

**Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English**  
February Board Meeting  
Friday, February 11, 2011 & Saturday, February 12, 2011  
Stevens Point, WI

Agenda

February 11, 2010 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Present: John Zbikowski, Lynn Aprill, Marti Matyska, Darcy Bakkegard Rachow, Donna Pasternak, Lynn Frick, Tom Scott, Karen Rigoni, Kathy Nelson

FINAL Review of Constitution and By-Laws

February 12, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Present: Karen Rigoni, Tom Scott, Lynn Frick, Jessica Gallo, Donna Pasternak, Marti Matyska, Kathy Nelson, Lynn Aprill, Linda Tabers-Kwak, Darcy Bakkegard Rachow, Carol Conway Gerhardt, John Zbikowski, Barbara Dixson, Jacalyn Mabon.

Motion to amend the agenda: Move committee reports to occur prior to committee meetings. Motion: Kathy Nelson. Second, Lynn Frick. Motion passed.

I. Committee Reports (1 hour and 40 minutes)

- a. Awards – Carol Conway-Gerhardt (5 minutes) Carol announced that she will be retiring from her role Carol described the duties of the Awards Coordinator. Carol shared a document that lists all awards given by WCTE, person responsible for facilitation, and deadlines. WCTE has struggled to identify an early career English Education leader. Award comes with \$500 award to attend NCTE. Also struggle to get High School Teacher of excellence nominee in a timely manner. Kathy Nelson commended Carol Conway-Gerhardt for her years of service in this role.
- b. District Directors - Jacki Martindale (5 minutes) **(in absentia)**
- c. Membership – Tom Scott (10 minutes) Tom reported the following data: 155 current up-to-date members (standard 96; student 34; new teacher 14; contributing 5; retired 4; sustaining 2); 158 recently expired members. Membership didn't increase as much as it usually does at convention time. Tom speculated that because districts will pay for non-member rate rather than pay for membership + convention fee. Tom is seeking ideas to notify those recently expired. Moving forward we might consider attaching this task to the conference secretary.
- d. WCEE – Barbara Dixson (10 minutes) WCEE will meet March 11, 2011 in Stevens Point, 1:00-5:00 p.m. on UW Stevens Point campus. The focus will be on practical applications Common Core Standards.
- e. WCEL – Tom Scott (5 minutes) Tom reported that Linda Barrington is our liaison to the national organization. Tom is meeting in San Antonio with the chair of CEL to develop further initiatives
- f. Professional Issues – Tom Pamperin (10 minutes) No report.
- g. Publications (35 minutes)

- i. Website – John Zbikowski (10 minutes) John reported on website traffic. NCTE is developing the “Connected Community” which will move our website to this social networking site. John has begun to formulate WCTE Connected Community. Concerns were raised about access to the Connected Community, as it’s only open to NCTE members. Many WCTE members at not NCTE members + people searching for WCTE information from outside users wouldn’t have access. John suggested that in the meantime, we might consider upgrading our site to something off of the UW-Whitewater server. John suggested that this would allow multiple contributors to be involved in updating the site. Group expressed interest in adding membership registration and conference registration payable through PayPal. John introduced the idea of Constant Contact in order to maintain contact with our membership. This idea may negate the necessity of hiring the conference secretary to support membership renewal process. Lynn suggested that we need to talk to someone to look at our needs
  - 1. Motion: Support John to spend up to \$250 to contact a professional to provide advise on developing a communication plan for WCTE. Motion: Kathy Nelson. Second: Lynn Frick. Motion passed. Information will be shared at the summer meeting. Priority: PayPal, forms for membership and conference registration.
- ii. Update – Linda Barrington (10 minutes) (**in absentia**) Linda submitted written report. Linda requested specific news updates all WCTE leadership positions. The target date for the next Update is late February early March.
- iii. *WEJ* – Jess Gallo (15 minutes) 7 articles in review for the spring edition. Submissions are increasing.
- h. Convention/Conference/2011 plans – Kathy Nelson (15 minutes)
  - 1. Before he left, Scott Oats began planning a meeting for rural education in lieu of a convention next year (NCTE in Chicago). The collaborator, Kia-current president of Michigan Council of Teachers of English, is working to get grant money to support this initiative. Kia seems to be shifting the focus from rural to Native American issues. Kathy expressed concern about school finances being able to support this initiative and questioned whether or not there is really a need/want for such an event. Event would be sometime in Fall. Kia is hoping that this event would draw ~ 40 participants.
  - 2. Bus transportation to NCTE is very expensive (~\$1000/bus). Exploring the following option: 1 bus from Green Bay to Milwaukee to Chicago; 1 bus from Wisconsin Dells, Madison to Chicago. Lynn is looking into reserving a block of rooms for WCTE at a convenient hotel. Tom Scott suggested a WCTE social Friday night.
- i. Other (5 minutes) Election Committee We need a second vice-president; a district liaison, and 11 other elected positions.

II. Committee Meetings at 11:18 the group broke into 2 rounds of sectional meeting: Round 1: WCEE and 2011-2012 Conference/Convention Events; at 11:40 the group broke into Round 2: Publications, Elections, Membership.

