

KATE Board Meeting
Abilene, KS
12 February 2005

**Information in BOLD within the text
refers to deadlines and responsibilities.**

Attendance:

Donna Burke, Diana Costello, Jane Wagner, Elaine Gruenbacher, Todd Goodson, Marti Mihalyi, Clark Coker, Deb Kohn, Carlene Stueve, Karen Ford, Susie Micka, Karen Stous, Ruthann Harris, Clark Killion, Andy Anderson, Chris Goering, Dave Smit, Linda Jones, Annie Heidersbach, Barbara Livingood, Tara Aswell

I. Call to Order

- 9:30am by Ruthann

II. Approval of Agenda and Additions to the Agenda

- Annie Heidersbach is acting Recording Secretary in Dana's absence.
- No additions to the agenda.

III. Approval of Minutes from 21 October 2004 Meeting

- Clark moved to approve the minutes and Dave Smit seconded.
- Minutes were approved by Board.

IV. Announcements and Correspondence

1. Explanation of Absences by Ruthann:
 - Calene at a wedding
 - Gerri at a family event
 - Marilyn Brewer family issues
 - Jeff Roper at a Writing Project
2. Clark Killion mentioned that Millie Davis sent an email requesting Board members to write the Governor protesting latest developments in education. **Clark will pass on the contact information to the Board via email.**
3. 4-H Club sent thank you letters again. Those were passed around. Ruthann brought up that Dana was wondering how long we should keep those letters on file. Andy mentioned that the "official" KATE archives are apparently in his office. Annie recommended saving one letter from each year, and Andy suggested it could be the thank you letter from the winner. **Ruthann suggested Dana could bring those invitations to the next meeting and turn them over.**

V. Reports:

1. **Treasurer- Clark Coker.**
 - Passed around the reports from the Conference, general KATE account and history of Conference budgets from years past.
 - We reduced the cost of the Thursday reception (cash bar) and the speakers, so that even though enrollment was a bit down we came out "pretty well." We made a profit this year so far.
 - Clark asked for approval for checks above \$200, including the \$500 4-H check. Andy moved we authorize Clark to pay the 4-H. Clark K. seconded. It passed.
 - Andy pointed out that in the Constitution we need to approve other expenses in the June meeting.
 - Andy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Jane Wagner seconded. It passed.

2. Marketing- Dave Smit.

- He asked for examples of old newsletters and copies of *Kansas English*. Andy said we have the old ones that were small before we changed the format. Dave suggested we try to find more recent examples than that. Andy suggested that John Franklin would have some, but all communication with Franklin has ceased.
- Dave said that all the people he talked to seemed “excited that there was an organization like this even though they didn’t know about it.”!
- Dave said that the brochure will be in the hands of all graduating teachers in the state of Kansas this spring.
- Ruthann thanked Andy for updated the website and suggested that we all become familiar with it. Susie M. contributed more kudos to Andy. The official web site address is a bit “odd” Andy said, but Annie mentioned she has Googled it in many ways, and it always comes up.

3. Membership- Karen Ford.

- She mentioned she hasn’t received any communication from the Moxleys. Karen is the one who sent out the membership cards to paid members, not the Moxleys.
- A discussion ensued about just what the Moxleys are used for and if they are needed. Andy mentioned that NCTE has developed a membership tracking system that he could look into. **By the next meeting, he said, he could have more information about the system.** Andy suggested that fairly soon we should be able to take care of our own membership and could eliminate the Moxleys’ position.
- Elaine asked how many members we have. Andy said around 200. Discussion ensued about whether the Moxleys get a bulk rate in the mailing. Dave Smit thinks that after 200 at the post office, bulk rate is automatic.
- Dave Smit moved that we appoint a committee to explore the possibility of doing our own membership lists and layouts for *Kate Update* with the long-term goal of not needing an outside printing agency. Diana C. seconded. In discussion that followed, Clark K. asked what exactly they’ve done in the past 18 months. Elaine said that she can put an 8 page newsletter together in a few hours and that labeling and putting it together was “small beans”. Therefore, the issue is the mailing and printing services.
- Clark C. gave us the recent bill for the Moxleys. They charge \$25/hour for their time. Andy reminded us that we used them in the past for a common address, but that with a Membership Chair that isn’t an issue any more. Motion carried.
- Ruthann asked if we have a non-profit number. No. **Therefore, the committee will explore this as one of its goals. Volunteers asked for. Elaine, Karen F., Annie, Diana, Karen Stous will be on the committee.**

4. Update- Elaine G.

- Elaine’s suggestions from Andy for the upcoming issue: 2005 info and proposal (Annie), 2005 dues info (Karen Ford), pictures from the Conferences (Annie) Idea Exchanges (Ruthann) , NCTE write up (Matt C., Chris G., Annie).
- **Elaine requested info for the Update by March 1st.** Andy suggested we have specific deadlines and publishing dates for the *Update*. Annie

suggested that the summer mailing with the Conference registration form go to the home address of members, if the member has provided it.

