

## NHIDA May 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Anne Eaton, Sue Morbey, Claudia Golda-Dominguez, Michelle Stinson, E. Bette Nelson, Rebecca Nelson-Avery, Jane Beaton, Leslie Benton-Norris, Audrey Burke

**Absent:** Caryl Patten, Michael Patten, Valerie Leuchter, Anne Ehret, Shannon Dixon-Yandow, Kara Garvey-Knapp,

**Meeting Called to Order:** 5:35 pm

**Secretary's Report:** (Rebecca) Approval of April meeting minutes- not available (tabled until next meeting)

**Treasurer's Report:** (Sue)

- Account balance- \$79,000+ Sue will be working with Mary to send a profit/loss statement each month based on the deposits/bills Sue is fielding. Will be working with Mary tomorrow for training with bookkeeping on computer.

**Membership Committee:** (Rebecca, Michelle, assisted by Aileen Cormier)

- Michelle's response from Diana Peschauer to do a technology parent event. Willing to present for \$300, regardless of location. Awaiting Aileen's response about using the Nashua Dyslexia Center. Another possible location could be SFCS.
- Location and date/time of parent event (Aileen's or Strong?)

**O-G training:** 1 withdrew so 1 opening; just filled to total 5 spots for IDA.

**Wilson training:** Caryl -Wilson WRS overview, Claudia -Foundations, Kara -Just Words. We are all set, so Anne will send contracts for volunteers to sign.

**National Conference:** 2018 at Foxwoods in CT. Aiming for 3,000 attendees (quite high numbers)

**Conference Committee:** (Leslie, Valerie, Bette, Sue, Audrey, Anne )

- 2016 Conference-** 37 members currently registered. Board members need to get on and register as a "pay by check" bc there is a cap of 120 participants. Ron has already sent the handouts & lists of materials so we are in really good shape. Leslie, Sue, Audrey, Bette and Anne will schedule a conference call to review contract wording and get sent out to Ron asap.
- Hard copy mailing out to members and special ed administrators
- Update on 2017 conference speaker(s): Sarah Ward has agreed to our lower speaker fee, however is not available for Sept. 29th, which we have already reserved. She is offering the date of October 6th, that is the Friday of Columbus Day weekend- concerns about low attendance & people having already seen her because she is local. Board has decided to not pursue this speaker any further.
  - Possible other executive functioning speakers- Cheryl Ann Chase, PhD (suggested from national conference- Leslie has looked into costs here) or Christopher Kaufman (Bette has seen him twice & will reach out this week).
- Board discussed the possibility of a room set up at SERESC to sell table space to potential vendors. Leslie will look into costs & see if we could use this as a fundraising opportunity. Michelle recommends if we go this, we should ask Ron's feelings about doing so as a courtesy.

**501 (c) (3)** - Audrey to Baltimore for spring Branch Council meeting. It was a “very eye-opening experience” for her. Several incoming presidents have incomplete boards, low membership & very little support to complete tasks.

**Destiny Message:** *To create a future for every individual who struggles with dyslexia and other related reading difference that results in a richer, more robust life and the access to tools and resources when they need them.*

Destiny IDA 6 Essential Pathways- creating awareness of dyslexia on a national level. Groups broken up into discussions over how to make this happen- general consensus that all info needs to be spearheaded by the national office. National interested in changing the name of IDA to Dyslexia International Association, so our organization will show up on a google search. They would like to overhaul all the branch websites (at their cost) to make them all uniform. Each branch’s individual feed will be listed down the margin of their page. They are also looking to hire a full time media person.

Funding for all these initiatives will come out of the Team Quest program, so all branches need to get on board with this race. Board discussed the level of involvement (at the very basic level) we would like to begin with, knowing someone on the board will need to spearhead this initiative.

Several branches suggested sending fundraising info and ideas to Anna Reuter to create a database to be shared with all branches. Will be listed under leadership resources on the national site.

**Outreach:** (Valerie, phone; Audrey, email; Claudia, Anne)

- Hudson simulation at PMA on May 11<sup>th</sup> – 35-40 educators. Many people reporting positive outcomes.
- Board discussed the possibility of changing the formatting of our dyslexia simulation presentation & writing up new scripts, etc. to go along with that.
- Phone/email inquiries
  - Merrimack parent requesting a simulation- Audrey let them know we would need an invite from the district & location to present.
  - Freemont School District called requesting use of our movies- referred to Renee & has agreed to do this.

**Website/FB:** (Audrey, Shannon, Michelle) Board members are urged to like Facebook page and share pertinent articles to get the word out to more people. Shannon has been keeping up with posts; Audrey will add a plug for our upcoming conference.

**Legislative:** (Michelle, Sandy, Anne, Caryl)

- Senate Education Committee hearing 4/12/16- bill amended w/non-related housekeeping issue. Position created by this bill is to be funded for 1 year & recommended to pass to the house. Possibility of a ceremonial signing with the governor to be scheduled over the summer.
- Michelle suggested sending out a press release/thank you letter to representatives out to IDA members and the local newspapers when the bill passes to help get the word out.
- June 6th, BeBe will be meeting with Jeanne Shaheen and Kelly Ayotte to discuss Dyslexia bill updates & implications of its implementation for the state.

**Newsletter:** (Valerie, Bette, Sandy and Sue (with Constant Contact support from Anne).

- Next issue late August – look for info/items to contribute

**Vermont:** (Anne, Kara, Shannon) Is the simulation at Greenwood School to be rescheduled?

**2016 meeting dates:**

- May 13, and June 24
- Annual planning session moved to Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>
- July meeting date: 13th, 5:30pm at SFCS
- August meeting date: