



Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for May 2, 2009
Valparaiso University
3:00 p.m. - 4:19 p.m.

Attendance:

Officers: Angelika Becker, Sarah DeMaris, Nicci Saari, Julie Canady

Non-officer Directors: Ricky Baron (AATF-NW), Dine Moeller-Sahling, (IAATG)

1. Angelika called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. Nicci Saari submitted the March 8, 2009 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted.
3. Julie Canady submitted the Treasurer's Report. Our beginning balance was \$5180.28, with 2 checks written to 2 CSC Delegates for \$500.00, checks for poster contest winners for \$505.00, and an ending balance of \$4175.28. The report was approved as submitted.
4. Angelika presented the 2009 Conference update in Silvana's absence. Conference forms are updated and on the website—Silvana has been in contact with Tom Welch, possible keynote speaker, trying to negotiate a reasonable price for us. IFLTA generally pays the keynote speaker a \$500 stipend plus expenses. Tom has expertise in globalization and technology. A suggestion was made for there to be a spot on the registration that says "I am a member of my constituent organization check yes or no"--the IFLTA registration would be \$10 more for IFLTA members who are not a member of a constituent organization. That can be used as a stipend for the organizations. This might help for increasing memberships for the constituent organizations. This was tabled for future discussion.
5. Angelika discussed some old business items. The deadline for the constituent organizations to send their TOY nominees was May 1st. Randy Studt is the TOY chair and will coordinate the TOY selection process with the VPs of the constituent organizations. There was some discussion that the guidelines weren't as clear as they could be for TOY candidates' portfolios. Ricky Baron suggested that the rubric be placed online. Angelika will send the rubric to Carol to be placed on the website as soon as possible.

Julie will be meeting with Tom Alsop the first weekend in June regarding the Strasheim Award. She will attempt to raise \$500 through him for the Strasheim Award. Diane Williamson is our Strasheim winner. We have \$239 in the Strasheim currently. The traditional amount is up to \$1500 for a deserving teacher or it can be divided up among deserving applicants. We will award \$1000 to

Diane Williamson for the Strasheim. Deadline for applications is in March each year. A motion was made to award the Strasheim Award in the amount of \$1,000 and approved.

Julie reported about the IFLTA Poster Contest in behalf of Shawn Whistler. Adding color to the posters has really made the contest move to a different level. There has been more involvement and entries from the middle school and elementary teachers. Shawn Whistler will continue to be our Poster Contest Chair.

Next the IFLTA Newsletter was discussed. IFLTA sent out a postcard to all FL teachers in the state to remind them about the IFLTA Spring Newsletter online. It was mentioned that some teachers did not receive the postcards. There was some discussion as to whether we should have a paper newsletter versus an online newsletter. Angelika suggested making a condensed version of the online newsletter without pictures and registration materials so that printing it would not be so long. There can be links in the online newsletter to link to conference photos and registration. Angelika suggested that we continue to do the all online format. Angelika will be in touch with Matt Miller, IFLTA News Editor, to post and link to other areas on the website, and to have a link to a printable version on the website.

6. Some New Business items were discussed. The first item regarded a change in the current by-laws. Sarah Demaris submitted a proposed timeline and change of officers as a motion. The change would be to have an additional officer of Second Vice-President (assistant to the First Vice-President), and to have the Second Vice-President, First Vice-President, President, and Immediate Past-President serve 1 year terms, with the Secretary and Treasurer still serving 2 year terms, but elected in alternate years. This means that for this November, we would elect an acting Secretary for one additional year (to allow an election of a Secretary the following year in alternation with the Treasurer), a Treasurer, a Second Vice-President, and a First Vice-President. The motion was seconded. There was some discussion about the new leadership structure in attracting new leadership. Motion was approved as submitted as proposed by Sarah. Sarah will send these to Carol to be posted on the IFLTA website.

The IFLTA Mission Statement was drafted during the IFLTA retreat after discussion from all of the constituent organizations. It is as follows:

IFLTA MISSION STATEMENT (MAY 2009)

The mission of the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association (IFLTA) is to promote the teaching and learning of world languages and cultures in the state of Indiana by providing professional development opportunities for world language instructors and by advocating for world languages in coordination with the Indiana Department of Education. By serving as an umbrella organization for state world-language associations, IFLTA seeks to foster a global perspective in Indiana citizens through school and post-secondary academic experience.

In addition, IFLTA Strategic Goals were drafted at the May retreat prior to the board meeting.

IFLTA STRATEGIC GOALS 2009

1) Assist the constituent organizations in membership drives.

Strategies:

- a) Provide venue at conference for organizations
- b) Provide venue and time for business meetings
- c) Encourage principals and/or superintendents to allow participation in IFLTA conference as professional development.

Action Step: Letter to superintendents or principals

2) Ensure the future of world-language instruction in Indiana by providing conference sessions designed for new teachers.

Action Steps:

Allow constituent organizations' involvement in the new teacher workshop and in sessions.

Make the new teacher workshop more accessible for new teachers around the state by making Thursday afternoon a meet & greet and introduction of the constituent organizations that would only be 7:30-8:30 p.m. and then do wine tasting from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Keep the pre-service teachers' workshop on Thursday afternoon from 6-9 p.m., then do the actual new-teacher workshop the last 2 sessions on Saturday afternoons after lunch.

7. Next, there were reports from the various constituent organizations present at the meeting. Some of the highlights included:

AATF-NW: Ricky Baron discussed how they are reaching out to the eastern portion of Indiana by hosting immersion dinners once a month and they are adding a second annual event. Ricky praised Valparaiso University's World Languages Department because they are dedicated to language learning in a K-Post-Secondary sequence.

AATG: Dine Moeller-Sahling mentioned they just had an immersion experience last weekend in Bloomington on Germany and Europe-the European Union. Membership is down a little this year but they are working to increase membership from the IFLTA Retreat ideas. Another success was the creation of the German Task Force in saving jobs for German Teachers. There will be a workshop on mentoring new teachers entitled "Mentoring for the Future" having to do with knowing all of the different resources available for German teachers in August. The speaker for the AATG workshop this November at the IFLTA Conference will talk about technology, in particular podcasting, based on the popularity of the topic at the immersion experience.

AATSP: Julie spoke in behalf of David Malcom. Concorso was 2 weeks ago at Craig Middle School in Indianapolis and was a successful event.

IN-NELL: Nicci and Julie spoke on behalf of Molly Murphy. In conjunction with the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library, IN-NELL hosts bilingual story times the 2nd Saturday of each month and is in need of story tellers for the various languages.

8. There were some additions. Nicci presented the Michigan World Languages Association's By-Laws and Officer Responsibilities (MWLA Handbook) to show as a model and Nicci suggested that we move toward doing something similar for IFLTA. Angelika mentioned that once we have a finished draft of officer responsibilities put together with the by-laws as an "IFLTA Handbook" that we should also post this on the website and asked to add this to the agenda for the new officers once they are elected at the December board meeting. Ricky Baron posed a question for further discussion—could there be a combined discount for belonging to 2 different language organizations? This item was tabled for further discussion in August.

Next meeting: August 8, 2009 at Carmel High School (TOY selection, VP of constituent organizations need to be part of TOY selection committee)

The meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Submitted respectfully by Nicci Saari, IFLTA Secretary