OSTA MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 26, 2013

Members present: Ava Wilhelm, Toni Ivey, Joyce Cheatham, Tina Rogers, Beth Allan, Annette Huett, Tim Laubach, Becky Hammond, Brandi Williams, Travis Hurst, Bob Melton, and Michelle Smith. Members absent: Bethany Lorenz, Kay Gamble, Natalie Bowman, Sue Hull.

Our meeting was called to order at 9:10 by Tina. This was her last time to do so. Good job, Tina!!! The minutes of our September meeting were reviewed. Tim moved to approve the minutes and Brandi seconded. The board approved the minutes.

Reports: Tina: The NSTA membership task force is seeing the same issues as us: Low membership, lack of participation, etc. This task force meets once every other week by conference call. Tim noticed that the NSTA web site has been streamlined.

High School: Jim has officially resigned. This post will be filled during fall elections.

Middle School: Our middle school director, Jessica, was killed in a car accident. We had only just begun to get to know her and her presence will be greatly missed. Someone will be appointed to this post.

College: Tim reports that the poster session for the fall conference looks to be a rather small affair. There are 2 committed to coming and they will be set up where they can get the most traffic.

Science Director Report: (via Tina) The public draft of the Oklahoma science standards will be coming out in two weeks. So far response from educators has been very positive. The reaction from the public has yet to be seen. Standards have not been reviewed by actual scientists. The standards will go to the legislature in March. OKSci Facebook and Twitter are getting a lot of activity. These are great places for science teachers to get resources and discuss issues. Joyce suggested we put OKSci and Twitter as a resource in our program. #OKLASTA is our hash tag. She also has an idea for the conference. She suggested we put out large poster boards for teachers to write down their favorite resources. Attendees could then take pictures of the posters with their phones. OKSci and Math Leadership have been presented to the state department and have had many positive outcomes. The program is training teachers to be **leaders**. The opportunity to be in the next class will be coming up soon. Stay tuned.

Membership Report: Travis says we have 387 members. People are signing up but not as fast as they once were. Bob interjected that better reminders and better tracking methods are helping. We have more student members than teachers. Tina says the wordle-like cards that we had printed up, are working and we should continue to use them.

Communications: Bob reported that conference traffic on our web site is picking up. Right now, there are 86 signed up. Bob will give us an official number at the end of the day Thursday so we can let McAlister’s know. He also let us know that there is a 2 ½% charge each time the OSTA credit card reader is used.

Awards: We have an outstanding class of awardees this year!

* Elementary: Darlene Black of Marlow Public Schools
* Middle: Ken Cole from Sand Springs
* High School: Karen Evans of Yukon High School
* College: Dr. Julie Angle from OSU
* Jack Renner: Gaile Loving, Mustang Schools Science Coordinator

Annette let us know that she is still in a holding pattern on the PAEMST (presidential award!) The government shutdown has caused a major slowdown. We will recognize the 2 state finalists at our awards reception, Annette Huett of Moore and Sarah Vann from Owasso. Written invitations aren’t going out to the awardees. Joyce will be giving each one a call.

Nominations Report: We have one nomination for each open spot on the board.

Treasurer Report: Toni reports that Quick Books has been VERY helpful. As of September 30th we had $11,074 in our budget. We have had a surge because of the conference. She will help Michelle with registration to make sure the people who said they were paying with checks, actually pay. Our PO Box has been renewed so there will be an overlap between her and our new treasurer.

OJSS: We have had 2 submissions and 2 more are promised. At the conference keynote, Tim will announce the roll out for the journal and encourage people to go to Toni’s workshop about journal writing.

Engineering Design Conference: Date is set for February 8th. The Math/Science Partnership from OU is coming. OCTM will also be collaborating. No cost to attend to OSTA members.

CONFERENCE!!! Joyce reports that all is going well for the **reception.** Brandi volunteered to take pictures. Joyce will be giving the final number to the caterer on Monday. The cost is $25 per person. Last year Pearson paid $1000 for the catering. Board members should be there by 6. Toni, Michelle, and Bob are working **registration** for the conference. It will be at the east end. We will have a room for on-site registration. The presenter packets will be at the table as well. Student volunteers will be in each room. They will help with tickets and presenter needs. Drawing will be at 4:10. Board members need to be there by 8. Tina presented the rough draft for the **program.** It was passed around for proofreading. She will post the final copy on Base Camp for us to view before she has it printed. There was discussion about sessions and time slots and labeling of elementary, middle, etc. The agenda will be on our web site on Monday. Bob reported that he is waiting for bios from our candidates before getting the **election** online. We will have an e-vote AFTER the conference. The **keynote** will be in the science building and NOT Constitution Hall. UCO is having their annual homecoming. Bob then presented a microscope from 1969 that had belonged to a former OBTA teacher from Locust Grove who passed away. It will be in the silent **auction.** Brandi will make a schedule for us so that the auction will be manned all day. The general consensus of the board was not to have the **bookstore**. We don’t have enough books. The leftover books from last year will be used for the auction and door prizes. Becky is going to print **attendance certificates** at OSU for attendees to take home with them. Our program is going GREEN. Bob will QR code it. Only the agenda will be printed off. Bob will send emails to all who have registered, reminding them to bring electronic devices so they can access their programs. Beth is going to make agenda posters at Kinkos.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20. See everyone next week at the conference!!!