
2002 Conference - Birmingham [APPROVED]

- Last Updated (Wednesday, 24 May 2006)

National Conference of Governor's Schools Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting October 12 - 15, 2002 Birmingham, Alabama

The Annual Business Meeting: Session One

...was called to order at 5:15 p.m. at Landry's Restaurant, Birmingham, Alabama by Daniel Hocutt, President. After introductions, food was ordered and consumed. The business meeting resumed at 6:50. The first item of business was a request by Ted Tarkow, "Perpetual" Past President, that the minutes should note that the Key Lime Pie was especially exceptional. So ordered.

The Minutes of the Business Meeting held at the Biennial Retreat Conference at Plymouth Bluff, Columbus, Mississippi were read and approved. Motion to approve was made by Mary Daley. Mary Daley then submitted the Treasurer's Report with a current balance of \$5269.52. Ted Tarkow moved the acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Other items of business related to the Treasurer were reported as follows:

- Judy Peters, assistant to Mary Daley, has brought the membership database up to date. The membership list with updates and additions from the conference will be available tomorrow. Judy requested that we check our address information and to please report any changes to her. We should remind other colleagues to report any changes and/or updates to her as soon as possible.
- The Board gratefully acknowledged the work of the New York Governor's School's office, Mary and Judy, for the administrative work done for the organization and the conference.

Old Business:

- Daniel reported that the planned Newsletter did not happen because of issues with time and communication. The Newsletter will be addressed later in the Conference.
- We will be having the Roll Call of State's Governor's Schools throughout the Conference and will begin Sunday at the Courtyard Event and will continue on through Monday. This is an opportunity to share successes and challenges that each of us have faced during the past year.
- Web Site: It was reported that the Web Site has become our major means of communication. Plans for extending and developing the Web Site are in the mill. The Board thanked Daniel Hocutt for all the work that he has done on the Web Site and noted we are very pleased with both its look and its content.
- Report on the Status of NCoGS corporate status: Daniel announced that the responsibility for the update lies with the Treasurer. Mary continues to remain in contact with the Kentucky Governor's School and Lillian Press who makes the appropriate updates and reports since the incorporation was established in Kentucky. It was decided that for simplicity it was best to continue under these arrangements.

Conference Update

George Keller updated the Board on the Conference schedule and other details. The Board expressed its thanks to George and Daniel for all the work that they had done in planning the Conference.

Discussion of Concerns:

- Membership: A need for a membership drive was discussed and it was announced that this was in the advanced planning stages. Letters are to go out from the Treasurer's Office and membership details and application forms are now on the Web Site.
- Attendance at Conference: Registration was down but many "regulars" had contacted George or Daniel to report that they were unable to attend. For the most part, the reasons given were budget constraints.
- Public Relations: Virginia Uldrick suggested that it was critical for us to put together a PR piece to send to every Governor and State Superintendent of Education. This is especially important as we all face budget cuts. She noted that governor's schools raise the bar for education across the nation for all students and that we inherently refute mediocrity. Governor's schools work "outside the box and expanded horizons." These are extremely important issues in today's arena of accountability and educational reform.
- A group will meet during the Conference to draft a letter that will be sent out of the Governor of Delaware's office. This is work that was begun at the Columbus Retreat.

New Business:

- Daniel reported on his visits to several Governor's Schools. He found that the basic question asked was "What is it that we can do better with residential life?" It was agreed that this is a major concern for many governor's schools. Another issue was community service or service learning. How best can we build it into our Governor's Schools? It was suggested that perhaps Service Learning might be the theme for our next Retreat. Alumni affairs were a third major concern.
- Daniel then reported on the Web Site. He asked what additional items did we want on the Site. Two suggestions were to include a list of members (with their permission) and to provide a brief description or profile of each Governor's School. Other ideas should be emailed to Daniel.
- It was announced that the list serve address is ncogs-email@andrew.cmu.edu

The Meeting was recessed at 8:00 p.m. Session Two: October 14, 2002

Daniel Hocutt, President, called the Second Business Session to order at 4:30 p.m. In his opening comments Daniel expressed our appreciation to all the presenters. He noted that sharing information, both formally and informally, is what makes this conference different, real, and genuine. He reported that summaries of each of the sessions and names of the presenters will be placed on the Web Site within the week.

The Board again expressed its appreciation for his work on the Web Site.

