

NARENWICH Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2010

10:00 –12:30

Wisconsin Dells Kilbourn Public Library
620 Elm St., Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965 (608)254-2146

Reports

Secretary – Betsy read the minutes from the January 29, 2010 meeting. Minutes were approved without changes.

Treasurer – Marty presented the treasurer's report. We had a gain of \$11,105.16 from the 2010 conference this year. Currently our checking balance is \$12,301.52. We have a savings balance of \$10,133.52 making our total accounts balance \$22,465.00. Marty also informed us that we have received our State Tax Exempt status and she will be working on getting some money back for taxes paid.

Past President - No report at this time.

President – A discussion occurred about inviting the DPI Consultant Liaison or other advisory professional to our board meetings. A motion was made to invite advisory professionals to our September (Fall) and April (Spring) board meetings, as well as the annual meeting held at our conference. These individuals will serve in an advisory role at the meetings and will not take part in decision-making agenda items. Heidi will extend an invitation for future meetings.

Newsletter ideas for May – Heidi stated that the May Newsletter will include; professional development opportunities for members, educator award recipients, scholarship winner(s), conference thank you and recap.

President-Elect – Maintaining the website has been a difficult issue. Jennifer is going to contact Melanie (website creator) to see if she is interested in being hired to handle our updates on the site. We have paid up to \$1200.00 a year for this service in the past and would be willing to pay for this service again. A question about using conference photos on the website was brought up. We will need to get permission from the individuals to use these photos. Betsy will email a copy of a media release or photograph release to Kim.

Committee Reports

Conference Committee

Recap of 2010 Conference – This year's conference was a huge success. Kim is busy working on getting conference evaluations back to presenters. There were no major concerns or complaints about the facility. We do need to do a better job of informing our members to make their room arrangements earlier to avoid the room scheduling problems some members had this year. A suggestion was made to highlight this in more detail on the conference brochure and website. A discussion occurred about securing the Holiday Inn for 2012. The board would like to keep the conference at this location.

Keynote for 2011 Conference – A discussion occurred about the 2011 keynote. Ideas were presented. The board gave Kim permission to contact Kirsten Olson. Her presentation will focus on her book Wounded By School – School Reform. The 2011 conference dates will be March 3 & 4, 2011. Board members were also encouraged to try to secure 2 presentation ideas and contacts for our September meeting. There was some discussion about being able to pay for presenters in the future. Jennifer will email the call for presentations to everyone.

Political Action Committee

Funding Letter – A letter was initiated at this year's conference. There was discussion to get some help finishing this project. A motion was made to hire someone to help with finalizing this letter. Randy Hughes will contact Betsy Gruszynski from Elcho and/or Nikki Bowman to see if they might be interested in this project. He will request a project timeline and cost from an interested writer and then seek board approval to purchase the service.

Membership Committee

Student Scholarship – Samantha Thompson from Glenwood City High School was awarded the 2010 NARENWICH Scholarship. There was discussion about awarding two scholarships if the applicants met the qualifications for the award. A motion was made to contact the scholarship committee to see if they would also recommend the other applicant. The motion passed and Michelle Oldham will contact Laura Lindberg to see if the committee thought both students were deserving of the award. There was also some discussion about reorganizing the scholarship committee and the scholarship award process to make sure there is a current board member participating in the evaluation of scholarship applicants.

Regional Reports –

Region 6 - Guy Powell has resigned as the Region 6 representative. There is a region 6 meeting schedule for May 7 and Sally offered to host the meeting in Guy's place. Sally will check to see if there are any members attending the region meeting interested in serving on our board.

Region 2 – There is a meeting in May 12.

Old Business

Record Keeping/ Organizing Historical Records/Paperwork – Betsy has begun organizing a file for this paperwork.

DIS donation for scholarship – Heidi with Marty's help has written a letter of thanks and recognition to DIS for the scholarship donation.

New Business

Online Discussion Tool – There was discussion about NARENWICH using social networking tools like blogs, Ning, Facebook, etc. to promote our organization. Board members indicated some interest. Michelle Bahr will be getting more information on these communication tools, specifically Facebook.

Committee Assignments - There was discussion to change the way we currently assign region reps. to committees. The board agreed that the current system may deter people from wanting to run based on the committee assignments. We will revise the bylaws to leave committee assignments open and assigned based on interest of current reps. The revised bylaws will be presented at the Annual Meeting in 2011 for approval.

Other

Meeting adjourned at 12:24 PM.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Haltinner, Secretary

Next Meeting: Friday September 24th, 2010 – Stevens Pt Holiday Inn