

VATE Executive Board Meeting

Saturday, March 20, 2010, 9:00am

Green Run High School, Virginia Beach, VA, Room 202

Members present: Jan Suppa-Friedman, Sarah Tanner-Anderson, Crystal L. Haskins, Julie Singleton-Smith, Adria Merritt, Chuck Miller, Roark Mulligan, Sylvia Babcock, and Tracy Fair Robertson

- I. Call to order, adoption of agenda – – The meeting was called to order at 9:10am
- II. Welcome and Introductions – Welcome by Adria Merritt
- III. Reports
 - A. Secretary's Report – minutes have been adopted via email and posted.
 - B. Webmaster's Report – Linda MacCleave – Peggy has been working diligently with Paypal to assure that we have non-profit status. This issue remains unresolved. Consequently, VATE can use the Paypal account, place money in it, but cannot withdraw the money. Linda has finished the online membership form and Paypal button, and it is working correctly. She has renewed her personal membership, and one student member has joined using it, also.

It will a while to create the registration form and required Paypal buttons, and Linda does not want to do it until the issue with restricted use of Paypal has been resolved. When that happens, she will begin working on the online reservation process.
 - C. Public Relations – Kathryn Geranios – Kathryn is looking for news and issues that are important to English teachers. She will respond to these issues on VATE's behalf. Jan Suppa-Friedman presented an article, "New Jersey Teacher of the Year speaks out against merit pay" for consideration.
 - D. Multicultural Liaison – Mary Davis – Multicultural Awareness nominations are due April 15.
 - E. Excellence in Student Literary Magazines – Freyja Bergthorson – will prepare magazine display for Exhibit Hall with previous year's winners and recognize at conference. Sarah will work on showcasing student work at the 2010 VATE Conference. Students will read an excerpt from their piece, and their sponsors will be recognized.
 - F. NCTE Achievement in Writing Award – Troy Ketch – Feb. 2, 2010 was the submission date. Troy needs judges, preferably college instructors. Jan Suppa-Friedman volunteered to be a judge.
 - G. SLATE Liaison – Deborah Carrington – Deborah will publish in NE on censor issue and preparing panel and session for fall conference.
 - H. VETAC Liaison – Rafe Telsch – No Report
 - I. VCEE Liaison – Hood Frazier – VCEE is currently collecting dues.
 - J. VDOE Report – Tracy Robertson – No Report
 - K. VSRA Liaison – Silvia Babcock – The conference was well attended; 1200 participants. They want the liaisons to have stronger ties with VSRA. Silvia really appreciates the minutes being online. This enables her to use the minutes to make her report. Sylvia wants ideas of how VSRA can support VATE. Adria suggests that VATE and VSRA nurture their relationship through a joint service project. VSRA Writing Chair, Chynita Pryor, is willing to try new ideas in effort to collaborate with VATE. Membership for both organizations is a focus in collaboration. International service projects would be an option. Sylvia would like to have a dialogue between Chynita, Adria, and herself to take back to the May 20, 2010 Governing Council meeting.
 - L. NCTE Liaison – Jan Suppa-Friedman – The NCTE Leadership Meeting dates are July 9-11. Adria, Crystal, Chuck, and Julie are planning to attend the Leadership Conference; NCTE will compensate a 1/3 of the costs. The registrants need to be there by Saturday at 4:00pm. With the exception of one night, all meals are covered. Jan suggests that participants do not plan to leave before 2:30pm on Sunday. Adria will email names of VATE participants planning to attend.
 - The Leadership Development Award is still accepting nominations.
 - Advocacy Day: Arleatrice, Adria, Jan, and Crystal are planning to attend. Appointments with representatives will be made prior to Advocacy Day.
 - See *SCOA Newsletter* concerning more information from NCTE.
 - M. Members-At-Large
 - Elementary –Nancy Webb/Kirk Dolson – Kirk submitted an article for the Elementary Corner from a reading teacher who details what she knows for sure about reading.
 - Middle –Arleatrice Winters/Jennifer Bartholomew – Book Trailer Competition
 - Secondary – Brent Fleisher/Lynn Armstrong – No Report
 - Colleges – Mary Beth Cancienne-Acgtblu/Daniel Woods – Marty Beth signed up 15 new members for JMU's affiliate.

