

In attendance:

Linda Atwood, Ricky Baron, Paula Callaway, Randa Duvick, Arana Fossett, Carol Goss, Barb Seeley, Irene Spiro, Nancy Tilka, Tim Tomasik.

The meeting commenced at 10:10 a.m. at the Lake County Public Library.

Items discussed:

(1) Continuing / Old Business

- Minutes from the 4.21.07 spring business meeting were approved.

- Treasurer's report: Treasurer Elaine Shumway was not present at the meeting, but she provided a written treasurer's report indicating a savings account balance of \$581.50 as of August 07. The chapter members could not accept the report until some questions are resolved:
 - Did the two students who were promised gift funds last spring ever receive their checks? One student said she did receive the check; the other student was not sure if she had received it.
 - What happened to the scholarship gift funds? There are no debits indicated on the treasurer's report, so we cannot verify whether a check was mailed out.
 - Nancy Tilka said she would resend the information to Elaine regarding the two students who were promised gift funds. Linda agreed we should verify as the report indicated there were no debits.

- Linda Atwood expressed her thanks on behalf of chapter members to all those who hosted immersion dinners during 2006-2007.

- Randa Duvick will again run for Regional Representative. She announced that National has increased the membership fees to \$55 (plus \$2 for the chapter).

- Advocacy/Mentoring: Linda expressed her concern that Ricky Barron and Jennifer MacLeod should not be the only chapter members who address advocacy and mentoring issues. All chapter members should support them in their efforts. Linda offered a list of recruitment strategies to those present. Ricky suggested adding a list of web links to the chapter website. Members decided to focus the October immersion dinner on inviting teachers who are not yet members of AATF.

- *Grand Concours*: Linda asked whether we should purchase different prizes for the *Grand Concours* this year. She said students seemed pleased with the medallions last spring and members agreed it would be fine to continue purchasing medallions as prizes. She also asked if we should again hold back the results until the day of the brunch, and members agreed to this proposal. Additionally, Linda mentioned that she needs a few members to solicit free prizes from various businesses, just as Jennifer did last year.

- Constitution revisions: Members fine-tuned and approved various changes to the chapter constitution, including an addendum to provide details on the various duties of each officer. The revised constitution will be posted to the chapter website.

(2) Announcements / Reminders

- Various events were announced: IU Honors Program Test, Dainava Immersion Weekend, 2007-2008 VU events, Nashville Teacher Creativity Fellowship, IFLTA Conference, ACTFL, IN AATF Teacher of the Year, Central States Conference, AATF National Convention.
- Arana Fossett announced the upcoming National Creole Heritage Celebration, October 11-14. The 2008 Creole Heritage Convention will take place in Chicago.
- Regional representative Randa Duvick reminded members that the National Bulletin outlines the application process for teachers who want to request funds to help them pursue a special project for National French Week.
- Chapter Scholarship: Linda proposed that we continue the scholarship in 2008, despite not receiving any applications in 2007. She also suggested leaving ourselves open to other options if we don't receive any submissions. She suggested that members bring ideas to the spring business meeting and that we would take a vote if necessary the following fall.
- *Grand Concours*: Linda proposed changing the date of the 08 Grand Concours from March 8 to March 15; members voted yes to this change. Members also agreed to the suggestion that the AATF medal of honor (\$6.50 each) be given only to schools where at least five students take the exam. Finally, Linda reported that she has approximately \$255 remaining from the 07 Grand Concours.

(3) New Business

- Regional Representative Randa Duvick told members about a new PR campaign that National has launched. The website is now available: www.theworldspeaksfrench.org. Randa also mentioned that National has begun new recruitment initiatives. She reminded us to keep inviting newcomers to join the chapter and to explain that members don't necessarily have to attend the business meetings. There are many benefits to membership!
- The spring business meeting was scheduled for April 19, 2008. At this meeting members will vote on the next Vice President. Members should forward their nominations in advance to Carol or Linda.
- The immersion dinner calendar was set for 2007-2008.

Respectfully submitted by C. Goss on 4.16.08.