

NJCSS OFFICERS MEETING

May 10, 2017 - 3:30 p.m.

Busch Student Center - Room 115

Parking in Lot 51 or 59 (front and back of Student Center)

In Attendance: Hank Bitten, Arlen Gardner, Christine Gehringer, Eileen Heddy, Mary Keller, Michael Kenduck, Joseph Orlak, Frank Romano, Joseph Dwyer, and Angela Smith (joined meeting at 4:30 PM).

Meeting called to order at 3:13 PM

1. Spring Conference- May 10, 2017

- Christine applauds Hank for a job well done.
- Arlene suggests fewer workshops for next year. There were approximately 110 attendees including presenters (134 total). Also, it was suggested that the workshop fee should be raised from \$25 in the future.

2. NJCSS Board Elections

- Brian Cameron has resigned as vice-president.
- The Constitution states that we will have an election to elect board members for 2017-2018 terms.

3. Awards

- There have not been any nominations for the NJCSS Teacher of the Year award. The nominations are due on June 30, 2017.
- NCSS Award- Nominations are due on May 15, 2017.
- NJCSS Student Recognition Award- Grades 6-12- Nominations are due on June 15, 2017.
 - ☐ Should there be an essay requirement or sample work provided from the nominee?
 - ☐ At this point, we do not require any transcripts or report cards in our criteria for the award.
 - ☐ Should there be three awards, one per each region in New Jersey?
 - ☐ Hank will send out a reflection form to the board in order to refine the criteria for the award.
- College Award
 - ☐ Should this be an education award?
 - ☐ Should we request an unofficial transcript? Too late to do this?

4. Funding for ESSA Proposal

- Document including a preliminary budget was provided by Hank.
- NJDOE has decided to pilot an expanded learning opportunity sub-grant for up to 3 years. The criteria is stated in the document.
- Universities involved: Montclair State University, Seton Hall University, Rutgers University, Rowan University, Rider University, and The College of New Jersey.
- Aligns with the curriculum standards

5. NJ Center for Civic Education

- Program- NJ Seeds (1st grade- 25-30 students)
- Program lost funds this year.
- Matt Farber- Will provide digital platform support

6. Treasurer's Report - Christine

7. K-6 Conference for 2017-18 - Hank

- Possible Date- December 4, 2017- Discussion that this is the best possible date for the NJCSS Fall Conference
- Discussion: Should the elementary conference be offered annually or every other year? Will we have enough funds? For the exhibitors, is it worth their while to attend the conference if they don't have the volume of attendees?
- Competition with professional development because of NextGen Science standards.
- Future plans- Should we move a dual fall conference (elementary and secondary) into a large space than Rutgers-Busch Campus Center? At this point, we are starting to hit our limit numbers wise. However, we can work around this if we move people into big rooms except for at lunch time.
- Providing lunch at the conference is not a priority if we remain at Rutgers-Busch Campus Center.
- 2 day conference- we could possibly have a 2-day conference in 2018.
- For the October 23, 2017 fall conference, Hank will change the proposal sheet from grades 6-12 to K-12. Hopefully, this will draw more elementary and secondary workshop proposals. They will be due on June 30, 2017. Additionally, Hank will add this information to the next newsletter (may 24, 2017).

8. Executive Director's Report - Hank

- Impact of New Facility Use Fees at Rutgers (\$5,000) as of July 1, 2017.
- Membership is currently \$55/\$80 with conference- Hank will send out an e-mail in order to generate more membership renewals now instead of current/new members waiting until right before the conference.
- Website (need model curricula for Members Page)- will reach out to districts to contribute model curriculum particularly at the high school level.
- Fall Conference Keynote Speakers -Permission to contact Dr. Lillie Edwards and compensate \$250
- Crowd Compass App (\$4,000): A representative from Crowd Compass wants to meet with us. They will work with us on branding our organization. Also, they will provide streamlined e-mail contact lists and an app. At this time, it is not worth the fee involved. We have found that Guidebook is a great free alternative. However, we may reconsider this option in the future.
- Contribution to National History Day (Letter from Cathy Gorn)
 - ☐ Do we want to contribute to National History Day?
 - ☐ After discussion, we tentatively decided to contribute \$500 to National History Day as an organization. We do not have a quorum to vote on this issue. However, it was deemed that Christine can still send a check to NHD. Joe will send an e-mail when the minutes are sent out.

7. Next Meeting - Proposed date is June 29, 2017 at offices at 630 Bartholomew Road. A Google Form survey will be sent in order to confirm this date. Hank and Joe asked that board members review the fall conference proposals, which are available in a shared Google Drive folder before the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 PM

Minutes prepared by Angela Smith, Secretary