- N. Affiliate Chair Report – Roark Mulligan – Affiliates are doing really well. On April 8, Paula Brown will be the featured speaker at CNU at 7:00pm in McMurrin Hall. VATE will offer a free registration as a door prize.
 - O. Vice President's Report – Julie Singleton-Smith – Julie and Christina are still working on door prizes for the Fall Conference. Julie is contacting area businesses for space and quotes. Chuck will send Julie the specifications from VATE to assist her.
 - P. Past-President's Report – Chris Woods – PATE Conference April 20, 4-6:00pm at Addison Middle School in Roanoke City. The Big Read Roanoke Valley/VATE Writing Contest went well. All six winning pieces (3 adults and 3 students) will be submitted to the VEB. The coordinators of the contest are very pleased that VATE has been so helpful in their efforts and sincerely appreciates us publishing all the entries as well. For more information on the Big Read, visit www.bigreadroanokevalley.org. In addition, the Big Read is on Facebook with almost 700 fans. Chris asks that more VATE members become fans on Facebook. Chris was able to get the Blue Ridge Writing Project Director, Aileen Murphy, to present on how to become a T.C. and on putting the "Try in Poetry." VATE's own Mary Bailey will also speak on her process for writing her novel, *Vhan Zeely and the Time Prevaricators*. Mary will also visit Chris' daughter's elementary school to speak with the students about her book and its references to the Revolutionary War.
 - Q. President-Elect's Report – Sarah Tanner-Anderson – Sarah mentioned that the Writer's In Action is underway; however, she needs two more "Writers in Action," preferably middle and high school level writers. There are few proposals for the conference; Sarah looks forward to more coming in soon. VATE members, please motivate teachers to send in proposals.
 - R. Executive Secretary's and Conference Coordinator's Report – Chuck Miller – VATE has received one online membership; five members have joined since the last meeting. Chuck sent a final email reminder concerning membership renewal. There will be a postcard follow-up. Chuck will ask Linda about putting a blinking notice on the website for membership. The room rates for the conference are \$89.00. Chuck mentioned that Linda does an awesome job!
 - S. Treasurer's Report – Peggy Gearhart – no financial changes.
 - T. President's Report – Adria Merritt – Chuck and Adria discussed nurturing new affiliates. VATE would provide start up funds under the contingency that they have at least 20 members, a yearly submission to the Needle's Eye, send three representatives to the conference, and are actively involved in the Affiliate Showcase \$300.00 was suggested as the start-up fund amount. Sylvia made the motion that Adria propose this to the board via email. Julie seconded the motion; the motion passed. Adria will email the proposal to the board.
 PenVATE will meet May 1, 2010 to create teacher empowerment kits.
 Publications – Carolyn Matthews – No Report
 - A. Needle's Eye – Sara Zeek – No Report
 - B. VEB – Robert Williams – The last issue of VEB was well received. Robert has in hand one request for four additional issues @ \$3.00 / issue, and an email from Bill Gribbin at Liberty U confirming his intention to distribute Leila Christenbury's article as a required reading for his pre-service teachers. Additionally, the response from libraries regarding the limited print run (and from contributors) has been very positive. As long as the VATE budget continues to be limited, Robert suggests VATE continues with printing 100 copies for contributors and institutional subscribers.
 VATE will soon have to find a replacement for Robert as his term is ending in January. The Board needs to consider whether they want to print 100 copies for \$1,040 or 200 copies for \$1,414. Based on the conversation during the meeting, the Board suggests 100 copies, but will be in contact with Robert to solidify.
 - A. Policy and Practice Chair – Linda MacCleave – No report
- IV. Old Business –
- B. Affiliate Start-Up Funds; see Adria's report.
- V. New Business – No new business
- VI. Announcements – No announcements
- VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:35pm.