

Agenda

National Rural Education Association

Membership Meeting

October 16, 2015

4:00 PM

- 1.0 Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by President Watkins at 4:00 PM CT
 - 1.1 Designation of Parliamentarian – Mary Lou Gammon was designated as the parliamentarian.
- 2.0 Vote to approve the Agenda – A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mary Lou Gammon and seconded by Don Rpgers. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3.0 NREA Committee Reports
 - 3.1 Awards and Recognition Committee

Awards and Recognition Committee

On September 3, 2015, a telephone conference call was held involving committee members Phil Gerick, John Hill and Larry John.

Three (3) applications for the NREA Exemplary Practices Award were reviewed and discussed. The applications received were from Texas, Indiana and Virginia.

Following discussion, the unanimous choice to receive the Award was the application from Southwest Virginia Governor's School, submitted by Krista Stith.

The meeting (telephone conference) adjourned following the decision.

Submitted by:

Larry John

Larry John, Chair

10/16/15

3.2 Convention Advisory/Selection Committee

The Convention Advisory committee met October 15.

Those present: George Brown, Janice Brown, Ray Patrick, Scott Turney, Barb Havlichek, Gerald Thorne, and John Hill.

The 2016 meeting will be held October 12 – 15 in Columbus, OH in conjunction with the Rural Forum.

The facility is the Union on the Ohio State campus. Battelle for Kids will handle reservations, registration, and recruitment of exhibitors and sponsors. Both organizations will coordinate the conference framework and the selection of breakout session presenters. NREA will receive 445000.

We will wait on making plans for 2017 as we evaluate the working relationship with Battelle.

3.3 Committee for Diversity

Committee Report

Committee Name: DIVERSITY

Members Present:

GERRI MAXWELL, CHAIR, CINDY MCINTEE, JIM LAPRAD
SCOTT TURNER, SAUNDRA WATKINS

Summary of the Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed progress. Four online meetings were held over the course of 2014-2015. Sessions in the NREA program were highlighted as sessions on diversity. Goals for 2015-2016 were brainstormed and set. Those include:

1. Conduct a diversity review of the NREA to establish a baseline of data including: demographics of general membership, demographics of committee membership, Awardees dispersion, etc.
2. Provide input on final program for NREA national convention to further improve visibility of diversity among the research symposium sessions.
3. Continue to aggressively market NREA:
 - optimize the partnership w/ Battelle whereby we share mailing lists to promote the joint conventions
 - ~~share~~ continue to market through other affiliations
 - renew site selection + consider diversity of where conference is hosted to engage diverse membership

3.4 Editorial Advisory Committee

NREA Editorial Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2015

St. Louis, Missouri

The meeting began at 1:30 pm. Representatives present included: John Hill (Executive Director), Jody Isernhagen (Chair), Scott Ferrin, MaryLou Gammon, Erin McHenry-Sorber, Pat Hadre, Sandra Watkins (President), Dana Frantz (Editor), Stephanie Bennet (Review Editor).

The Members introduced themselves. A discussion of the journal's transition was included in this discussion. Devon Brenner is on leave for the year because she is working with a US senator (Cochran) from Mississippi. She will return June 2016 as co-editor. Dana and Stephanie will create a youtube video for submission instructions for turning one's dissertation into an article for the journal. The group suggested a session at the next conference.

The group engaged in a discussion of committee membership. We updated the current contact list and determined who was stepping off the committee and who was continuing. Members stepping off the committee include: Mike Boone, Patti Chance, Heather Duncan, Jody Isernhagen, Susan Day Shertz. Dana Frantz replaces Heather Duncan. Members remaining on the committee include: Scott Ferrin, Mary Lou Gammon, Pat Hardre, Hobart Harmon, John Hill (ex-officio), Shu-Yuan Lin, Erin McHenry-Sorber (will become chair), Sandra Watkins. Updated/corrected contact information:

- Erin McHenry-Sorber, West Virginia University, ecmchenrysorber@mail.wvu.edu, (570) 419-3538 (Cell)
- Dana Frantz, Mississippi State, df76@colled.msstate.edu, (662) 312-4440 (cell)
- Scott Ferrin, (801) 422-4804

Names suggested to the committee included Geri Maxwell (Texas), Karen Eppley (PSU), Cat Biddle (U of Maine).