Election of Officers:

The following Slate of Officers were submitted to serve the 2002 - 2004 term of office:

- President: Daniel Hocutt
- President-Elect: Jean Olson
- Vice President - Membership: Shawn Snyder
- Secretary: Bob Seney
- Treasurer: Mary Daley
- Board Member-at-Large: Lonnie Hass

It was moved by Donnie Osman that this slate be elected by acclamation. Seconded and passed.

Report of the "Hot Tub News":

- Mary Daley suggested that we seek out members interested in leadership roles in NCoGS.
- Joyce Hunt suggested that we need new members to bring new and fresh points of view to NCoGS and to governor's schools' programs and operations.
- Tom O'Keefe, a college freshman, will be attending the conference. He has contacted several of us about starting a governor's school in Idaho.

New Business:

There was much discussion about creating a video to promote governor's school nationally. It was noted that several videos exist from various governor's schools. Should we use existing videos and edit? What should be the timing: the letter this year and video next? It was the consensus that we would like a video and the Executive Committee was asked to research the details.

This Session was recessed at 5:05 p.m. Session Three: October 15

Daniel Hocutt, President, called the Third Business Session to order at 8:45 a.m. Daniel announced the following agenda:

- Report from Lonnie Hass on North Dakota Biennial Retreat
- Report from Josh Brown on Report on Survey
- Report on Video and Letter
- Expenses for President and Executive Committee

Retreat:

Lonnie Hass announced that the Biennial Retreat to be held in Fargo, North Dakota will be on October 9 - 12, 2003 at the Wingate Hotel. The registration fee has been set at \$125 plus \$75 dues. The Executive Committee will meet on site on January 10, 2003. The following were suggestions for themes or topics to be addressed:

- The Future: Where are Governor's Schools Going?
- How to Work Smarter - Not Harder
- Building Community - Extending Community
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting the Gifted
- Investigating the Term "Gifted"

Other Suggestions:

- Announce and advertise now on the Web Site.
- Design a glossy brochure to advertise the retreat.

Report on Survey and Research Task (Follow-up of Columbus Retreat) by Josh Brown:

- Josh reported that he has reviewed various alumni surveys and identified items that can be standardized.
- He suggests creating a survey with approximately 20 items, most will be on demographics. Respondents will be asked to rank impacts and/or a list of items will be created and respondents will mark agree or disagree.
- Josh also recommended that the General Social Survey be used for comparison.
- Josh announced that his task now was to "boil down" the items and post the items on the web site by end of November for review by the membership.

- Questions and concerns should be emailed to Josh Brown at principal@gpgc.org

Report on Video

- What should be the concept? What do we want to do with it?
- Send to Governors?
- Send to State Superintendents of Education?
- Provide to the general public?
- Use as a recruitment tool?
- This brings up the question of whether local goals and images are universal enough for a national video?
- It was decided that the first step was to identify issues that are universal and we should send our ideas to Daniel. The question was also raised about the possibility of giving the video to one of our governor's school as a special project. Daniel was to research the various ideas.

Report on the Letter (Membership Committee is drafting the letter)

- The letter will be sent to Governors and State Superintendents of Education.
- The letter will address NCoGS issues and not specific governor's schools.
- This will be the first step in a national marketing program.
- The letter will comment on the effects of governor's schools. One example was the difference scholars are making in community services back at home.
- Other areas to be addressed are raising the bar on educational standards, impact of alumni, and that governor's schools cover all areas of the arts, the humanities and the sciences.
- The letter will commend the concept of Governor's Schools and that they could look to NCoGS for additional information and assistance.
- The First Draft should be out soon and members should respond as quickly as possible.
- The letter will be sent out on the Governor of Delaware's letterhead. Membership information will be enclosed with the letter.
- Shawn Snyder will report types of replies, requests for information, etc. and NCoGS will respond.

Other Items of Business:

§ It was agreed that we should develop a handbook for developing governor's schools. This should include descriptions of different types of funding: private, public, private/public, and/or tuition, and descriptions of different types of program.

Travel Expenses for Executive Committee to off-conference Committee Meetings:

- The Treasurer was directed to make arrangements for Daniel for his conference expenses since he is not currently connected to a governor's school.
- Executive Travel expenses will be covered on an "as needed" basis.
- It was noted that there is a need for a guide for conference planning. It was agreed that the goal of each conference was not to plan a lavish event but to create a focused conference that will provide the platform for the formal and informal sharing which made this conference such a success.

In our final act of business, NCoGS and the conference participants enthusiastically offered our appreciation to George Keller and the Alabama Governor's School for hosting a successful conference.

The motion was made by Mary Daley to adjourn. The Conference was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Bob Seney, Secretary