- Discussion about revamping the membership form to ask for a home address for the summer mailing followed. Ruthann suggested months instead of seasons for publication dates for *Update*.

☺ **August 1st issue w/ conference registration called a “Conference Update”.**

☺ **December 1st issue with Teaching Practices winner highlighted and a call for entries for all publications (Young(er) Kansas Writers as well as Kansas English).**

☺ **March 1st issue w/ nominating ballot for the Board.**

☺ **May 1st issue is a Conference teaser. That makes 4 Updates per year as NCTE states we need.**

5. **Young(er) Kansas Writers- Barbara L., Carlene S., Linda J.**

- We didn't have a newsletter come out promoting the issues and therefore we have nearly no entries. Discussion followed. Barbara asked whether or not we should send out a postcard mailing of some type. Todd Goodson brought up that he has heard of many teachers unhappy with the CD version of the Young(er) Kansas Writer. It was suggested that we have both the CD and then post it on the web. Matt Copeland brought up the fact that students can publish on the web at any time and it doesn't have any *competition*.
- **It was suggested that they go with what they have and to move the deadline to March 15th. Susie will send the email back out and Andy will update the web site to reflect the new deadline.**

6. **William Allen White Award- Shannon Nickell.** Ruthann has not received any information from Shannon.

7. **Kansas English editor search. Andy.**

- Kami Day and Michelle Eodice have volunteered “excitedly”. They haven't had a chance to look at any kind of community support yet. Michelle has written for *Kansas English* before. Andy gave them approval to change the cover and really put their own mark on it.
- **We suggested we put a request for submissions in the March 1st Update.**
- Clark Coker brought up that EBSCO gives us \$50 for a copy of *Kansas English*.
- Andy moved we appoint Kami Day and Michelle Eodice as editors of *Kansas English* and Clark Coker seconded. Discussion. Karen Stous asked if we could add them to the Board Nominating Ballot. Andy asked to hold off until later when he wanted to talk about other things.
- **It was agreed upon that September 1st would be the first issue for them and that they would try then to get back to a Spring (April 1st) publication in 2006 and on.**
- Ruthann asked about a stipend paid to editors of publications. **We will go back to previous minutes and find that out and cut those checks.** Andy told us that in June 2004, 285 copies of *Kansas English* was billed \$1,823 total (\$218 to print the cover, pages \$1028, paper was \$35, binding \$313 and mailing was \$218).

(Break was taken at 11:17. and we reconvened at 11:30)

8. NCTE Liason (Andy cont.)

- **Karen Stous is going to be *Excellence in Literary Magazines* coordinator for the State of Kansas.**
- Andy brought up the sister organization in Romania. Andy wrote the teachers giving a plethora of ideas for exchange of ideas. She corresponded back with agreement and that she would talk to her Board about the ideas. **He encouraged the Board to come up with more ideas and suggestions and to let him know. He suggested that at next year's Conference we might put out a sign-up for teachers interested in this program.**
- Andy asked for an updated and current form of the scholarship that \$1 of our dues pays for. This scholarship is for teachers needing funds for various things. Examples were sending teachers to conferences, etc. There is currently \$960 in this "pot." Andy asked whether we wanted to scrap it or revamp it. Annie suggested that we not only *not* scrap it but highlight it more. **She volunteered to come up with a form similar to the College Now one for Shawnee Mission. Andy said he would look for the original application as well. They will report back on this in June.**
- 2005 Conference dates are set at October 20, 21st. The 2006 Conference is October 19th and 20th. He has reserved for 2007 October 11 and 12. Andy suggested that we project many years in advance and "reserve" the Marriott. Barbara L. wondered if we could move it to a Friday/Saturday. Discussion followed it. Deb Kohn suggested maybe moving it to the summer.
- **Annie mentioned that there would be an extensive comment/suggestion sheet at the Conference in 2005 on which we ask them their opinion on this. Additionally, she suggested that we put it in the Update and on the web site so that members who can't come in October could respond.**
- Karen Stous moved that Andy set up the dates for the next 10 years. Clark Killion seconded. It passed.
- **Karen Stous, Karen Ford and Susan M. volunteered to set up a summer day or _ day workshop.** Clark K. said that NCTE might have funds to add to this.
- Next, it was suggested that we have a Western KS day as well. Karen Stous recommended that it could travel each year. Clark Coker asked how we would fund it. Karen suggested having the fees determine the registration.
- Matt Copeland suggested getting back to the Speaker's Bureau idea from last year. That a group of us are available for presenting around as a "teaser" for the Convention. The idea is to get out there and recruit and give and get ideas from classroom English teachers.

