

K . A . T . E

Kansas Association of Teachers of English

KATE Executive Board Meeting Minutes (Conference)

October 22, 1998

7:00 p.m.

Marriot Hotel, Wichita, KS

President Dolores Baker called the official meeting to order at 6:55 p.m

The meeting began with an appreciation of Karen Stous's six years of service as secretary. She was presented with flowers and a bookmark.

Dolores welcomed new board members Janice Dow, Sharon James McGee, Teresa Wasinger, Arlene Basin, Roberta Ryan, Rochelle Smith, Nancy Converse, Jean Dimmit, Brook Patterson, and Joy Bunch, who introduced themselves and received KATE notebooks. Dolores then recognized Diane McReynolds and Dana Waters, who were leaving the board, and presented them with flowers.

The minutes of June 6, 1998, meeting were approved with these spelling corrections: Katie Arnette (Kady); Paula Ripple (Rippled); and Jean Dimmitt (Dimmett).

The group gave a round of applause to Goldie Wood, conference chair, and other members who contributed to the conference's success. Goldie was congratulated on involving the Superintendent of Wichita schools, giving a televised interview on the conference, and engaging new and interesting speakers. The group expressed pleasure at being back at the Marriot.

Dolores asked for additions to the agenda. Diane Quantic asked to have an update report from the Concurrent Credit committee added to the agenda. An item regarding retirement was added to New Business.

Reports:

Treasurer Paula Ripple gave a final report for 1997-98. Because the conference business is in a state of flux, we are currently showing a temporary negative balance of \$2,810.47. The increase in dues has increased our income and has resulted in no apparent protest. The scholarship fund was used this year. Because of a low balance, KATE did not make as much money on interest. The Treasurer's Report includes the merchandise figure from last year's conference. General expenses includes June and February meeting expenses, postage, mailing, and membership costs. Paula recommended that we continue talking about combining publications to defer expense. Still outstanding bills include some 98 conference bills, some bills for attendance of the NCTE conference, and the 4H award. Paula expressed concern that we continue to lose money.

Barbara Bleeker, KATE's representative for the William Allen White award, reported that the committee will meet tomorrow at Century II.

Diane Quantic reported on the concurrent credit surveys. She called attention to the surveys placed in the conference packets. At the KU conference only ten surveys were returned. We would need at least 100 surveys before we run data. The surveys are coded, and 1000 copies were run. Diane asked if we should consider other venues. It was suggested that we wait for the response from this conference and if necessary, ask Mel Riggs how many surveys would be needed to send them statewide. Diane reported that the Wichita State University English department has covered the costs so far.

Communications:

Mel Riggs, KATE liaison with the State Board of Education, sent a letter announcing his retirement effective October 23 and conveying his best wishes to the KATE board. Dolores suggested e-mailing him or dropping him a note.

Dolores asked for nominations for the KATE Executive Board, to be submitted to either Dave Smit or her. She read Karen Stous's letter of resignation as KATE Secretary. Dana Waters assumed the duties of secretary.

Paula Ripple read two thank you notes from 4H members for KATE awards and a thank you note from Bonnie Newcomer for the \$1000 scholarship.

New Business:

Andy Anderson was appointed the NCTE liaison for KATE.

Dolores asked that all members submit a list of all committees they serve on to secretary Dana Waters with name, address, phone number, and board class. The master list was passed around for additions or corrections.

Dolores asked members to submit addresses of their administrators so that she might notify them of the member's participation on the KATE board.

President-elect Goldie Wood polled members for a date for the February meeting in Abilene. By show of hands members chose February 6. Goldie will send a letter with details to board members.

Bonnie Newcomer expressed concern about publishing members' phone numbers in *KATE Update* without permission. Andy Anderson pointed out that all forms will be published on KATE's website. It was moved that we allow member's work phone numbers to be printed in *KATE Update* when necessary. Motion carried.

Goldie Wood announced that she will be unable to represent KATE at the NCTE conference in Nashville because of work conflicts but she would, however, be able to attend the NCTE conference in Cincinnati. Rosemary Deen moved KATE send Goldie to Cincinnati rather than Nashville. Motion carried.

Dave Smit suggested we appoint a committee to determine a way to honor Mel Riggs, who has been an ex officio board member since the mid 1980's, and that we pay his way to a meeting where we can present him with a honorarium. Goldie will chair a committee to determine a way to honor him. Kim Young, who has been working with Mel on state standards for English, may take his

place in the Department of Education. Dave pointed out that it is important that our president ask Mel's replacement to serve as an ex officio member of our board.

