

WCTE Board Meeting Minutes June 16, 2017

Favorite Books: 8:35-8:53

John P: Fight Club by Chuck Palaniuk and Wise Children by Angela Carter

Linda B: Brad Meltzer House of Secrets,

Marti: When Breath Becomes Air by Dr.

John S: Fahrenheit 451

Maribeth: Teaching in the Fast Lane; Grading Smarter Not Harder;
Into Thin Air;

Jennifer K: Mrs. Poe by Lynn Cullen; Into the Water by Paula Hawkins

Tanya S: The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead; Everything Everything by Nicola Yoon

Kelly S: All American Boys; Flying Lessons and Other Stories by Ellen Oh

Marianne P: The Fix by Baldacci;

Kara S: The Girls by Emma Kline; Asylum by Madeline Roux

Justina P: Natural Childbirth in a Hospital; All the Light We Cannot See;
White Oleander by Janet Finch

No Additions to Agenda

Approved Minutes 2/18/17. 8:54-8:58

Treasury Report sent by Tom Scott. Budget is the same as the one in Feb is because there has been no change. One purchase of \$300 and deposit of \$235 so it was a wash. No need to have big update conversation.

DPI Report from Marci who sent it ahead of time. She is on Family Leave. 8:58-9:29

- We never made a statement of how we feel about DPI changes to licensing. Should we work on that? Looking for a Chair. If we have time today, we could break into groups.
- PPG/SLO merger. It's in pilot stage right now. Helpful with PDP process if you aren't on credits for licenses.
- ACP readiness. Most schools are going back to Homerooms to deal with this. In Kohler, ELA is meeting with counseling. It merges well with English curriculum already in place.
- Highlighting WISELearn and DPI Google.
- Questions about lifetime licenses that might be coming. Will ask Marci. This is becoming an issue to subbing too.
- Vacancies: hiring is difficult. Why? Colleges have kids dropping teaching programs. Especially ELA. Act 10 has hit us hard. Anything we can do as an organization. Low pay. Long hours. We can put out a statement of support for going into English Education. Benefits of membership: support; help when you want to advance in your career. Possible co-member to NCTE?

- Lots of discussion of how to handle paperwork. Working on more, but not grading everything you assign.
- Could come up with a statement as to why teaching English is a good career choice. We know there are negatives, but we know we need more GOOD ELA teachers. Write an article and put it on the website and then link it to social media. Direct it to college schools of Education especially prospective English majors. Make a mini-campaign to help promote our field.

Officer Reports 9:30-9:35

Marianne: Learned to Tweet! Twitter chats have been great! Opened the affiliates meeting to everyone not just every two years. Kelly and Marianne are going. Atlanta, GA July 7,8,9, 2017

John S: Convention Update: 9:36-10:27

- We have a Thurs. Workshop. Words Without Borders by Sandy Kowalczyk's workshop. Artifacts and photos from around the world to teach literature. John has a flier for it.
- Breakouts: lots of proposals. Approval process? Usually accepts what is suggested. Has been committee in the past. Have been rejections. John has sent approval letters to 23 people. 1 didn't accept. 13 verified. 5 people now can't. 1 didn't think they had to pay for the convention themselves and therefore didn't want to present. Hoping for 25 presentations. Will be following up with people. Will be looking over the summer to look for specific topics that might be missing.
- Feels like we are in a good position so far. Regonline will go on the website. Need to work on promotion. Hoping for approval on that today.
- Twitter widget should be added to the website to help promoting it. Have something at the convention to encourage followers. Have a Twitter challenge with our hashtag. Have a giveaway. Signs up with our Twitter tag. Pic with a certain person. Favorite quote of the conference.
- Motion to send out postcards? Checking for Tom's budget for cost of last year. \$819. John S motion to approve up to \$2000 for promotion of 2017 Convention. Second by Tanya S. Discussion included adding breakout sessions to promotion. Add to website the breakouts. Approved by Board unanimously. 10:05am

During the Aug and Sept Twitter chats, suggestions for topics?

Sandy K being involved would be really helpful. Especially in the Aug one. Sept would be good for the breakout presenters. Good way for them to promote their breakouts.

Discussion about Networking options: Breakout: Board members have a Q&A? Breakfast? Early-bird session?

John P discussed how he emailed principals and superintendents of schools who didn't have people attending. John S would like to do that too.

Break 10:28-10:45

Kelly S: 10:45-11:00

- Confirmed Chris Leman over Penny Kittle. Oct 19, 2018 Will do a keynote and then 3 breakouts. Will need signups. Breakouts opposite his sessions. Final wrapup session. Pushing it as a Workshop model. Finding a venue. Out of contract with UW-Milwaukee. Will most likely be in Madison.
- This is only on Friday so far. The Madison Writing project could maybe do something on Thurs for us. Participants loved the Writing Project sessions we've had in the past.

Denise is not here.

Kara S: 11:02-11:14

- List in Google Folder is updated.
- Putting info in the folders from the convention. Lunch with District #s would be helpful. Districts 8 and 3 have the most need. Will email blast as many as she can in August.

