

Oklahoma Science Teachers Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, February 7, 2009

Minutes

Attendees:

Jeff Patterson

Deborah A. Hill

Bob Melton

Marty Peters

Joyce Cheatham

Beth Allen (by phone)

Becky Hammack

DeAnn Deason (Skype)

Kay Emde

Jana Rowland (Skype)

Pamela Christol

I. Welcome

II. Called to order at 9:25 a.m. with a quorum

III. Reports

A. Elected Officers

1. Fall Conference (Kay Emde)

(name of meeting to be selected at a later date)

a. Dates were discussed in regards to football weekends, etc.

It was moved and seconded that Saturday, November 7, 2009 be the date of the OSTA Fall Conference.

b. Suggested possible meeting sites included:

i. Oklahoma City Community College

ii. Moore-Norman Vo-Tech Center South Penn Campus

iii. University of Central Oklahoma

iv. Metro Tech. OKC

Kay will begin research on those sites and any other sites that meet the requirements.

c. Suggested that board members begin soliciting ideas from colleagues in their districts concerning what are the real needs and wants as far as workshop offerings. This information can be used to create strands to help us recruit suitable presenters.

B. Division Directors

No reports

Continued

C. District Directors

No reports

D. Committees

1. Webmaster/Newsletter (Bob Melton)

- a. Since late July, OSTA site has had 8,000+ hits.
- b. New postings tend to increase number of hits.
October is the busiest month.
- c. Technology issues: People who register can post which allows spammers to have access to addresses of those who reply. Also, responses have to be regularly edited or removed due to strong language.
- d. Preparing to make a "Board of Directors" page with school email addresses and school affiliations. (no phone info.)

E. State Science Director (Jana Rowland)

1. Will be mailing DVD's (one copy for district/ OK to duplicate) from Tom Creider at OK Parks and Tourism. DVD's have short (5-7minute) clips from Discovery Oklahoma tv show with such topics as Oklahoma eco regions, rocks, animals, habitats, etc. Lesson activities will appear at the Parks and Recreation website. May go to superintendent's address for each district.
2. Legislation
 - a. SB 320 / Brogden - No discrimination in the classroom against students with different beliefs.
 - b. Sally Kern is reintroducing her legislation from last year concerning religious teachings in the classroom.
 - c. HB Botball monies \$100,000 distributed as twenty \$5,000 grants for established teams.
 - d. SB Readiness Act - Establishes readiness standards for Middle School to assure readiness for high school.
 - e. SB 1111 / Jolley & Eason-McIntire
Move State Dept. of Testing from Education Dept.
To State Office of Accountability (run by legislature)
 - f. Hopeful that economic stimulus package would increase availability of grant money.
 - g. \$2.2 million in grant/project money has been awarded from state.

Continued

h. Regent's Math and Science Partnerships have been awarded:

Ft Gibson	Wright City
Putnam City	Locust Grove
Byng	Hominy
Darlington	Meeker
Lawton	Oklahoma City

i. Investigating the writing of a State Safety Manual.

j. Science Inquiry Institutes

July 20-22 in Oklahoma City

July 25-27 in Tulsa

F. Building A Presence (BAP)

None

IV. Old Business

A. Field meetings

1. Eastern:

It was moved, seconded, and passed that OSTA shall have an eastern Oklahoma field meeting on Sat., April 4 at Lake Tenkiller State Park. The motion included \$150.00 to secure the pavilion and provision for equipment funds (buckets, etc.) Will also have board mtg. on April 4.

Organizer: Adrienne Elder

2. Western:

Deborah Hill is currently researching sites for a western Oklahoma field meeting. (date TBA / late April or early May?)

Current possibilities include Roman Nose and Red Rock

Both are relatively close to I-40 for easy access.

Continued

B. 2009 Safety Science Summit

1. Moved, seconded, and passed that OSTA shall move forward with plans for two one-day regional summits to be held in late July/early August 2009.

Suggested: West @ Southwestern at Weatherford or ??

East @ Northeastern/B.A. or ???

Cost to have Vanessa and Jim present 2 days = \$6,156.00

C. Membership

1. Discussed need to use Facebook, Twitter, wikispaces, etc. as membership and recruitment tools.
2. Discussed eliminating membership dues

Points:

Cumbersome - inhibits some people from joining online if they must send in a check

History - originally dues were needed primarily for mailings. This need has decreased substantially.

Trend - Other organizations (OKAEE) have increased membership after eliminating dues.

Funding - Monies can be made up through activity fees and other innovative strategies.

D. Constitution

Committee was formed to look into needed revisions.

Members: Jeff Patterson (chair), Bob Melton, Kay Emde and Pamela Christol

V. Meeting Dates

4/4/09 6/6/09 8/1/09 10/3/09