

Minutes of the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English Language Arts

Annual Business Meeting
Saturday, April 8, 2000
Monona Terrace, Madison, WI

I. Call to Order

II. **Approval of agenda** Moved by Debbie Kinder and seconded by Scott Oates; passed

III. **Approval of minutes from the 1999 Annual Business Meeting** Moved by Debbie Kinder and seconded by Scott Oates; passed

IV. **Treasurer's Report.** There are still a few outstanding bills; however, there is more income being generated from the present convention. Currently, the total assets are cited as \$19,031.47 while the total expenses are \$14,622 leaving a balance of \$8,484.27. It was noted that the largest expense items are printing and publications. It was suggested that the web page be used for the Update.

NCTE asked that WCTELA cover 2/3 of the expenses of those who attended the Region 4 Affiliate Leadership Conference. This is approximately \$400. It was passed by the Executive Board to do so. Jack Kean moved (seconded by Richard Halle) that WCTELA pay the total expenses incurred by the three representative to the NCTE Region 4 Affiliate Leadership Conference, and that it be taken from this year's budget. Passed

It was move by Richard Halle that the Board of Director have the discretion to exceed the \$9,000 budgeted by an additional \$3,000. Passed

V. **Trust Officer's Report.** It was announced that Jack Kean will be retiring from this position. As of June 30/July 1 Marty Wood will be the new Trust Officer. Mark Heike and Donna Hitchens were nominated to serve on the Pooley Award Committee.

There was a miscommunication with the Update. It came out after the published deadlines for the Pooley Award so it was decided not to make the award this year. However, Jack Kean feels that saving \$300 worth of postage makes it a good idea send the Pooley information out through the Update rather than a separate mailing as has been done in the past. It takes two weeks to process the newsletter from the time the disc is ready. Also Jack has learned from experience that more people submit entries to the Pooley Award when they are given a shorter period to respond.

Carol Conway-Gerhardt made the following resolution: Be it resolved that WCTELA commend Jack Kean for his work as Trust Officer over the past many years, for WCTELA's success in investments, and for his leadership with the Pooley Foundation Awards. Passed enthusiastically.

VI. **President' Report** Debbie Kinder has been nominated for 2nd vice president and Marti Matyska for secretary.

Three years ago WCTELA suspended the standing committees and publications in an attempt to reorganize. We now have publications coming out, and we have been reinstating committees. Professional Issues Committee will be headed by Debbie Kinder and the CEE is active.

Due to probable expense, we will not have regional conferences this year. Instead, WCTELA is working on a partnership with CESA and DPI to identify what professional development needs we can offer.

A constitutional issue that must be addressed in the future is whether or not we can continue to recruit an elementary school person for the presidency. It was suggested that the middle school population is not represented, and that we should possibly have a middle school strand at the

Convention. It was also noted that some presenters had very few people in the audience. Claire Martin will check on this problem when she contacts the presenters and sends out thank you notes.

John Zbikowski thanked the organization for the opportunity to serve and Carol Conway-Gerhardt made the following resolution: Be it resolved that WCTELA commend John Zbikowski for his leadership as president, which was marked by increased emphasis on electronic communication, College English Education teacher preparation, and teacher licensure. Passed unanimously.

- VII **1st Vice President's Report.** Claire Martin reported that the convention is moving along smoothly. At Summer Retreat we need to reintroduce ourselves since the Board has changed drastically. At the Retreat WCTELA will try to give back time to the Directors. We need to regroup and set goals for the upcoming year. Martin plans to use more electronic media.
- VII. **2nd Vice President's Report.** Carol Conway-Gerhardt reported on the plan to work with DPI and the various CESA's to offer professional development opportunities for teachers and/or leaders in curriculum. Possibly this will be connected with the new Guide to Curriculum Planning. The design and structure of these sessions is yet to be decided. Any input would be gratefully received at cgerhard@wegafremont.k12.wi.us
- VIII **Committee reports**-none
- IX. **Old Business.** It was suggested to have a WCTELA meeting at the NCTE Convention 2000. At that time, the Pooley Awards could be given. This plan was agreed to by consensus. It was moved by Martin and seconded by Conway-Gerhardt that an Executive Board meeting be held on April 28, 2001. At that meeting new officers will take their positions.
- There were concerns about the short time provided in the writing section of the 4th, 8th, and 10th grade tests and the use of the exact same test for two years in a row. It was moved by John Kurschner and seconded by Bonnie Frechette that the Professional Issues Committee consider these problems and respond to DPI requiring some action. Passed
- X. **New Business.** Martin made the following resolution: Because of her role in organizing successful conventions, her support and encouragement for three successive WCTELA's program chairs, and her dedication to the work of WCTELA far beyond the specifications of her position's description, including help with the newsletter, Journal, and awards, be it resolved that WCTELA commends Mary Meiser for her excellent work in her term as convention manager, praises her for her unflinching support of this organization, and wishes her continued success in all her future endeavors. Passed unanimously.
- XI. **Adjournment**