

Arkansas Council for Exceptional Children
Board of Directors' Meeting- Russellville: Lake Point Center
June 12, 2008

Members Present

Jill Simpson, President

Chris Foley, President Elect

Kathleen Atkins, Vice President

Patty Kohler, Secretary

Jenny Barber, Treasurer, Past President

Siri Hill, Co-President, SCEC

Tosha Palmer, CCBD President

Angela Traweek, DEC President

Barbara Gartin, Communications Chair, DDD President

Ron Love, Representative to Rep. Assembly, AR-CASE

Laura Bunch, Membership Chair

Jon Rainbilt, Representative to Rep Assembly

Jill LaRosa, Vice President Elect

Courtney Williams, Awards Chair

Lisa Herrington, SCEC Advisor

RoseMerry Kirkpatrick, Historian

Paul Johnston, President DCDT (arrived after meeting)

Call to Order and Establish Quorum

President Simpson called the meeting to order at 10:00 and established a quorum. She then announced a "Who Am I?" contest to be completed during the day. An icebreaker activity was completed, and

President Simpson talked about the importance of paying attention and listening to speakers during the day. Introductions of new members/participants were conducted.

Minutes of Previous Meeting (Feb, 2008-Kohler-Evans-previously sent out to read to all officers and subdivisions)

Barbara Gartin moved that the reading of the minutes be suspended. Seconded by Lisa Herrington. Passed unanimously.

Old Business

Topical Conferences: Board members were reminded of the motion that was made in February, 2008, regarding topical conferences and the requirement that subdivisions post to CEC three months prior to the proposed conference. Jon Rainbolt read the motion from the February board meeting as a reminder. It was noted that DCDT would be represented on June 13, 2008. Jenny Barber noted that the conference chair for the CEC conference would need an agreement in writing with the subdivision re: topical or pre-conferences. Information such as # of people attending, and cost etc. would need to be included. Laura Bunch asked this: if a subdivision was not asking CEC for financial support, could they conduct a topical conference on their own? President Simpson indicated that yes, they could. Jon Rainbolt indicated that the board needed to be cautious because if using the CEC name, in the event of an accident, then CEC would have some liability. Barbara Gartin noted that NW AR has many places for conferences and to consider Rogers, Springdale etc.

Conference (International) expenses (Love) and # of attendees (including students): Ron Love requested that the board consider increasing the amount of dollars allowed for conference participants/attendees. Kathleen Atkins asked that the board keep the current economy in mind. Gartin challenged the board to ask itself, "Why do we go to conferences?" We go in many different roles: student, professor, older member. She challenged us to ask what we give the membership and what we need from the membership. President Simpson brought a conference notebook for members to look at.

Subdivisions reinstatement: DDD (Gartin President) and CCBD (Tosha Palmer President): These subdivisions were welcomed back to AR-CEC by President Simpson.

Election 2008 (Barber): Jenny Barber indicated that some members voted more than once. The second vote, in this case, was discarded. Voting is not anonymous. No changes were made in the process. Jill LaRosa was elected Vice President, Patty Kohler was elected Secretary, and DeeDee Cain was elected Scholarship Chair. Forty-one voted and three votes were cast out.

SCEC Advisor- elected?: This position is currently an appointed one. This will remain so.

Conference Strategies Placement in Policy Manual: President Simpson indicated that there was an ad hoc committee for this. Jenny Barber moved and Angela Traweek seconded that this item be moved to the June 13 agenda. Passed unanimously.

New Business

Leadership academy (attendees): Kathleen Atkins cannot go; Jill LaRosa cannot go. The dates are July 28-30, 2008. Members will think about whether or not they may be interested in going.

Officer Reports

AR-CEC Membership Report/Recruitment Efforts (Bunch): As of 6/08, there are 438 AR-CEC members. Thirty chapters have more members, and thirty-five have fewer. Laura Bunch went to the membership meeting at International CEC and indicated that in some states, positions on the board were paid. Problems that AR has are shared by other chapters. All officers are current in their membership.

AR-SCEC Advisor Report: The new T-Shirt design was shown by Siri Hill and Lisa Herrington. SCEC plans to run the silent auction this year. In September, they will work on the process for this, and new officers will be elected in November. Continuity of officers was mentioned as a desire of SCEC, and this will be looked at via the constitution at the next meeting. Lisa requested that the SCEC advisor attend International Conference. Jenny Barber noted that AR-CEC does not designate positions to attend the conference.

Scholarship Committee: This committee will meet later today to make recommendations.

President Elect: See attached report. Food costs for the conference (2007) were over \$60,000. We lose money for every person who does not pay for the conference and meals.

Vice President: Kathleen Atkins will give her report on June 13, 2008.

Rep to Rep Assembly: Love and Rainbolt indicated that CEC has a 5-year strategic plan, and Rainbolt has a copy of CEC's goals as well as CASE competencies for administrators. There will be no Canadian CEC chapter at the end of the fiscal year.

Communications Chair: Barbara Gartin indicated that web usage has increased. She listed several features: visual counter, email list, online voting. She also indicated that there was increased SPAM. She said some goals were not realized: New member spotlight, gossip columnist...see attached report from Elaine and Barbara. Elaine will train the board in Google Analytics if desired.

Lunch at 12:00.

Gartin suggested that when conference participants receive confirmation, that they be asked to supply handouts etc. for posting on the website after the conference starts.

DEC: Angela Traweek indicated that five members went to the conference in Canada. She also reported on the 2008 spring conference where Rene` Crow was speaker. This was attended by 160 participants. They plan to sponsor a preconference in November, 2008.

DBD: Tosha Palmer indicated that a business meeting would be held in November and that they were trying to increase membership.

Scholarship: Courtney Williams indicated that applications came from many parts of the state. The committee will meet tonight.

Historian: RoseMerry Kirkpatrick indicated that minutes needed to be saved. Jenny Barber moved and Barbara Gartin seconded that officer reports need to be cc'ed to the secretary as well as the board president. The secretary should then electronically submit all information (minutes plus reports) to the communications chair for posting to the web. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Treasurer Barber passed out two reports: AR CEC Conference Subdivision Income and AR CEC Financial Report. The board reviewed the timeline for expense reimbursement. Jenny Barber will add this to the expense form. She will also investigate stopping payment on outstanding checks. She wants subdivisions to provide a budget before the September board meeting.

President: President Simpson summarized her year and noted several glows: conference growth, legislative activity, subdivisions, comraderie, diversity in the board. She noted several grows: advocacy (not enough), resistance, "I don't have time" issue.

Barbara Gartin moved and Kathleen Atkins seconded that we applaud Simpson, Barber, Foley for the work they have done on the board. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY!!!!!!

Strategic Plan: Jenny Barber passed this out and asked board to read. Atkins indicated that the goals in the plan do not fully reflect advocacy. Barber moved and Gartin seconded that we write "draft" on the plan, that Barber email the plan to all members, that all members email concerns to Simpson and that Simpson and volunteers work to incorporate the suggestions and get the plan back to board members for a vote in September. Passed unanimously. Volunteers include: Kohler, Kirkpatrick and Atkins.

Adjourn: Atkins moved and Foley seconded that we adjourn at 2:30. Meeting adjourned.

Other Items of Note:

Jon Rainbolt conducted board training.

Barber and Financial committee conducted an informal financial review.

Paul Johnston arrived at 4:15 (President DCDT)

Jon Rainbolt gave all board members information on various resources, including roles and responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Kohler, Secretary