Hobart made a motion to increase the policy from "at least 9" members to "at least 10" members. Mary Lou seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.

Discussion of journal's transition to electronic journal. Option for members to either choose the print or electronic copy of the journal. For the first year, there will be no difference in cost. Pat cautions that increased cost for print copy may limit access. John will notify everyone that we're moving to an online copy. Everyone will receive online unless they notify that they want a print copy via the membership form. There are still 400 members for whom we have no email address. Libraries will continue to receive a hard copy. The cost for the most recent issue was \$808.83 for shipping + \$2530.00 for printing, as reported by Dana.

Dana's journal report: The big transitioning issue they have is that the website still directs people to Heather's email. Her graduate student is working to correct this. In the meantime, they've created a

gmail account to get submissions to them. They're moving submissions to an online submissions system using EdPub. This will go live November 1, 2015. The upload will be directed from the journal website. Editorial Advisory Board will serve as initial reviewers in this system. The new editors have photo files from schools but without captions/descriptions. They will share with the committee to determine places.

Current manuscripts: 2 accepted with minor revisions, 9 R&Rs with 4-month revise deadline, 6 rejected, 4 under review, 1 ready for editor's decision, 3 pending reviewers, 2 new submissions. Mary Lou and Pat suggest providing guidance for reviewers. Dana and Stephanie rewrote the scoring guide and guidelines that they send to reviewers. Pat requested a copy of that for the committee to review. Jody suggested doing a session at the conference for reviewers. Devon is bringing reviewer cards to conference to update reviewer list. Pat suggested sending an email to listserv introducing new editorship and requesting reviewers.

Dana and Stephanie posed Promising Practices submissions (one per issue) and a Focus Issue if the Research Committee suggests any with potential guest editor. Hobart suggested an Innovations in Rural Schools. Mary Lou has suggested the incorporation of promising practices at the end of each issue, which would connect back to *The Country Teacher*. Dana asked for clarification on book reviews and research briefs. Mary Lou said the research briefs were designed to provide an overview of hot topics in research. Book reviews were intended to provide reviews of important current books. Hobart added that a purpose was to replace the work of the ERIC briefs. NREA is trying to connect research and practice—DOE is trying to create an "evidence based profession." Look at potential briefs coming out of research agenda specifically in rural contexts. The group will talk to Research Committee about this. Mary Lou wants editors to consider this for next meeting to include in next meeting agenda and discussed the need for balancing research articles with practitioner-focused/friendly pieces. Pat suggested reaching out to presenters at conference/symposium to submit to journal in addition to soliciting dissertations. Dana's vision is to include 3 articles and 2 promising practices pieces per issue.

At 3:45, Research Committee members who were not already in the meeting—Greg Montavo and Victoria Schaefer—joined the group. Jody shared previous dissertation list from Scott Ferrin who then distributed new list. Victoria reported that the Research Committee has been very active. She shared the following ideas: The Research Committee has taken responsibility for 2 sessions to (1) submit a good research proposal for the symposium and (2) what are we looking for in a good presentation; the committee has revised the call for submissions and rubrics. Victoria will share powerpoints from these sessions with Dana by next summer so she can utilize them for planning her session on journal submissions for next year's symposium.

Greg shared that one goal is to establish a set of research priorities to let researchers, policy makers, and funders know important issues to be researched. The Committee conducted a survey this year, is conducting focus groups at the conference, and conducting sessions. The Committee will present the information to the Executive Committee. Sandra added that this work is in line with NREA's mission and vision. Once the Research Committee completes its research priorities, the journal can work to solicit

research briefs on those topics. Greg also suggested focused issues based on those priorities. Victoria suggested mapping out a strategic timeline for i3 focused issue around major funded topics.

Scott shared the 2014-2015 dissertation list with the group. Mary Lou will send out the electronic copy to the committee.

