

Minutes of the Meeting of Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English Language Arts
Executive Board
Saturday, September 14, 2002

I. Call to Order: Debbie Kinder called the meeting to order at 8:39. Tom Scott moved to approve the agenda; passed. Members present: John Zbikowski, Bonnie Frechette, Ellen Last, Bill Schang, Mary Graber, Jacki Martindale, Trista Smith, Marti Matyska, Mari Sue Bethke, Tom Scott, Lynn Aprill, Debbie Kinder, Jim Vollmer

II. Secretary's Report:

Moved by Mari Sue Bethke to accept the April 23, 2001 minutes with corrections; passed
Spelling corrections for these minutes: Thymus, Mari Sue, Jacki, Graber

II. Treasurer's Report:

See attached summary. Jim Vollmer moved to accept the report; passed.

IV. Committee Reports:

- A. District Director Liaison: Mary Graber reported on the Fridays Directors meeting; two new directors, JoAnne Katzmarek, and Roxanne Biffert were welcomed. A new handbook has been developed. There was a discussion on the recruitment of directors.
- B. Membership: There was a discussion on the registration card needing a place for an e-mail address and a detachable membership card for renewed members along with a document that lists schools within CESA boundaries. Debbie Kinder volunteered to write a letter to the members we have listed with e-mail addresses. This letter will include a welcome and a request for convention proposals or articles. Perhaps we should have a renew your membership booth at the convention?
- C. Publicity: Tom Scott has volunteered to contact AWSA and WMSE to inform their members of the gender/literacy issues planned for the next convention.
- D. Publications and Website:
 - 1) The newsletter articles are due by September 20th. Articles planned: Tom Scott-convention, Jacki Martindale-National Boards, Debbie Kinder-election, Marti Matyska-call for proposals. Also, projected topics for Wisconsin English Journal, call for awards, articles about Nick Karolides and Stacey Swanson, directors names and e-mails.
 - 2) Ruth Wood is editing the Wisconsin Journal and asks for articles of any length dealing with teaching to the standards.
 - 3) The website has been updated. There is now a map of districts. New officer information needs to be put up
 - 4) Mari Sue Bethke reported on the plans for a video sponsored by WCTELA. The goal is to get a video into the classroom that will encourage students to become interested in Wisconsin writers. Plans are to interview Ben Logan. The Wisconsin Humanities Council is sponsoring a gathering of authors this fall. Information is on portalwisconsin.org

E. Professional Issues

- 1) Debbie Kinder has drafted a letter to be sent to state legislators. The position stated in this letter is to drop the standardized content test required for teacher certification in English. The letter was critiqued.
- 2) Because of PI34, there is a need to involve CEE.

F. Censorship/Intellectual Freedom: Are there concerns in our districts? Katherine Conover will be invited to be the SLATE Representative

G. Conference on English Leadership: There was nothing to report.

H. Archivist: Helen Dale has agreed to take this position.

V. Liason Reports:

A. DPI:

- 1) The Guide is being marketed to teacher education programs. Ellen Last will be a part of a panel for NCTE. The topic is what's happening after writing and aligning standards, and she is interested in our suggestions. (use e-mail)
- 2) There are oral communication assessment workshops at CESAs. The pilot of the oral assessment for 4th and 8th grade will be this year. The DPI website has tools for the oral communication assessment.
- 3) DPI will be checking the seven teacher education campuses to see that the requirements of PI34 are being met.
- 4) Contact Dr. Cathy Upham at 608.266.1723 about assessment questions.

B. Wisconsin Communication Association: No report.

VI. Officers Report:

A. 2nd Vice President: Jacki Martindale is thinking about using links as the theme for the 04 convention and inviting Jim Burke to speak. There was a discussion about where the convention should be held. Marti Matyska will contact Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Dells area for the first weekend in May, 2004. Jacki Martindale made a motion that stakeholders conference through e-mail on where to have the 04 convention so that the final decision be made by the presidents and vice-presidents of both WCTELA and WCA. Passed

B. 1st Vice President: Tom Scott reported that Mike Smith and Peg Finders will speak at the 03 convention with a panel discussion planned. Issues on gender and literacy will be the topic.

C. President: Debbie Kinder described an initiative she has submitted, the Pioneer Writing Project, a writing workshop in Madison.

- 2) Another initiative is a Title II grant to collaborate with schools who want to work on local writing assessments.
- 3) Chris Van Hoof was appointed the NCTE liaison. Her report will be posted on our listserv.
- 4) A letter is being written to ask the state legislature to amend the law dealing with teacher licensing. It is asking the legislature to eliminate the standardized content test.
- 5) Kinder is starting an initiative to get CEE up and running with PI34.

I. Old Business:

A.Elections: Ballots are out and Debbie Kinder will report with the results. John Zbikowki will get in touch with Carol Conway-Gerhardt for the ballot due at the spring convention

B.Awards: Mari Sue Bethke moved to solicit nominations from teacher educators to offer two outstanding teacher awards, one for elementary/middle school and one for secondary. Seconded by Tom Scott; passed.

I. New Business:

A. Summer Retreat Date: There was a discussion on whether or not there was a need for a retreat. It was decided to return to St. Benedict's on July 31 and August 1, 2004. Tom Scott will make arrangements.

B.Arts in Education: There is a need to have representation in this organization.

C.It was moved by Mary Graber to support the spirit of the letter written by Debbie Kinder (a proposal to drop the standardized content test required for teacher certification). Seconded by Jacki Martindale; passed.