

In attendance:

Linda Atwood, Ricky Baron (*Vice President*), Karen Berrier, Paula Callaway, Julia Chary, Randa Duvick, Carol Goss (*Secretary*), Barb Seeley (*President*), Elaine Shumway (*Treasurer*)

Before the start of the business meeting, Vice President R. Baron presented some options for student travel to France for summer 2010 through EF tours. Baron also provided a packet of handouts regarding the November IFLTA meeting, noting the recent price increase as well as a new Saturday-only option for participants. Baron also reported that he attended the March 8 IFLTA meeting.

The business meeting commenced at 10:45 a.m. at the Kade-Duesenberg German House and Cultural Center.

Items discussed:

(1) Continuing / Old Business

- Minutes from the 9.13.08 fall business meeting were approved.
- Treasurer's report: Treasurer E. Shumway provided a treasurer's report indicating an account balance of \$422.39 as of March 09. She raised the continuing issue of service fees (\$5 monthly fee as well as a fee for each deposit made and check drawn). C. Goss moved that Shumway find a new bank this summer and the motion was seconded. At the time of making the change, Shumway will consider whether she should get a checking account rather than a savings account. Shumway reported that she will likely open a new account at the Valparaiso Credit Union.
- Chapter President B. Seeley expressed her gratitude for all those who hosted immersion dinners during the school year as well as those involved in the *Grand Concours*, VU workshop and *Fête du théâtre*.
- Web page manager C. Goss provided a report on updates made to the page since the fall. Updates included the following: images of 2008 poster contest winners available; scholarship application removed; a new resources section is available on the chapter site; host URL remains /foreignlang but might change in the coming year.
- Secretary C. Goss presented a Secretary's Report, providing the list of members as of February 09.

(2) Announcements / Reminders

- Members reviewed the calendar of spring events: On April 25, members will try to meet up with teachers from the Eastern part of the state, probably in South Bend. Details TBA. On May 9 B. Seeley will again host the *Grand Concours* brunch at her home.
- Nominations for Indiana French Teacher of the Year are due to R. Baron by April 30th. He will discuss the nominees with the rep(s) from the other AATF-IN at the May 1 IFLTA retreat/planning meeting. Baron encouraged members to attend this meeting so we can

have more members working on advocacy. J. McLeod, L. Atwood, and Cheryl Herman (from Mishawaka) also have expressed an interest in attending.

(3) New Business

- L. Atwood gave a report on this year's *Grand Concours*. Over 100,000 students competed this year. Atwood explained some changes in the procedure for next year. She reminded members that a teacher can give the test at her own school after the official test day has passed (rather than going to Crown Point HS on the day of the national exam). She will receive and forward the results on April 15.

Though Atwood reported a remaining balance of \$1,539 in the account she keeps for the *Grand Concours*, she has yet to pay the bills still due. There should only remain roughly \$200 once all the bills have been paid.

- Awards Brunch: B. Seeley gave members a few details about what she will need in hosting this year's *Grand Concours* brunch.

- Members discussed spending priorities for the chapter, given that no funds were spent on the scholarship in 2009. In the fall, R. Baron, J. McLeod and M. Certa discussed some options and proposed mini-grants for members. Two grants of \$50 each were made available to our chapter members:

- L. Atwood applied and received one of the mini-grants, but couldn't use for the project that she had proposed. She requested permission to use the funds toward expenses related to the group trip to see the "Molière Than Thou" performance which Linda organized. A motion was made and approved to this end.
- Another mini-grant was awarded to P. Callaway for her participation in the November 2008 IFLTA conference.

Atwood made a motion that the chapter president receive a mini-grant to help with the expense of attending the IFLTA conference (assuming the president would not be fully reimbursed by his/her school). She suggested a minimum grant of \$75 to cover the cost of registration. E. Shumway seconded the motion (members discussed the motion further at a later point in the meeting.)

Baron, McLeod and Certa will meet in the coming week to discuss the question of mini-grants further. All are invited to join them for the discussion.

In other IFLTA business, Baron reported that the chapter did not incur any expenses related to the 2008 workshop. He proposed approaching "Tennessee Bob" about being the speaker for the 2009 IFLTA workshop; R. Duvick will contact him.

Part I of minutes respectfully submitted by C. Goss on 7.21.09.

Minutes (continued)

A. Elections

1. C. Goss is nominated to continue as Secretary by R. Baron (second, L. Atwood). Vote carries.
2. E. Shumway is nominated to continue as Treasurer by B. Seeley (second, R. Baron) Vote carries.

B. *Semaine du français*: It was noted that we should continue supporting this event, especially since the National Office distributes mini-grants to encourage activities.

C. IFLTA Meetings: Priority for reimbursement for attendance is given to someone who makes a presentation, with the stipulation that the candidate has no honorarium from his/her school to attend. The Chapter voted to set aside funds to register for IFLTA (Cost is now \$75).

D. Other ideas for distribution of reimbursement funds in our account should be sent to the committee of R. Baron, J. McLeod and M. Certa. They are considering reimbursement for those who will attend the *Congres* in April and renting a bus. (There was some discussion of liability for the Chapter if money is given for the bus.)

E. L. Atwood asked R. Duvick if membership fees might be reduced by National if the *French Review* were to be put on-line. Duvick explained that the National is conscious of fees and that dues are not expected to increase. It is unlikely that the *French Review* will be put on-line since it is a scholarly publication and revenue from this is collected from libraries and advertisers. Atwood will solicit exhibitors that do not appear in the *Review*.

F. E. Shumway asked whether anyone knows if other languages are being cut in favor of Chinese. Duvick commented that the Chinese are aggressive in support of their language, but that she knows of no intentional cut. It could be that this rumor came from the "World Speaks French" Initiative and its information-gathering process.

G. There is no regional report, but it should be noted that both R. Duvick and L. Atwood will present sessions at this summer's meeting in San Jose, CA, July 2 – 5.

H. It was decided that there will be no May Immersion event, but that a June 18 beach event will be at K. Berrier's.

I. B. Seeley asked for suggestions for the Early Bird Presentation at the fall meeting. It was suggested that a representative from either the *Alliance française* or the French Consulate be asked to speak. After discussion, it was requested that the officers decide and check about the availability of the library for the event.

The meeting adjourned at 1pm.

Part II of minutes respectfully submitted by K. Berrier 7.20.09

(Thanks to K. Berrier for graciously agreeing to finish taking minutes when C. Goss had to leave before adjournment.)