- Dual language K-2 teacher language, identity, pedagogy (Scott)
- Teacher induction programs
- School improvement councils and extra-curricular programming
- Poverty across settings in NY & impact on funding, student achievement
- Leveraging resources through school district collaboration
- Organizational practices of high achieving districts (high Hispanic population)
- Consolidation—Maryland
- Access barriers for rural low-income first generation community college students
- Successful reorganization of ND schools with low enrollment
- Teacher perspectives on factors that affect attrition in rural areas contiguous to metropolitan areas
- Dual enrollment programs in rural secondary school students
- Middle school teachers' use of reading programs in rural Latino school
- Colorado's growth model across 3 elementary schools
- Implementation of inter-district curriculum consortium—Colorado
- Country school schools—1800s
- Prairie Valley project—multi-age classroom design
- Teaching science in low performing rural schools
- Physical activity and achievement in rural, Mexican community (Scott)
- Student characteristics and discipline referrals
- Student achievement in 4- and 5-day weeks
- Freshmen transition program and attendance rates
- Facilitated improved reading fluency using cross-grade tutoring strategy
- Family school collaboration in Mexico
- Co-constructing college going capital in a rural HS English class
- Kindergarten rural at-risk students
- Silencing, erasure, and stigma of LGBTQ students (Scott)
- Impact of taste-test interventions on vegetable plate waste, middle school
- Rural teachers' perceptions of safety

Pat suggests sending conference call to these students and their advisors. Jody asked editors to contact authors of interest to invite them to submit to journal. Research Committee will also reach out to the authors or individuals can express interest in a particular study. Erin will forward list to editors and Research Committee. (Include three Scott is taking charge of in list.)

Erin will send out email in winter to meet in March to determine need for meeting (face-to-face or virtual).

Pat motioned adjournment; Sandra seconded. Meeting ended at 5:00.

3.5 Legislative committee

NREAC held a business meeting in St. Louis on October 15. Ray Patrick and Jimmy Cunningham were elected chair, and vice chair. Membership fees were established for the coming year. Leslie Finnan, NREAC/AASA provided an update on activities in Washington, DC.

ESEA: The staff of the named conferees (the chairmen and ranking member) have been working very diligently the last two weeks. We still don't have a timeline of when to expect a conference bill to emerge, but we could see something this month. One of the most important messages to pass to Congress (especially the house!) is the need TO reauthorize ESEA and put kids first.

Appropriations: We have a clean CR until Dec 11. The debt ceiling will be breached Nov 5. The odds of a shutdown are low, if only because the blame would likely fall solely on Republicans (whereas in 2013 it was split between the two) and they want to avoid that going into the White House election. Congress needs to wrap the funding work for FY2016 in a way that raises the caps. The overall caps for 2016 are prohibitively low and resulted in house and senate program-level allocations that represent significant cuts for our overall education allocations (approximately 4% in the House and 2% in the Senate). Congress replaced the sequester with a two year deal when they ended the shutdown, and they need to do that again.

E-Rate: No update here, but we are working on a narrow level of involvement for the lifeline program, the one created by President Reagan, but known as 'Obamaphone', that provides phone connectivity to low income homes. The program is undergoing a modernization much like E-Rate, with consideration of expanding the program to allow recipients to choose between using their monthly allocation (approximately \$9.50) for broadband connectivity at home, instead of phone. It's important to note that this update will NOT come with a funding increase. We are involved for what this option could mean for closing the homework gap.

Vouchers: The DC voucher program may be reauthorized very soon since Boehner is retiring. Since 2004, taxpayers have spent \$190 million to ensure a little over 6,000 DC students can attend private schools with no definitive indication that they are receiving a better education than what they would have received had they remained in the public school system.

Teacher Preparation Regulations: The administration recently released regulations aimed at evaluating teacher preparation programs. These regulations would tie student test scores to university programs. Despite the overwhelmingly negative response from NREAC and education groups from K-12 to the university level, the administration decided to continue. The regulations could go into effect as early as next year.

School Nutrition: Reauthorization of the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act remains stalled. The Senate was close to releasing a bill before Senator Stabenow, the Democratic ranking member of the Agriculture Committee, said she refuses to compromise on nutrition standards. She is likely getting pressure from the First Lady, as the standards were a big win for Michelle Obama in her fight against

childhood obesity. The House is still working, though in the House, school nutrition is in the Education and the Workforce Committee, which is currently occupied with ESEA reauthorization.

