

Minutes for September 14th, 2007

Members Present: Sally Schultz, Michelle Oldham, Betsy Haltinner, Meg Zabel, Shirley Jensen, Kim Hoffman, and Jennifer Varsik

Minutes approved from the May meeting

Reports

Secretary

The PowerPoint presentation is in progress and will be completed and sent to all board members. The cumulative folder was received from the previous secretary. Meeting places for the November meeting were suggested and Jennifer will arrange for that.

Treasurer

Board members can send Marty a bill for reimbursement for a substitute teacher. The treasurer's report was approved.

Past President

Information from Randy included that the non-profit paperwork had been submitted to the IRS. Heidi completed the information requested during August. Winston Brown provided the missing page that was requested.

Conference

Kim was working on confirming a keynote by the end of September: Jerry Conrath or Ruth Herman Wells-youthchg.com. The four strands of focus are: Differentiating in the classroom, brain-based learning/mental health for students, Middle school programs, Professional Development/Staff Wellness

Region one met and would like to see resources on working with parents and best practices. Meg has contact information for presenters on poverty. Betsy will send out the call for presentations through the membership list. It goes to Tony Dallmann-Jones as well to go out to the national membership.

Political Action

Shirley presented a letter to be sent to colleges/universities requesting information on their alternative education programs. She will contact Beth Lewis for DPI's requirements for alt. ed. licensure.

Membership

Betsy will do a test email on Monday to see how many get kicked back for the board and there are issue with the membership mailing list as well with more returns.

Scholarship

Breanne Ringstad is attending college and planning to attend the conference this year. The new form is on the website.

Regional

ARENA, met at the end of the year.

Meg had information that Wautoma is trying to get a group together in that area. YAR still meets every month.

Betsy's region met, four people attended and created a plan of action. They are meeting again on 9/26 and are going to try and bring a friend. The goal is to set up workshops and they are in contact with UW's: Eau Claire, River Falls, and Stout.

Old Business

Jennifer will check the website for update needs and be cc'd information that goes to Tom.

New Business

Discussion on on-line conference registration. Jennifer will contact Tom and ask about the steps involved and security issues. The discussion flowed leaning away from on-line registration due to security concerns.

It was decided that members of the Joint Finance Committee will be invited to the March conference.

Marty is looking into an auditor.

Sally will send information to add to the "in the news" link on our website. And Shirley will send information to the site on Rethinking Schools.

Slide show is almost done and Betsy is working on Poster.

It was decided that we need a concise mission statement. All members created one (to follow), and would like all board members to have input in the process.

The Rough Drafts:

- National At-Risk Education Network-Wisconsin Chapter is a network of professionals striving to provide support for educators and at-risk youth, enhancing the learning opportunities for all youth and encouraging change in our educational communities, resulting in productive citizens.
- NARENWICH is a professional organization which provides support to students, parents, and educational professionals so that every student has educational options in order to become a well-rounded, productive citizen. It also strives to foster change in the educational system.

- NARENWICH assists individuals to be change agents who support educators and youth toward compassionate citizenry.
- NARENWICH: brings educators together to share their successes and struggles in working with at-risk youth, provides support for those working with at-risk youth, and finds ways to “do schools differently” so all may be supported in their learning.
- The National At-Risk Education Network-Wisconsin Chapter (NARENWICH) has embarked on a mission to be a professional organization of change in the traditional education system for at-risk youth. Our aim is to provide support for educators to ensure these youth develop their academic, personal, and career potential to become outstanding citizens.
- NARENWICH was created/organized/or strives to meet the needs of parents, students, and educational professionals as a professional organization dedicated to the improvement of services and opportunities for at-risk youth. This includes recognizing and supporting learners to develop their personal and educational potential while acting as agents for change within the traditional education system.