

NHIDA June 25, 2016 Annual Planning Session Minutes

Attending: Audrey Burke, Sandy Roberts, Kara Garvey-Knapp, Bette Nelson, Leslie Benton-Norris, Anne Ehret, Audrey Burke, Michelle Stinson, Anne Eaton, and Advisory Council members Beth McClure and Caryl Patten.

Absent: Michael Patten, Rebecca Nelson-Avery, Sue Morbey, Valerie Leuchter, Jayne Beaton, and Shannon Dixon-Yandow.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM.

Secretary's Report: Awaiting April and May meeting minutes for review and approval.

Treasurer's Report: In the treasurer's absence, Eaton presented an update of the branch's finances. Income during the period January 1 – May 31, 2016 totaled \$18,354.28. This sum reflects registration fees for the 2016 conference and the July O-G training, March membership dues, and a donation of \$100. Expenses for the same period totaled \$3,6349.46 and represent monthly operating costs, bookkeeping fees, and conference brochure printing and mailing costs. The branch's major expenses, which are conference related, will be paid from this income after the conference in September. Motion made by Burke to accept the report; seconded by Nelson; all in favor.

Membership Committee: Branch membership currently stands at 178 (100 NH, 44 Maine, 31 VT, and 2 individuals from other states). Discussed sending out an email to nonmembers on our mailing list encouraging them to become members. Eaton will draft an email for review and input.

Nominating Committee: There is currently a vacancy on the board that will expire in December 2017. Branch president can appoint someone to fill the position in the interim. Names of potential candidates were discussed. Eaton and Garvey-Knapp will approach two of the individuals suggested to ascertain their interest. A desire to add representatives from Maine was also discussed, along with the logistical difficulties of meeting attendance for board members who live at a distance. Skype with multiple users has not been effective due to technology/connection problems. The board decided to explore the feasibility installing a phone line in the meeting space that the board utilizes at Strong Foundations School, along with purchasing a suitable speaker phone. This would permit members at a distance to participate in board meetings via conference calling with better quality audio. McClure will contact the school's telecommunications service to explore this further.

O-G training: McClure will conduct an Associate Level O-G training in July and has generously donated to NHIDA \$1,000 of the \$1,250 registration fee for each of 4 registrants. A fifth person who had registered recently cancelled.

National Conference: 2018 conference will be at Foxwoods in Connecticut. Eaton will check with IDA Regional Representative about need/opportunity for branch members to assist at this event.

Conference Committee:

- 2017 conference. Nelson confirmed that if we decide to go forward with the topic of Executive Function, speaker Christopher Kaufman is available for either September 22

or 29, 2017. Benton-Norris also Isabel Beck, but no reply has been received. Beck's topic would relate to vocabulary. We will confirm with Kaufman no later than July 6th; Nelson will contact his office to relay that information.

- Sep. 23, 2016 NHIDA conference.
 - The conference sold out on 6/1/16 when the speaker's cap of 120 was reached. Most registrants have submitted payment by credit card or check, but \$5,125 has yet to be collected. At this time we have a wait list of 40 or so people. Aggressive follow up in late August will be necessary to assure that we fill any spots that open up.
 - Some unknowns remain regarding conference expenses, but preliminary figures suggest that we will come in close to the targeted budget of about \$12,700. Benton-Norris is waiting for a reply from Ron about books. His contract needs to go out shortly. Discussion about providing him with an additional honorarium in light of the high cost that he absorbs in preparing his very generous handouts/materials.
 - Gift basket drawings: Gold-Dominguez is working with a \$75 budget to put together a basket of classroom supplies for an IDA members-only drawing. Benton-Norris will work with a similar budget to assemble a wine and chocolate basket for a drawing for all conference attendees.

Fundraising:

- **Wilson training:** Wilson Language confirmed that registration numbers are up some with 71 registered as of 6/23. NHIDA sent out another advertising email recently. The following NHIDA members will help staff the Wilson workshops: Patten, WRS overview 3 day workshop; Golda-Dominguez, Foundations K, 1, and 2 workshops; and Garvey-Knapp, Just Words 2 day workshop. Thanks to those individuals for donating their time so the branch can take advantage of this fundraising opportunity.
- **Team Quest initiative.** Stinson reported that she will register for one of the fall Team Quest marathon events and asked the board members to support her fund raising effort. Eaton will plan to review Team Quest promotion information that IDA has made available to learn how we can get other runners involved as well. Many thanks to Stinson for giving NHIDA this much needed boost to become involved in Team Quest.

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- Secretary of State filing is due in years ending in '5' or '0'.
- First financial filing with AG's office due by May 15, 2017 – get FY2016 info from bookkeeper by February 2017.
- Discussion about how NHIDA could use available funds to further our mission. Thoughts included: sponsoring a scholarship for a college junior/senior teacher in training to attend an NHIDA conference; paying up to \$2,000 for an individual to complete an Associate Level O-G training with practicum or a Wilson Level I or II training with practicum; sponsoring an IDA membership for a teacher in a low income school district or a school in need in Maine, NH, and Vermont; and offering a scholarship for a teacher to attend an upcoming NHIDA conference. It will be important to evaluate our financial standing before the end of the year so that we can implement the plan by December 31, 2016.

Outreach: NHIDA outreach efforts include information/referral by phone and email and dyslexia-related educational programs and events.

- Claudia and Anne will meet to firm up intro and debriefing for simulations (especially where teachers are the prime audience). Board discussed expanding the number of simulation activities from the two that we currently offer to three or more, which due to time constraints, would require participants to rotate through separate stations. Unless enough board members are available to staff each station, there is no point to discussing the matter further. The consensus was that as a first step, the board should schedule a time when board members can meet to work through all six simulation stations, noting the time involved and evaluating the quality of the experience at each. Most groups are not interested in more than a two hour presentation, so timing is important. Providing the opportunity to debrief and reflect on the experience after each station is also important. Burke to contact the IDA branch that developed the simulations for more information. Eaton will endeavor to participate in a simulation at IDA's conference in October.
- Parent outreach program on use of technology by dyslexic students with Diana Peschauer. Discussion regarding shift that is occurring from iPad apps to Google docs and less expensive Chromebooks, as well as other resources such as Bookshare (free to LD individuals), Audible.com (by subscription), I Dream Reader, Good to Go, and others. The challenge will be to limit the scope of the presentation so that parents don't leave feeling overwhelmed. Looking at a target population of parents of students in 4th grade or above. McClure agreed to make Strong Foundations School space available on a Saturday from 9-11 AM or 10-noon on Sept. 17 or October 15. Alternative dates/times would be Thursday or Friday evenings, Oct. 13 or 14. Stinson will contact Peschauer and follow up with McClure.
- Burke suggested the DOE's program on Bookshare also would be good. Burke will contact the DOE about that possibility.
- Phone/email inquiries - 14 received, mostly conference/OG training related, but also one adult looking for resources for writing problems that are compromising his employment and from an individual at a school district looking for resources that provide emotional support for older students with dyslexia.
- Email contacts: 1 contact from a young woman with dyslexia interested in helping. Will invite her to attend a meeting to ascertain interest and availability.

Website/FB: Burke discussed the process for doing Facebook postings with board members.

Legislative: HB1644, NH's dyslexia bill was signed into law on 6/16/16. Discussion about what the process will be for filling the position of reading specialist at the DOE that this bill creates.

Newsletter: Next issue needs to be ready to coincide with return to school (late August). Roberts has sent in a number of links. Eaton will write a piece on HB1644. Patten will provide link to recent announcement regarding mis-use of RTI in place of identifying students as eligible for special education services. Nelson and Eaton will review articles/videos and write thumbnail sketches for newsletter. Eaton and Morbey to work on Constant Contact portion of the process.

Vermont: Garvey-Knapp reported that Harvey Hubble (*Dyslexia: The Movie*) will be coming to Putney for a screening of his movie, and a panel presentation with individuals from Landmark College and the Stern Center. NHIDA has an opportunity to co-sponsor this if interested. As details become available, Garvey-Knapp will provide more information to board about the ways in which NHIDA can play a role in this event.

There is also interest in rescheduling the outreach/simulation event that had to be cancelled due to illness. Garvey-Knapp will follow up with Golda-Dominguez about possible dates.

2016 meeting dates: Wednesday, July 27th, 5:15 PM Strong Foundations School.
Fridays at 5:15 PM at Strong Foundations School:
Sept. 9th
Oct. 14th
Nov. 4th
Annual business meeting Dec. 2nd, 6 PM, location TBA.

Meeting adjourned at 2 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Eaton, President
NHIDA Board of Directors