Paula Ripple announced that she will not serve another term as treasurer because with conference registration the work load is too great. If someone else would take the conference registration, Paula would agree to remain as treasurer. Dolores asked anyone who would be willing to serve in this capacity to let her know this evening.

Committee Reports:

Bradley Siebert reported that he had published the latest issue of *Kansas English*. In soliciting more articles, he suggested those who presented at the conference might wish to publish in *Kansas English*. Brad's term as editor will end with the fall issue. John Franklin of Pittsburg State University and Mary Heller of Kansas State University had both expressed interest in becoming editor. The position will appear in *KATE Update* unless it is filled before *Update* is published. Bradley offered to be available for technical advice. He announced that he will take articles for the next issue until there is critical mass; then publish. He hopes to publish before second semester. Guidelines are MLA documentation for scholarly pieces. *Kansas English* publishes a wide variety of styles and includes teacherly articles, book reviews, and theory to practice articles. It does not publish literary analysis. The next teacher interviewed for *Kansas English* should be a middle school teacher. Dolores expressed our regret at losing Bradley as editor. Dave Smit observed that we didn't have a selection process because we've never had two candidates. John Franklin said that by the end of this month he will know if he will have institutional support from Pittsburg State to publish *Kansas English*. Rochelle Smith suggested we make *Kansas English* a juried publication. Bradley answered that the format had been rejected in the past and a professorial tone is not necessarily what we want for this publication.

The first issue of *Young Kansas Writers* is out. Although there were plenty of entries, a concern is that not a large number of teachers are represented. Five new entries have been submitted for the next issue. There was agreement that *Young Kansas Writers* should publish essays and poetry as well as fiction. Bonnie Newcomer asked if *Young Kansas Writers* should publish writing achievement award winners from NCTE. There are ten state winners from Promising Young Writers. As for publishing the winners in the *KATE Update*, since the content sometimes does not fit with tone of the newsletter, Bonnie will pass these on to Donna Sears and Linda Klabunde, who might not be able to publish them in full but might be able to publish excerpts in *Young Kansas Writers*. It was pointed out that KATE should have a release form for any work published. Bonnie will submit an article for the next newsletter about entry blanks for the publication.

Bonnie Newcomer reported that *KATE Update* got perfect scores from NCTE and will be presented an award in Nashville. Bonnie will attend to represent KATE. She shared the statement of the purpose of UPDATE that she had sent to NCTE. The last submission deadline for *KATE Update* is November 1. It will not be published until after Bonnie returns from Nashville, as close to the beginning of December as possible.

Gerrit Bleeker reported that twelve students had scored between 20 and 24 for the NCTE Writing Award. Since only ten winners are allowed, two must be cut. He called attention to the *Update* article announcing award; the next *Update* will announce the winners. Last year there were thirty-four submissions, mostly from the eastern part of the state. Gerritt pointed out that we need wider representation. He asked how the KATE board might recognize the winners. Suggestions were a scholarship or at least a certificate. Paula Ripple will check scholarship fund.

Barbara Bleeker reported that nineteen members of the William Allen White award committee had met October 10 and discussed over 100 books. They also discussed censorship issues that had arisen in the last year. She emphasized that this committee never lets that influence the awards for the next year. They selected sixteen new books for 1999-2000 list.

Dave Smit reported on the Teacher of the Year committee. The committee will need two new members as Diane McReynolds went off the board this year and Dave, who is chair, will go off next year. Duties of the chair are to receive all the information to review and send it on to other committee members who then confer and make a decision. The chairperson must arrange for the plaque and publish the choice. Next year honorees will be from college and middle school. Dave pointed out that there are few college members of KATE who are not on the board. Other committee members will be Carlene Stueve, Kay Bushman Haas, and Sharon James McGee

Dolores announced that NCTE mandates that the positions on Program to Recognize Excellence in Literary Magazines and Promising Young Writers be occupied by different people. She must submit three names to NCTE. Pat Fellers will continue to serve on Promising Young Writers and Kay Bushman Haas volunteered to serve on the Program to Recognize Excellence in Literary Magazines. If other members are interested, they should let Dolores know.

Rosemary Deen reported that as of October 20, 132 people have paid dues for 1999; this makes a total of 309 members. Rosemary pointed out that representation at the national level is based on NCTE membership. Rosemary will represent KATE at the NCTE meetings. Her school district is paying her expenses.

The following officers for 1999 were installed: Andy Anderson, NCTE liaison; Paula Ripple, treasurer; Dana Waters, secretary; Judy Goodpasture, second vice-president; Rosemary Deen, first vice-president; and Goldie Wood, president. Outgoing president Dolores Baker was presented with a gift of appreciation.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Dana Waters, secretary