
K • A • T • E
Kansas Association of Teachers of English

KATE Executive Board Meeting Minutes
24 October 2002
6:30 p.m.
Marriott Hotel, Wichita, Kansas

Members present: Andy Anderson, Tara Azwell, Barbara Bleeker, Gerrit Bleeker, Lisa Broxterman, Joy Bunch, Leota Coats, Matt Copeland, Carolyn Davidson, Jean Dimmitt, Shanna Dinkel, Kay Flook, Karen Ford, John Franklin, Judy Goodpasture, Todd Goodson, Ruthann Harris, Annie Heidersbach, Mary Heller, Clark Killion, Vivian Leupp, Barbara Livengood, Diane McReynolds, Marti Mihalyi, Shannon Nickell, Anne Phillips, Lisa Plamann, Paula Ripple, Ingrid Seitz, Cathy Sheridan, Dave Smit, Trudy Stockham, Karen Stous, Carlene Stueve, Dana Waters.

Call to order

President Joy Bunch called the meeting to order at 6:55.

Approval of minutes

The following corrections were made to the minutes: the spelling of Lynne Hewes' name was corrected. Dave Smit moved we accept the minutes as corrected. Motion was seconded and carried.

Agenda additions

Joy called for additions to the agenda. Clark Killion asked that his report on the Idea Exchange be added. Andy Anderson moved that we approve the agenda. Motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's report

Paula Ripple handed out the Treasurer's Report. She explained that the figures reflected end of the year balances, as current figures are in a state of flux because of the conference. *Kate Update* had received \$150 in advertising income. *Kansas English* had received several requests for additional copies. KATE's interest income was down. Income from the 2001 Conference was \$21,664. General Board expenses of \$733.21 included June meeting expenses and postage. Paula reported that membership costs of \$966.20 had increased, but printing costs of \$8,032.05 for KATE's publications were steady. Expenses for last year's conference were \$16,199.63. Additional conference expenses included \$839.99 for books and \$1729.82 for conference attendance. After

miscellaneous expenses, the balance was \$426.14. Paula reported that KATE is financially sound, but our overall balance is dwindling. She advised that we may need to reconsider our dues, as they are not covering the cost of our publications. Paula passed around thank-you notes from 4H members. She reminded board members to submit expense forms for expenses. Paula moved we accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and carried.

Old business

Andy Anderson reported on the proposal to change the Teacher of the Year award to the Outstanding Teaching Practices award. The form the committee proposed will ask for teachers to submit applications for the best teaching practice. Four \$200 awards would be given: elementary, middle school, high school, and college. The new application process is focused on the teaching practice rather than on the teacher. Applications would be due by May 1 and winners would be chosen at the June Board meeting. Criteria for judging would include completeness, clarity, thoughtful analysis, and correctness. So that applications could be blind reviewed, the applicant would be asked eliminate all references to specific teachers, schools, or school districts. Applications would include a description of the unit and a specific lesson, a reflection assessing strengths and weaknesses of the unit, a discussion of how the unit reflects teaching philosophy and style, an explanation of the merits of the practice, and student handouts used.

It was agreed that applicants would need to be KATE members and winners would be asked to present the practice in a workshop at the conference. There was discussion of how the application form might be improved; what the word count for each section of the application should be; how applicants would acknowledge origin of the idea; and a disclaimer to the effect that awards would only be given for meritorious applications. Clark Killion moved that we adopt the Outstanding Teaching Practices Award with revisions recommended by the board, and with the condition that we will review the process at the end of the first year and revise as necessary. The motion was seconded and carried.

Joy asked if anyone was interested in assuming the position of Treasurer since Paula Ripple has asked to be relieved. Paula explained that the bookkeeping is a simple ledger system that is easy to manage. Since no one on the board was interested in taking the position, Joy suggested we consider other KATE members. Making the position of Conference Treasurer a permanent Board position will be an agenda item for the February meeting.

Jean Dimmit reported that sixty-two members have paid dues and sixteen more paid at registration. Jean will reconcile her membership list with Kay Flook's conference list to firm the number of members for this year. Jean explained that it is difficult for her to continue as Membership Chair because the limitations of her home computer make it impossible for her to work at home. Joy said that Karen Ford is willing to assume the office of Membership Chair.

Clark Killion asked for clarification of Moxley Publications' role in keeping membership data. Joy said that the Moxleys would attend the February meeting. John Franklin reported that some members were not receiving their issues of *Kansas English*. The Moxleys had suggested that the memberships be mailed directly to them to avoid confusion. Paula pointed out that part of the problem is that we have changed membership chairs yearly in the past. Karen pointed out that the Board is unaware of all the complexities of keeping the membership database and printing the publications address labels. Andy pointed out that in addition to maintaining the database, the Moxleys help with the publication of *KATE UpDate*.

Paula Ripple moved that the Board retain a Membership Chair and that KATE continue to receive all dues checks. The motion was seconded and carried. Joy suggested we invite someone from NCTE to our meeting to help us find a remedy for our membership problems. Clark suggested we check with other state level organizations for suggestions. Andy said that the professionalism the Moxleys bring to our newsletter is worth the price we pay them. We need to smooth out the process by which we communicate information to them. Paula said that the consistency the Moxleys provide is valuable. Jean pointed out that we are volunteers and it is important to have a professional to perform some of the duties. A committee of Leota Coats, Annie Heidersbach, Paula Ripple, Clark Killion, Matt Copeland, and Karen Stous will suggest possible remedies at the February meeting.

