

TFL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, August 22, 2017– 7:00 PM

Online via GoToMeeting

Minutes

In attendance:

Keith Pittman (Chair) – Asheville
Jonathan Peele – Charlotte Latin
Mary Morales – Charlotte Catholic
Bob Wieckowski – Myers Park
Jeff Welty (Secretary) – Durham Academy
Ann Petersen (Alternate Member) – Pinecrest
Brigitte Cain (Treasurer, outgoing, as described below) -- Unaffiliated
Evelyn Stackley (Treasurer, incoming, as described below) – Cumberland Polytechnic
John Walker (Webmaster) – Albertus Magnus Academy

I. **Call to order.**

- Keith called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. **Approval of Minutes.**

- The draft minutes of the May meeting are available online and were distributed with the meeting packet for this meeting. There were no corrections. A motion to approve the draft minutes was made and passed unanimously.

III. **Treasurer's Report.**

- The TFL account balance is \$8,958.25. There are a couple of small checks outstanding and Brigitte will follow up on these appropriately.
- Brigitte spoke with a vendor about the possibility of getting up to 4 tablecloths embroidered with the TFL logo for use at the state tournament. The idea was that embroidery would be more durable than silkscreening. However, the vendor was hesitant because of the risk of puckering the fabric with a large logo and running of colors with a multicolor logo. Another vendor estimated between \$100 and \$250 per tablecloth. Brigitte mentioned the possibility of looking at runners also. Comments from the group were positive about runners, as they could be laid across plain tablecloths. Mary volunteered to help look for other possible vendors. One option is to get a couple of inexpensive silkscreened runners and see how much use they get.
- A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made and passed unanimously.

IV. **Committee and Staff Reports**

- a. **Strategic Planning (Jarman/Harrow).** Chris Harrow reported by email prior to the meeting that the Strategic Planning Committee had not met since the May meeting. The Committee is uncertain whether to pursue further reforms this year or wait until next year's non-transitional committee is elected.
- b. **Merchandise (Morales).** Mary stated that the TFL took a loss of just over \$200 on merchandise last year. The white shirts did not sell well and there was not consistent staffing of the merchandise table. Mary suggested that any merchandise should not be marked with the year so that leftovers could be sold the following year. The group agreed to table further discussion of merchandise until we know who will be hosting the state tournament and whether they would like to offer merchandise and can staff the table.
- c. **NCASA Liaison (Peele).** Jonathan stated that regional middle school tournaments will be 4/14/18, with the state final 5/5/18. NCASA continues to offer forensics in a way that is not exactly consistent with what we offer but it is good that it is being offered at all.
- d. **Webmaster (Walker).**
 - i. *Website update.* The website is up and working well.

- ii. *Backup webmaster.* Jeff proposed that the Secretary serve as backup webmaster and the group unanimously agreed.

V. **Appointment of new Treasurer.**

- Keith proposed that Evelyn Stackley with Cumberland Polytechnic serve as Treasurer. She is willing to do so. A motion to appoint her was made and unanimously approved. Evelyn and Brigitte will work together to ensure a smooth transition.

VI. **2017-18 TFL Calendar.**

- The calendar is online. Chris Harrow emailed prior to the meeting to say that Queens University would like to host a tournament either 1/20/18 or 2/10/18. Both weekends already have tournaments. Mary volunteered to let Chris know of these conflicts. It is up to Queens what they would like to do.

VII. **2018 tournament bid update.**

- The deadline for bids is October 1. We have not yet received any bids. Ann reported that Pinecrest is planning to submit a bid that would involve both Pinecrest HS and Sandhills Community College with shuttle service between the campuses. Bob reported that Myers Park is planning to submit a bid.

VIII. **State Tournament Protest Policy (Tabled from May).**

- Because Shannon is responsible for addressing protests and was not present, this item was tabled again by consensus.

IX. **Celebrity panel of judges for final rounds.**

- At the May meeting, we agreed to continue with this practice in PF with Jeff assembling the panel. By consensus, we tabled discussion of expanding this practice to other events until the decision is made regarding the host of the state tournament, as the location of the tournament might impact the feasibility of assembling celebrity panels.

X. **Obtaining Extemp/Impromptu/Radio questions (Tabled from May).**

- Last year, we contracted with Beth Kingaby to write the topics. It was initially challenging to communicate with her but she eventually provided the topics in a timely fashion. Keith noted that the best practice is to have someone unaffiliated with any school provide the topics. Mary suggested purchasing them from the NSDA, though there was some uncertainty about whether they do impromptu topics. Another suggestion was to see whether Robert Sheard would be willing to provide topics since he is now retired from coaching. After some discussion, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

XI. **Virginia Sutherland Circle of Honor.**

- No nominations were made.

XII. **Other business.**

- Jonathan asked when the district tournaments will be. Tarheel East will be the weekend of 3/24, except Congress which will be 2/24. Carolina West has not been set but may be the weekend of 3/17 as that is when South Carolina wants to hold its district tournament. Jonathan suggested that in the future the two North Carolina districts could work together on districts.

XIII. **Set next meeting time/date.**

- The group agreed to meet shortly after the October 1 deadline for state tournament bids. Keith will send out a Doodle poll to set a specific date, and will target the weeks of October 9 and October 16.

XIV. **Adjourn.**

- A motion to adjourn was made at 8:08 and passed unanimously.

2017-18 Transitional Year Committee – All terms end at end of year:

Chris Harrow – Ardrey Kell
Shannon Jarman – Cumberland International
Mary Morales – Charlotte Catholic
Jonathan Peele – Charlotte Latin
Ann Petersen (Alternate Member) -- Pinecrest
Keith Pittman – Asheville
Jeff Welty – Durham Academy
Bob Wieckowski – Myers Park