9. SLATE- Matt Copeland.

- Matt brought more copies of the SLATE resource cd and suggested **Dave Smit include it in his mailings to universities.**
- He passed out a web site page by "Citizens for Literary Standards in Schools" from a 500 person parent group in Blue Valley. Matt stressed that this is really an example of de-professionalizing teachers. His advice for schools and teachers, is that **when we adopting a novel, we provide**

**written rationale for any material that might be challenged.
Document!**

- Congrats to Matt for being on the ballot to be on the NCTE SLATE Nominating Committee!

10. KSDE- no one represented

11. **NOMINATING BOARD – Karen Ford.**

- She does not have a ballot to put in the *Update* because she has not received the hot pink forms from the conference yet. We do not know where they are.
- Only 3 teachers checked “yes” as interested in being on the Board. She only has one nomination plus the 3 teachers and the new editors of *KE* which equals only 6 people to fill the 10 spots available. Crisis! Dave mentioned that he used to call person to person to ask for volunteers to be Board members.
- Ruthann brought up that some of the names on the list are wrong and some are missing. Teralyn Kohn and Deb Kohn are not on our list but are here at the meeting and on the Board. Discussion about numbers followed.
- It was agreed on that we need someone responsible for maintaining who’s on and off. (It is Andy for now) and we are all wondering whether the Board should be a standard number or Exec Board separate or together.
- Andy moved that we pay for the lunch today. Karen Stous seconded. It was approved.

We adjourned for lunch. 1-2pm

- Dave Smit moved that the President appoints **a committee to come up with a proposal for the composition of the Board (including whether officers should be part of the Board and the total number of Board members)**. Voted on and approved.
- **Andy Anderson, Marti M., Todd Goodson and Chris Goering will be on this committee.**
- We went over the Board list and determined that **Board members would contact Mary Blomquist, Cheryl Duffy, Shannon Nickell, Nancy Platt, Lisa Plamann, and Nancy Sturn.** These are members that no one knows if they are on the Board or not.
- Tara Kohn was off the Board this year even though she is in attendance today. She will be added to the ballot for next year. Deb Kohn who was not on the list was added to it.
- Mindy Applegate (absent) was wondering if because she would be gone for two meetings, should she still be on it. Marilyn Brewer said the same thing. **Both will be informed that we would like to have them remain Board members unless they would like to resign.**
- Karen asked if Karen Ford stays on as a continuous position (2 year, renewed) for Membership Chair. President will renew 2 year term members in October.
- **The October meeting will be a “crossover” meeting, where retiring members will be recognized and new members will be installed.**

11. **CONFERENCE CHAIR- Annie.**

- Annie spoke about 2005’s Conference “Teaching Outside the Box”; she is attempting to get Roger VonOech to speak (“A Whack on the Side of the Head”) and is contacting LB Wacker (the McDougal Little rep) for help getting speakers. **She asked for a Conference Committee. The committee is: Matt Copeland, Todd Goodson, Elaine, Jane Wagner, Ginny, Ruthann, Deb, Chris G. and Donna.**

- Matt's 2006 Conference theme is "Courage to Teach". He has contacted Governor Sebelies, but no commitment yet. He is encouraging more classroom teacher interaction as speakers.

V. **OLD BUSINESS:** We've covered most of it.

1. Clark Killion bought "Will in the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare" by Greenblatt with part of his KATE gift and highly recommends it.
2. Discussion about Eisenhower Library still being used. They want to charge \$7 a head. That led to the idea to attach the summer workshop to the summer Board meeting.
3. Annie moved that, upon availability of Washburn Rural, **the KATE Summer Workshop be held on Friday, June 24th and the summer Board meeting on Saturday, June 25th.** Clark K. seconded. It passed.
4. **We will put in the KATE *Update* information regarding this.** If the workshop cannot be on the 24th, then the Board meeting will still be on June 25th, but in Abilene instead of Topeka. **Ruthann will reserve Eisenhower for the 25th.**
5. **Elaine and committee will decide how to print and mail the next *Update* using their discretion. Elaine's committee will decide postage, membership list and the publisher.**
6. **Andy would like to bring up at the next meeting how we could encourage "Promising Young Writers," whose submissions are way down.**
7. Jane Wagner moved that we adjourn the meeting at 2:50, Donna seconded. Meeting adjourned.