New Business

Joy reported that Marilyn Brewster has resigned as Slate coordinator and that position needs to be filled. A few people have expressed an interest. Joy asked that anyone who is interested see her at the end of the meeting.

The date for the February meeting is February 8, 2003, at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene. The alternate date will be February 22. The members from Topeka, Meridan, and Holton will host the continental breakfast. Joy has the hospitality box.

Joy complimented Karen Stous on the success of the Conference. Joy expressed everyone's enthusiasm for the Student Recognition ceremony.

Reports

Clark Killion reported that he had participants in the Idea Change put their handouts on the table, sit down, and discuss their ideas. He said the discussion was lively and the participants seemed happy. Annie asked if we could give the Idea Exchange a time that did not conflict with concurrent sessions. Clark suggested that we publicize the format and use a room that would be available for two back-to-back sessions so that more people could participate.

Judy Goodpasture will be chairing the Nomination Committee. She wants to have nominations complete and closed by the February meeting, so ballots can be inserted in

the March *KATE UpDate*. Committee members will be Judy Goodpasture, Joy Bunch, Barbara Livengood, and Carlene Stueve.

Joy announced that Bonnie Newcomer needs copy for *KATE UpDate* by November 15.

John Franklin reported that *Kansas English* had to go to a second printing of the last issue. John is considering Michelle Eodice of KU as guest editor of a special issue of *Kansas English* to be published in the fall of 2003. The issue would include articles on peer tutoring. Michelle would solicit papers from her conference and issue a national call for papers. Andy pointed out that we need to design the cover or spine to identify the issue as a special issue.

Leota Coats and Lynne Hewes have agreed to be editors of *Young Kansas Writers*. Leota reported that the deadline will be moved to March 1. They want to use a different format and will request that teachers submit their students' work on disk, although they will accept hard copy. Submissions should be Microsoft Word, either on CD or floppy disk.

Mary Heller reported that she had received many submissions for *Younger Kansas Writers*. Members commented that they liked the cover with children's artwork. Mary will continue to accept submissions in hard copy.

NCTE liaison Andy Anderson reported that Prentice Hall is underwriting Chris Goering's attendance at NCTE.

Gerrit Bleeker reported that KATE had twenty-eight submissions from juniors for this year's NCTE 2002 Achievement Awards in Writing. Eight winners were selected: Tom Cohlma, The Independent School of Wichita; Chad Zinn, Holton High School; Rosalind Moussa, Taylor Price, and Ruth Supica, Blue Valley North High School; Dan Stahl, Lawrence Free State High School; Hilary Junk and Christina Maki, Olathe North High School. Gerrit thanked judges Andy Anderson, Janet Cook, Pat Fellers, Sue McKinney, Melissa Dunn, and Judy Goodpasture. Gerrit had received complements on the Student Recognition Ceremony at the KATE Conference. KATE paid for the students' lunches and awarded them certificates.

Barbara Bleeker had not yet received the forms for the 2003 Promising Young Writers, so forms were not included in the conference packets, which she feared may reduce the number of submissions. The deadline for submissions is December.

Annie Heidersbach reported that NCTE had not received KATE's submissions for NCTE Excellence in Literary Magazines. Annie is investigating and will update the board at the February meeting.

Anne Phillips reported that the selection committee for the William Allen White Award met in September. She felt the list of 122 books was good. The 50th anniversary celebration for the award is in October. Anne's term has expired and she had received no applications to replace her. John Franklin nominated Shannon Nickell. The nomination was seconded and carried.

Clark Killion reported that the theme for next year's conference will be "With a Little Help from Our Friends: Language Across the Curriculum." He asked that we give proposal form to anyone who might be interested in presenting, including those interested in writing in other disciplines.

Installation of Officers

Joy thanked out-going board members Shanna Dinkel, Kay Flook, Todd Goodson, and Diane McReynolds for their service to KATE. Board members not present whose terms expired were Mindy Applegate, Pamela Baughman, Scott Feaster, Stephen Kucharik, Mary Pat McQueeney, and Leslie Noyes.

Joy installed new board members Lisa Broxterman, Leota Coats, Matt Copeland, Marti Mihalyi, Lisa Plamann, Shannon Nickell, Cathy Sheridan, and Carlene Stueve. New board members not present were Mary Blomquist, Cheryl Duffy, and Nancy Piatt.

The following officers were installed: Karen Stous, president; Clark Killion, first vice president; Ruthann Harris, second vice president; Dana Waters, secretary; Paula Ripple, treasurer; Andy Anderson, NCTE liaison; John Franklin, Mary Heller, and Leota Coats, KATE publication editors.

Clark Killion presented outgoing president Joy Bunch with thanks for an outstanding job and a gift of appreciation from the KATE board.

Adjournment

Joy Bunch adjourned the meeting at 8:35.

Dana Waters, secretary