CSSA Board Minutes

November 20, 2013

**Present:** Christopher Ozmun, Tammy Mockus, Eloise Farmer, Sandra Justin, David Lopath, Ray Delehant, Gennaro Frumento, Nancy Juliano , Melinda Meyer, Chris Baker, Kathy Daly, Beth Taylor

**Absent:** Lauren Amaturo, Angela Bushan, Sarah Faulkner, Bruce Faitsch, Estelle Fanucci, Frank LaBanca, Harry Rosvally, Richard Therrien, Ralph Yulo, Terry Wilson

**Call to Order**--Meyer: Welcome to evening. Thanks to Nancy and Ray for dinner. Thanks to Sandy and Eloise for coming early and setting up. Thanks to Terry for keeping meeting area open. Thanks to all for rearranging agenda items.

**NGSS Position Statement Draft**: Melinda felt that she needed more discussion from the board before a statement was drafted. She contacted Liz Buttner about this topic. Liz suggested that she attend several of our meetings and be part of the discussion.

Liz met jointly with CSTA board and CSSA board. Liz opened by stating that she understood that there are concerns about the pace of adopting the NGSS standards by CT state. She is hoping that the implications of adopting NGSS will be understood by everyone at the meeting. She asked audience member to share their concerns which included: that little or no science is happening, everything is in a holding pattern, all district resources are going to CCSS, districts are missing the opportunity to integrate science with CCSS, frustrations with the community moving ahead with science, less communication this year about progress at state level, concerns about the increase in units—less depth of material covered.

Liz responded by reiterating that she has always been an advocate for the teaching of science in CT, a “mosquito in the ear of the commissioner.” She shared slides from various presentation that included a list of the implications for adopting NGSS which she believes is “cause for pause.” They include large increases in PD for developing a new way of teaching science and including engineering, teacher prep, high school hiring of staff and increase in facilities. She will be presenting this material at the next CSSA dinner, as well.

**Budget: Kathy Daly**

Kathy first shared a spreadsheet of the funds from 9/25/2013 to 11/20/2013. Balance as of 11/20/2013 is $17,649.96 ($11,658.31 in savings and $6235.02 in checking). Tammy and Melinda will speak with Jon DeVito concerning ad in this year’s membership booklet.

Kathy then shared a spreadsheet of the income year to date. She explained that she needs to talk to Lauren to get the membership dues and dinner income segregated. Dinner receipts are high. Dinner sponsors are exact. Interest is minimal. Funds are on track for dinner meetings, planning meetings. Insurance is paid. CSTA Conference is budgeted for $500, if they have a shortfall. Eloise suggested that this item might not need to be included next year. It was also suggested that there be a line item called “Office Supplies” included next year.

**Dinner Update:**

67 people came, with four no shows. AV bill was huge—CSSA projector will be used other times. $2000 from Prentice Hall more than covered expenses. Feedback from members was that dinner was too late. Suggestion that presentation occur before dinner, then eat, and have question/discussion to follow after dinner. Location is in the same.

**Other:**

Tammy suggested that Jon Landers and Maryanne be recognized on their retirements for his years of serviceto CSSA. Approved. Sandy agreed to handle this.

Sandy acknowledged and suggested that CSSA also honor Bob Rosenbaum’s wife. Sandy will keep the board informed on this event.

Meeting was adjourned and members joined the CSTA Board to debrief on the CSTA State Conference.