

# K • A • T • E

## *Kansas Association of Teachers of English*

KATE Executive Board Meeting Minutes

13 June 2009

Eisenhower Library, Abilene, KS

### **Members present**

Tara Baker, Ginny Beesley, Matt Bova, Joy Bunch, Clark Coker, Sara Driesbach, Deborah Holloway, Kaleen Knopp, Steve Maack, Phillip Marzluf, Mimi Rainen, Paula Ripple, John Ritchie, Dana Waters, Terri Zimmer.

Members calling regrets: Judy Beemer, Janea Brady, Vicki Cooper, Diana Costello, Lori Goodson, Annie Heidersbach, Elaine Klincik, Suzi Ortel, Vicki Sherbet,

### **Call to order**

President Ginny Beesley called the meeting to order at 9:30. Members introduced themselves and reported what was interesting in the last six months. Ginny asked members to sign in, pick up handouts, and make lunch selections.

### **Approval of agenda**

Paula Ripple moved the agenda be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

### **Approval of minutes**

Minutes of the February 7 meeting were corrected as follows: Ginny Beesley attended the Milwaukee conference, not Elaine Klincik; NCTE National Day on Writing is October 20. Paula Ripple moved to approve the corrected minutes of the February 7, 2009, meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Reports**

**Treasurer:** Clark Coker passed on to Paula Ripple thank-you notes from the 4H kids to display at the conference. KATE ended the year with a balance of \$27,950.78, with editors' salaries to be deducted. Clark reported an adjusting entry of plus \$631 for a total income of \$23,315.12, ending the year with a loss of about \$700. Clark asked the board's permission to close out the scholarship checking account and merge the funds back into the regular checking account. Paula noted that \$1 of each \$25 of our membership dues goes to the scholarship fund for KATE members, and we would need to note that amount. The board decided to retain the separate scholarship account. Phil

Marzluf will research the policies of the scholarship fund so board members can be informed. Joy Bunch moved to approve the treasurer's report. Motion seconded and passed.

**Marketing:** No report. Ginny stated that Jane Wagner will bring the next marketing report at the conference.

**KATE Update:** Elaine Klincik sent word that *KATE Update* will be published by June 30. Kaleen Knopp asked that the conference information be published in the June 30 issue. Paula Ripple suggested that we emphasize Billy Collins will be at the conference with information about him and his poetry. She suggested members use any list-serves they are on to publicize the conference speakers; Sara Dreisbach suggested publishing flyers or power-points about Billy Collins to tutoring centers at colleges. Members thought it would be most helpful to receive the conference registration form in the June 30 issue followed by more conference information in the August issue at the beginning of the fall school term. Clark Coker reported that the cost of publishing *Update* is \$130 for printing and \$50 for mailing. Joy Bunch reminded us that the KATE Board election ballot should have come out in the spring issue. Ginny will contact Andy Anderson about publishing an on-line ballot. She reported that editing *Update* has become a scheduling problem for Elaine and she would welcome relinquishing her position to a new editor. Ginny asked that we revisit this in October with suggestions for a new editor. Steve Maack suggested we change to electronic publishing of *Update*: heading, link, text. The text could include attachments. Joy suggested we publish at least one issue in hard-copy. Steve felt it unlikely we would find an editor who would do both electronic and hard copy. Kaleen asked this discussion be put on the agenda for the October meeting. It was concluded that *KATE Update* be published June 30 and August 15.

**Kansas English:** Matt Bova reported the *Kansas English* deadline was pushed back to May 1; the editors have ten to twelve solid submissions, but he was disappointed that no poetry was submitted. Steve Maack suggested a May 15 deadline would better accommodate secondary teachers' work schedules. Ginny noted that the deadline for the next issue is September 15 and needs to be changed on the KATE website if the editors decide to push it back. No progress has been made toward a peer review system. Kaleen Knopp advised that NCTE could help with suggestions for setting up a peer review board. Phil Marzluf pointed out that peer review can add months to the process of publishing. He suggested *Kansas English* consider an editorial board instead. The National Writing Project could serve as a resource. Matt will pass on the discussion to the rest of the *Kansas English* editors.