Committee Reports:

Kelly S 11:15-11:43

- Only 5-6 people "tweeting" but the people following and lurking are high. 120+ are watching the questions and about 70+ watching the answers.
- Should we give the convention a hashtag? #wctechat #wcte17 put that in all publicity items going out.
- Access for accounts: logins are available for anyone to access. Schedule set for Executive Board to be doing regular tweets to keep online presence. We have a FB page that is non-functional because it's operated by someone else. Should we have it shut down because it's out there and not updated regularly. It doesn't give us a good "look." We would like to request it be taken down.
- Google + : only 3 districts use it. No organization
- Website: renewal? Who's hosting? Network Solutions. Asking Lynn April. We will vote online to approve this.

Break: 11:45-11:50

Meeting resumes 11:50

WCEE:

2- 1st year teacher winners. Student Teacher of the Year and New Teacher of the Year. Don't know if anyone has been nominated for State TOY.

Kelly will check with David R about that. David feels that giving a State award without going to NCTE would be problematic. Will be holding the one nomination until next year.

Marianne and Kelly will be getting Pooley stuff transferred on Tues. with Lynn.

NCTE HS Teacher of Excellence Award. We need to promote this better. Will be added to convention notes. Gets put in Spring Newsletter. Due by April 1. Any late nominees that missed NCTE deadline, but we could award at the Convention in Oct.

John: Intellectual Freedom award.

- Nothing yet. John submitted last year's winners to the NCTE award committee.
- Discussion on West Bend ELA teachers forced to resign over curriculum issues.
- Lynn Frick had an issue with a book from her classroom. We'll contact her.

SCOA Report: none.

F. Standing Committee on Diversity: Justina:

Resources: Cult of Pedagogy podcast. 9 or more books can be used for PD.

Jennifer Gonzalez has great resources available for teachers.

Hacklearning.org "Hacking" books, ex: Hacking Literacy, Hacking Engagement.

G. Professional Issues: Lynn Frick.

H. Awards:

I: 12:27-12:39 Update: Linda Barrington. Handout for upcoming topics for the Update. Tanya Sponholz will be featured as a new member. Justina will provide lesson plan for the issue.

J. 12:41-1:25 WI English Journal: John Pruitt.

- Showed comments from other English professionals about the English Journal. Concerns had been raised about moving the WEJ to a different format. John wants to move to WordPress. Readers can then communicate directly with authors. Too bloggish? A: it is still a peer-reviewed journal, so the professionalism is still there. John has started the archives already, and scanning of the old issues.
- All responses from the authors praised the format and liked how it looked. Doesn't seem to be an issue for tenure to have it be an online format.

- Responses from the editorial board seem to be of the same voice.
- John will transfer everything over if we change. Double issue coming out in the fall. LOTS of articles in the process of publishing.
- Can it look like our site now so it's consistent with our formatting so it looks like it belongs and it's not just some other page?
- We like the idea of password protecting it and only giving the abstract online as a teaser. 2 years and then it gets archived. It becomes a benefit of membership. We will table that discussion for when Tom is here.
- Can add links, pics and videos to the WordPress site.
- 1:10 Motion by Kelly Seefeldt to transfer WEJ to the new interactive format connected to the WCTE website. Second by Kara Sommerfeldt. No additional discussion. Approved by unanimous vote.
- Planning for moving the WEJ. We will figure out passwords and logins. Jennifer suggested we have it open to the public to get people visiting it and invested in the service, and then by Jan 1 require membership to access.
- John wants a counter added to the page to check traffic.

K. 1:25 WELA- Marianne. Next meeting August 8, 2017 in Madison. Marianne will report that out.

Old Business:

Tabled the Executive Director position discussion to the small group discussion.

New Business:

Next meeting will be Milwaukee 10/12/17

Small Group Discussions: 1:30-2:40

Executive Director: Bylaws. Gives us until 2018.

Job description. Pay level. Qualifications. Process of hiring. Timeline for implementation. Marti will type up the notes they took and send out to members. Starting point.

Benefits of Belonging: Reminding people why they want to do this. Going to be having a Twitter chat in July about why we do what we do. Series in the Update perhaps about what we get out of being an ELA teacher. What got us into it. Special # to assign to Twitter.

Why is our content important to society today?

- Diversity through literature.

- Empathy for those different from us.
- Show students something different than their current situation.
- Creating a literate electorate.
- Why we NEED English teachers, more than why BE one. Helping students find their voice and how to express it.

DPI Licensure statement:

- The statements we used as models were 4-11 pages. We can't do this in half an hour. Do we need a statement? Stand focusing on "Allowing educator prep..." and "Allowing teacher and pupil services candidates..." aspects.
 - Worth our organization taking a stand as a professional organization. It affects our profession.
 - We will do Google Hangouts on June 19 at 7pm. 1 page statement is the goal.

Twitter Chat:

June questions set: June 26	Books and Reading
July questions set: July 24	Why become an English teacher?
August: August 28	Pre-Convention

Meeting adjourned at 2:40pm.