- a. Notes: Jacki Martindale submitted a written report. Need several district directors
- a. District Directors - Jacki Martindale (in absentia)
- b. Membership – Tom Scott
- c. WCEE – Barbara Dixson
- d. WCEL – Tom Scott
- e. Awards – Carol Conway-Gerhardt’s designee / new Award person needed.
- f. Professional Issues – Tom Pamperin
- g. Publications – Editors and/or designees
- h. Convention/Conferences/etc. – Kathy Nelson
- i. Archives – Emily Tymus Ihrke
- j. Standing Committee on Diversity
- k. Elections – Donna Pasternak

February 12, 2010 12:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### III. Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

- a. Approval of the Agenda (2 minutes) Agenda approved
- b. Approval of October’s Board Meeting Minutes (5 minutes) Revision: 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president: 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence-change loose to lose. Motion: Kathy. Second: Lynn Frick. Motion passed.
- c. Approval of Annual Business Meeting Minutes (5 minutes) Not applicable
- d. DPI Liaison – Emilie Amundson (20 minutes) (**in absentia**) Concern was expressed by the Board about the absence of ELA teachers involved in the roll out of CESA. General consensus was that WCTE should be more proactive about being move involved in this process. Tom Scott will take our voice to the state ELA leadership to ask for more involvement from WCTE.
- e. Treasurer’s Report – Tom Scott (20 minutes) Convention and workshop brought in \$21,080. Convention expenses to date: ~\$10,000. The convention was profitable. Attendance was under 200. Balances: checking \$20,030.02; savings \$1788.55; money market \$18,004.53. Motion to approve the treasurer’s report: Donna Pasternak. Second: Kathy Nelson. Motion passed.
- f. Pooley Foundation Report – Marty Wood (5 minutes) (**in absentia**)
  - a. Pooley Awards: Motion to increase Lucile S. Pooley award- 1<sup>st</sup> place \$500 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$250. Jarvis E. Bush Award increase to \$500. Motion: Jess Gallo. Second: Kathy Nelson. Motion passed.
- h. Officer Reports (20 minutes)
  - 1. Director at large (Past President) – Donna Pasternak (5 minutes) Donna’s plan is to have the elections before July. We have 16 open positions. We should have elected District Director at the last Board meeting. Seeing that did not happen, seeking Board appointment under new business.
  - 2. Second Vice President – Jessica Gallo (5 minutes) Convention will likely be in Madison.

3. First Vice President – Kathy Nelson (5 minutes)
  4. President – Lynn Aprill (15 minutes) Lynn attended meetings in Orlando. Group completed a vote of “no confidence” on the Common Core Standards.
    - a. DPI English/Business Crosswalk – Movement to allow agriculture courses to be submitted to receive science credit. This is being extended to business and ELA. Business courses can be submitted for consideration to earn English credit.
    - b. DPI State Literacy Committee-An attempt to coordinate all literacy initiative for the state birth – grade 12.
- i. Old Business
- i. Reminder of Co-sponsorship of the Anti-Biased Anti-Racist Conference held on April 2, 2011, at the Indian Community School (5 minutes)
- j. New Business
1. Response to Governor Walker – Barbara Dixson suggested that WCTE make a statement against the Governor Walker’s Budget Repair Bill that impacts benefits, pension contributions, and ability to collectively bargain. The group agreed to make a brief statement about the bills impact of the education of WI students and future economic development.  
 Statement: As your constituents, the members of the Executive Board of WCTE urge you to oppose the Budget Repair Bill under consideration. In it’s current form, the proposed in the bill will adversely affect the quality of our children’s education and their ability to compete in a global economy.  
 Motion: We agree to send the following message to our state representatives, on the WCTE website, and other interested organizations: As your constituents, the members of the Executive Board of Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English urge you to oppose the Budget Repair Bill under consideration. The changes proposed in the bill will adversely affect the quality of our children’s education and their ability to compete in a global economy. Motion: Lynn Frick. Second: Jessica Gallo. Motion passed.
  2. Reappointment of District Director Liaison – Jacki Martindale should have been elected as the District Director Liaison on the ballot in 2010. As she was no, Donna Pasternak motioned: The WCTE Board appoint Jacki Martindale to the position of District Director Liaison retroactive from the 2010 election date until the October 2011 election. Motion: Donna Pasternak. Second: Jessica Gallo. Motion passed.
  3. Intellectual Freedom Award – Donna Pasternak suggested WCTE nominate Educators’ Network for Social Justice for the SLATE award and the Lee Burrell Intellectual Freedom Award.
  4. Reminders: Several NCTE awards are coming up including: Dream

- Award due May 1, 2011; NCTE Secondary Teacher Award due May 1, 2011. NCTE Distinguished Service Award due May 1, 2011.
5. WCTE Award winners for 2010-2011 awards will be offered a 1-year WCTE membership and registration to one of WCTE events in 2011-2012.
  6. Approve \$ for Tom for membership initiatives. Motion: The Board allows the WCTE treasurer to spend no more than \$500 per year for occasional secretarial and administrative support as he deems necessary. Motion: Donna. Second: Kathy Nelson. Motion passed.
- k. For the Good of the Order (5 minutes)
1. Darcy Bakkegard Rachow thanked the Board for welcoming her to the meeting activities this weekend.
  2. Adjournment. Motion: Jessica Gallo. Second: Lynn Frick. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.