Minutes of Meeting of the NHSPA Board of Directors – October 28th, 2016

Present were Board Members:

David Stevens, Scribner-Snyder

Beth Kavan, Grand Island Northwest

Janelle Shultz, Gering

Kristen Harris, McCook

Angie Wolfe, Burke

Michelle Hassler, UNL

Aaron Dahl, Filmore Central

Non-board Members:

Diane Schiefer, Elkhorn

1. The meeting was called to order. It is determined that a quorum was present.
2. Election of Officers – It was voted on, seconded, and voted unanimously that the following offices would be elected:
   1. Terry Pitkin, president
   2. Mark Hilburn, vice president
   3. Angie Wolfe, secretary
3. Officer clarifications – a rotation of officers was suggested as follows:
   1. VP would be a first year board member
   2. President would be a second year board member who was former VP
   3. This would allow us to always have a potential president, current president, and past president to allow for a smooth transition of power.
4. Appointed positions – Treasurer, Communications Director, and Camp Director are appointed positions.
   1. Janelle Shultz will continue as treasurer with Beth Kavan working as treasurer-in-training
   2. Diane Schiefer was voted Camp Director at previous meeting
   3. Communications Director is unclear until we check with Steph Lanik to gage interest in position. Tabled until December meeting when we can have an update on Steph’s status.
5. Next meeting dates – It was decided that we would meet every other month in October, December, February, April, and two in the summer.
   1. Meetings will be moved around the state to allow for different schools to host.
   2. Meetings on: December 10th at 9:30am in Lincoln, February 18th at 9:30am in Lincoln, April 1 at noon in Grand Island, June 10th in Scottsbluff TBD
6. NSAA meeting and proposals –
   1. Proposal to return to three classifications – proposal ready for November AD meeting, but there is concern about getting more schools declared to compete. Plan to organize and contact schools about proposal at December meeting.
   2. NSAA meeting – meeting was positive. NSAA is open to NHSPA’s input in future endeavors. We discussed needing to organize our membership to proctor and volunteer at state competition.
   3. RFPs – In February or April meeting, we need to put together a presentation for the NSAA board.
7. Executive Director Report
   1. Convention updates – overcrowding in ballroom was an issues, next year planning on finding overflow room and stream video, some wanted longer sessions but presenters and board liked the 4 session format, people leaving after lunch (skipping or going home early?), electronic evaluations were successful, prizes for evaluations (decided at random): 1 - $50 Amazon gift card to school, 2 - $25 Amazon gift cards to students
   2. 80th anniversary – looking for ideas on how to promote this. Ideas: 80s theme, sweatshirts or t-shirts
   3. UNL College of Journalism will be sending out a survey about how the University can help high schools. Update at December meeting about survey
   4. New Voices Legislation – Michelle will check with Mike Kennedy and report back in December
8. Treasurer’s Report –
   1. Current Balance - $33,498.88
   2. Decided at last meeting to raise dues to $45
   3. Motion, second, and unanimous vote to approve budget
9. Camp Report –
   1. Budget report at December meeting
   2. Looking into bringing Mike Taylor from Walsworth for camp
   3. Need to get the word out on how students pay for camp
   4. Clarified that Camp is a business, it needs to be evaluated every year and no presenter or counselor is guaranteed a return from year to year.
10. JEA Report – attached on Page 3
11. Other Business –
    1. Board should put together an informational video about how to submit state entries.
    2. How can we reach out to new adviser and let them know what services we provide? Tabled until December meeting. Board members should bring back names or schools they will reach out to for building contacts.
    3. Broadcasting NSAA proposal – Do we support this as a board? Should it be part of the state competition? Can we do it as a separate category? What will it cost?
    4. Membership updates – Secretary will organize membership responsibilities and verify current and past members. Create a process to reach out to members and collect dues.
12. Meeting was adjourned

JEA Report for NHSPA Meetings

Oct. 28, 2016

JEA membership and renewal is often a popular option at NHSPA fall registration time. Thank you to Treasurer Janelle Schultz for taking care of that money transfer and paperwork. This fall there were 26 advisers who registered with NHSPA.  JEA will give a ‘kick back’ to NHSPA for those memberships.  (Janelle can provide that total).

The JEA Nebraska Winter contest deadline is Dec. 10.  Marsha will send out an email by Nov. 1 with a link, although the link is live right now at: <http://omahamarian.org/nhspa>

She secures JEA-connected judges or advisers who did not enter the contest.  There is no school prize, just individuals recognized as Honorable Mention, Excellent and Superior.  The contest does include a literary magazine division and a few broadcast categories.

JEA works with NHSPA to organize the Journalist of the Year competition.  The deadline is Feb. 15 to Marsha as an online portfolio.  More details are sent out at the end of December with links to the national criteria.  We’ve used UNL judges in the past, but we may secure some Creighton J-school judges this year as well.  Only one entry per school will be allowed. NHSPA grants a $500 scholarship to the state winner and a $200 scholarship to the runner up.  These items are in the budget.

NHSPA also works with JEA in the national mentoring program.  We have committed to a 2-year ($2000) involvement for the 2015-2017 years.  Bob Bair is serving in the Mentor Role.  Last year, he mentored Dayle Trout Wisnieski (YB) and David Stevens (NP) from Scribner-Snyder and Samantha Koll from David City.  He is adding the Hastings High new advisers (Belle Williams YB and Elizabeth Sorgenfrei NP) are looking to join the program.  The Board should discuss the value of this financial commitment moving forward.  Rod Howe has offered to join the program as a mentor but Marsha has said that there is not funding for him at this time.  Many veteran advisers are happy to mentor on their own time and for no financial compensation.

Upcoming national convention dates:  Indianapolis (Nov 2016),  Seattle (April 2017), Dallas (Nov 2017), San Francisco (April 2018), Chicago (Nov 2018), Anaheim (April 2019), Washington D.C. (Nov 2019). Marsha is taking a bus to Indianapolis with Mount Michael and Millard West.