20 a.m.

Becky commented on the purpose of the meeting. She wanted a more relaxed atmosphere. Becky mentioned that she wanted the minutes within two weeks. Unfinished business could then be noted well before the next Board Meeting. Becky wants to get committees working and moving well before the next Board Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Membership:

Membership report was submitted by Nancy and there was discussion of the role of the membership committee. Becky suggested that a membership “welcome wagon” be established to email new and renewing members. Whenever the list was updated, some reminders could be given to the existing members and possibly to new members as well.

588 Members 2009/ 230 Members 2010. Listserv notifications were made about renewing memberships. The postcards sent about professional development seem to have spurred early membership renewals. Jeannette Lambert may be developing a brochure on the benefits of membership in TASL.

VSBA Book Awards:

There was discussion about the need for promotional activities to accompany the book list each year. This would not be the same committee that presents the list of nominations. It was recommended that a standardized format be used to assist librarians with promoting VSBA. The committee would not have anything to do with book selection. The committee would serve to provide information to librarians with activities and lesson ideas.

Two groups would be formed: VSBA Selection Chair and VSBA Promotional Committee. Other people are needed to put together lesson plans, promotional ideas, etc. Becky will contact the VSBA Selection Chair and recommend this second group be formed. The length of time for the group’s responsibilities was also discussed. Next, it was mentioned that a VSBA WIKI be put together with a person serving as the designer and administrator. TASL will have a Task Force to keep the WIKI current.

Barbara made the motion to establish a VSBA Promotional Task Force to provide ideas and lesson plans to accompany the book lists. Mona seconded and the motion carried. No chair was named.

Professional Development:

Allison submitted the Professional Development committee report. The response to the book repair workshops has not been as Spring Hill location has been cancelled and there is a possibility of other cancellations. Twelve is the minimum number of people to do a workshop. A decision on the Union City and Mackenzie location workshops will be made by Thursday, February 11, 2010.

Library Legislation Day:

The date is February 24, 2010 in Nashville. Cost is \$25.00. Donna has registration forms and all are encouraged to attend. There are talking points on the TENN-SHARE Website.

Becky proposed establishing a publicity committee. Discussion was held on the difference in the duties of such committee in comparison to the advocacy committee. There was also discussion on the need to identify the 300 plus school librarians in the state that are not TASL members and encourage them to join. No resolution was made.

Conference Survey:

Conference Survey was posted on the TASL Listserv in Googledocs and the following information was gleaned from the survey:

- On AASL conference years, TASL conference should be held in the third week of September out of 82 responses.
- On Non -AASL conference years, the first week of November was preferred. 32 out of 82 responses.
- As to location of our conference, Middle Tennessee locations would be best attended.
- Every vendor wants to see the conference in September.
- If the conference were held in October it was recommended 26 first weekend, 3rd weekend 23, 4th weekend 22.

Old Business:

Committee members as voting members of the board will be discussed at our next meeting.

PayPal is being looked at as an option for conference registration. More investigation is needed to determine if this is feasible.

The Tax Exempt form was located and sales tax fees on conference facilities were refunded.

Additional information: (March 17, 2010):

Alice has set up a Pay Pal account so that Beth and Scot Smith can begin to analyze if using Pay Pal is a viable option. Fees are 3% + .30 per transaction which would not be expensive. We will begin working to determine if this is a viable option and if Pay Pal will actually be a better way for us to take in registrations. More to come at the April meeting.

The Tax Exempt form was located and sales tax fees on conference facilities were refunded. Tax exempt status is limited to organizations receiving greater than \$100,000.00 in registrations. The level of our tax exempt status could change if we exceed the \$100,000.00 limit.

New Business:

Jason Bedell, Clarksville teacher requested a \$200 monetary sponsorship of a Technology day he is planning. Becky asked for discussion. There was none. No motion was made.

There was request for adjournment.

Next meeting will be at Harpeth Hall on April 17 10:00AM.