

NATSP Meeting Minutes October 13, 2007
University of Nebraska – Omaha Student Center
Omaha, NE
@ 8:20 a.m.

- Meeting called to order by Lila Brock (Out-going President).
- All in attendance are being asked to sign-up on sheets being sent around to fill vacancies for this year's immersion events.
 - A Spring immersion is held in February/March and the Friday of the Nebraska International Languages Association Fall Conference.
 - The Spring immersion has started on Friday evening and Sturdy day in the past
- Minutes from the 2006 Conference were presented.

Old Business

- Chapter Constitution and Bylaws have been missing for quite some time. These will need to be adopted to be in accordance with the national AATSP guidelines stated in organization's Constitution.
 - Jim Chvala (President-Elect) has been searching/borrowing other organizations' guidelines to fit the needs of our organization
 - Motion to adopt Constitution was made and carried.
 - Bylaws still need to be adopted, but will be tabled to next fall to allow for ore detailed changes.
- It was also determined that few in attendance were e-mailed the copies of the Constitution or Bylaws.
- It was concluded that a new list of e-mail will have to be compiled through NDE

Election of Officers

- It was noted that officers meet twice a year (fall conference and prior to spring immersion) – a great deal of communication is done through e-mail.
- Those running must be NATSP members.
- The following are new officers for the 2007-08 year:
 - President – Jim Chvala (Palmer Public Schools)
 - Vice President – Rochelle de Rodriquez (Kearney Catholic High School)
 - Secretary – Rebecca Gill Renken (Palmyra High School)
 - Treasurer – Jill Camargo (Fremont Archbishop Bergan High School)
- Currently seeking Portuguese representative if one is available, as well as a Western Nebraska Representative so that their concerns might be voiced.

Treasurer's Report

- Current account is in Grand Island and location of account should be moved closer to new treasurer.

- Checking/Savings - \$950.00 (approximately)
- Organization has helped to fund immersion events this year.
- Ideas for using funds were solicited from members. Ideas shared included the following:
 - Mini-grants – for teacher and student travel or graduate hours assistance.
 - Student Scholarship for graduating Seniors
- \$100 is given to Nebraska International Language Camp on annually basis
 - It was moved to donate monies for 2007 year – motion was passed.
 - More information will be presented at the luncheon by Nebraska International Camp Director
- Discussion on dues and question posed in regards to joining locally, but not nationally
 - Can this be done? This will discussed with National officer via call or e-mail by state officers
 - Could this be done at immersion, charging more for non-members, and a lesser charge for members?
 - We do want to include all Spanish educators in the state for immersion activities

National Spanish Exam

- Judy Blakeman has officially retired from the position and this has been inherited by Jim as of this past spring
 - Any interested member looking for this leadership role, should contact him
 - This individual would not have to worry about dealing with collect fees (this is sent to the national office), solely issuing prizes.
- To participate in giving your students the test, individual must be a AATSP member or pay additional fee
- The national fee is \$3 and an extra \$.50 - \$1.00 locally to cover prizes and mailing costs.
- Tests are given for different level students and results are broken down for students showing abilities in various categories
- The current fund is at \$1400. 98 (approximately)

Immersion

- Spring immersion activities were shared and estimated at 25 in attendance.
 - Activities ranged from singing to cooking and was held in Grand Island at Central Community College
- Fall Immersion was not discussed, as there was none.
 - This was due to recommendation by NILA executive board that there be a total get-together to replace AAT's immersions
- Sign-up sheets were made available for the upcoming immersions

New Business

National Spanish Honor Society

- It was reminded that the National Association Sponsors an Honor Society available for High School students
- Individual schools may set their requirements for membership.

- A local Chapter fee of \$20 is charged and an additional one time fee of \$5 per student joining
- Now available are an Honor Societies for Middle Schools and Elementary Schools
- Community is a strong component of the association, but participation can be minimal to highly involved.

Graduate Courses

- Being offered this Summer Wesleyan – Flyers placed on sign-in table in hallway outside
 - Four graduate course: Mexican Culture, Advanced Grammar, Conversation, Don Quijote
 - You are asked to choose two courses which last from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m. and 1:00p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Discussion on those wanting to take courses, but not really wanting credit. What fee might there be?

AATSP Dues and membership

- These are due by January 31st and can be done on-line or via form available that was just distributed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Rebecca Gill Renken