**Young Kansas Writers:** No report. The *Young Kansas Writers* editors will report in October. Robyn Seglum will be resigning from the board as she is moving away from Kansas.

**William Allen White award:** Diana Costello sent a report that she is on track with reading for the award and will provide KATE's vote in September. She will report in October on the results.

**SLATE:** Steve Maack reported that the Blue Valley district is experiencing censorship problems. Steve passed around the NCTE flyer on the National Day on Writing. NCTE asked that KATE members contact their congressional representatives to solicit their support for the National Day on Writing resolution. Steve will forward NCTE's e-mail with information for contacting representatives.

**NCTE Liaison:** Andy Anderson called in a report. He requested members contact him with nominees for Outstanding Teacher of English and NCTE Leadership Award.

**NCTE Achievement Awards:** John Ritchie reported that he had received thirty-two submissions for the NCTE Achievement Awards (more than double from two years ago) from thirteen or fourteen schools. John used six judges; next year he will solicit eight. The Writing Project groups have helped provide judges. KATE winners will be decided by the end of July and winning entries will be sent to NCTE in August. Award winners will not be announced until after NCTE's announcement. John will ask Laura Kelly to help recognize students state wide. Kaleen Knopp will set up a conference session with Billy Collins for the winners. She suggested including the winners of Promising Young Writers. Since the Flint Hills Writing Project group will be presenting Friday's keynote reading, she will ask them to participate in a panel on writing for the winners.

**NCTE Literary Magazines:** No report

**Conference 2009:** Kaleen Knopp, conference chair, reported that the theme of the October 22 & 23 conference is "The Global Classroom: Language Arts and the Millennial Student." In February she sent e-mails confirming volunteers for conference assignments and she passed a signup sheet for other volunteers. Vicki Cooper created the logo for the conference, which Kaleen showed. She currently has twelve breakout sessions, and she passed out breakout proposal forms. Kaleen and Elizabeth Dodd of K-State had found eighteen matching fund donors, along with a contribution from the K-State Provost, to bring Billy Collins to K-State and the KATE conference. Kaleen had offered Collins \$10,000 to do the two presentations: a poetry reading lecture at the forum hall in Manhattan Wednesday evening and the KATE conference in Wichita Thursday. Kaleen is concerned that budget restrictions for middle and secondary teachers will decrease conference registration this year. Mimi Rainen advised that involving students would gain budget support from districts. Members discussed the problems and advantages of selling tickets for "speaker only" admission to hear Billy Collins at the Thursday luncheon, how this might be handled, and what the costs should be. Kaleen will ask the Marriott to facilitate accommodating the extra crowd. The board discussed the pros and cons of including Thursday lunch in the conference fee; all conference attendees would then have a lunch seat for Billy Collins' presentation. "Speaker only" tickets would be sold separately. Paula Ripple moved that we charge \$25 for the Billy Collins Thursday luncheon for conference attendees, members and non members; \$20 for "speaker only" adults and \$10 for "speaker only" students to hear Billy Collins. The motion was seconded. Kaleen reminded us that KATE's contribution to Billy Collins' fee is only \$3000. The motion passed. Clark Coker reminded us the because of fire codes we would need to know in advance the room capacity for ticket sales. Clark would need tickets by August to mail out to registrants. Steve said we need to note that seating is limited and those who do not buy tickets in advance are not guaranteed a seat. For the Thursday keynote address, Kaleen proposed inviting Kim Barbarieri of the Eisenhower Center to give a presentation on projects for students with primary research at presidential libraries. Joy suggested we include a break-out session on Professional Learning Communities or Adequate Yearly Progress to interest administrators in allowing teachers to attend the conference. Kaleen asked that those ideas be e-mailed to her so she could work on wording for selling the conference to administrators. Joy asked for members to e-mail her any contacts for publishers' tables.

**Board nominations:** No report.

**Old Business**

There was no report on membership options for Elementary School teachers.

**New business**

There was no new business.

**Adjournment**

Paula Ripple moved the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:20

Dana Waters, secretary