Higher Learning Commission: While not federal law, the Higher Learning Commission, which covers accreditation of post-secondary institutions in 19 states (AZ, AR, CO, IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, NM, ND, OH, OK, SD, WV, WI, WY). Recently, they announced that any dual credit courses must be taught by a teacher with a master's degree *in the field* or a master's degree and 18 credit hours in the field they are teaching. They are giving institutions until September, 2017 to comply. While they say this gives teachers two years to complete a master's degree, this is very difficult for current teachers with jobs and families and does not provide funding for the teachers to obtain these degrees. We have heard from many districts that this will force them to end their dual credit programs, and dramatically decrease the number of students receiving college credits and the cost of a college degree. Senator Collins and Representative Thompson were selected for the NREA HERO award. NREAC will hold monthly conference calls and a meeting in Washington, March 14 and 15, 2016.

3.6 Membership Committee

Committee Report

Committee Name: Membership Committee

Members Present: Robert Anderson
Don Rogers Jerry Cochran

Summary of the Committee meeting:

Meeting called to order 4:00 pm on 10/15/2015

Two members were present - Bob Anderson
Jerry Cochran and Don Rogers
The report was reviewed.

There was an increase of 116 members
and one new state affiliate.

We discussed going to local school
board in our near-by area, to
discuss potential services we provide.

We also discussed telling "success
stories" about school kids.

Member Count By Type
Date: 10/7/2015

Customer Type All Members

Join Date From ALL

Join Date To ALL

Member Type All
Member Flag Yes

Factor
Total

Individual				
Complimentary	2		1	2
Individual	150		1	150
Individual DM - AIRSS	10		1	10
Individual DM - AREA	45		1	45
Individual DM - ISRSA	69		1	69
Individual DM - MARE	46		1	46
Individual DM - MSSA	49		1	49
Individual DM - PARSS	2		1	2
Individual DM - TREA	342		1	342
Individual DM-NRCSA	14		1	14
Institutional DM - ISRSA	1		1	1
Institutional DM - MSSA	1		1	1
Institutional DM - TREA	1		1	1
Library	8		1	8
Library - Intl.	2		1	2
Retired	9		1	9
Sch Dist DM - AIRSS	3		1	3
School District	1		1	1
Student	10		1	10
Teacher	1		1	1
Individual Total:	766			766
Organization				
Complimentary publication	1		1	1
Institutional special	2		3	6
Institutional	52		3	156
Institutional DM - AIRSS	3		3	9
Institutional DM - ISRSA	3		3	9

Institutional DM - MSSA	7		3	21
Institutional DM - TNREA	2		3	6
Institutional DM - TREA	13		3	39
Library	110		1	110
Library - Intl.	8		1	8
Sch Dist DM - AIRSS	4		26	104
Sch Dist DM - AREA	5		26	130
Sch Dist DM - ISRSA	1		26	26
Sch Dist DM - TNREA	3		26	78
Sch Dist DM - TREA	22		26	572
School District	27		26	702
Special Sponsor	1		1	1
State Affiliate	26		1	26
	Organization Total:	290		2004
	Total Count:	1056		2770

3.7 Nominations and Elections Committee

The nominations committee met October 15, 2015. Those present: Mary Lou Gammon, George Brown, and John Hill.

The committee reviewed candidates for the 2015-2016 election and recommended the following slate for nomination at the Delegate Assembly:

Jason Bell – President Elect Designate

Pat Laubach – State Agency Representative

Greg Montalvo – Higher Education Representative

3.8 Partners committee

Committee Report

Committee Name: PARTNERS

Members Present:

Dan Rask
Gerald Thorne
John Hill

Summary of the Committee meeting:

The committee met + discussed the by laws.
No changes made.

The committee developed a flyer + cover letter to send to prospective Partners. Dan will present this to state execs Saturday morning @ their annual breakfast and encourage them to return to their states + distribute to @ least 3 organizations or foundations. Dan also created a page on the MSSA website where partners members, state execs or anyone in general may download the documents + convert to their own letterhead. (See attached)

The committee also would like to know who each has sent the flyer to so they can follow up + report next year.

3.9 Procedures, Bylaws, and Resolutions Committee

The Procedures, Bylaws, and Resolutions Committee met on October 15. Those present: Jules Waber and John Hill.

The committee postponed reviewing the final four sections of policies since all committee members were unable to attend.

3.10 Research/Higher Ed committee

The research Committee met throughout the day (October 15 , 2015) The committee reviewed the results of a survey, discussed procedures to determine a rural research agenda, set goals for 2016, and established meeting times for meetings in November and December. A joint meeting was held with the Editorial Advisory Board.

3.11 Teacher Activities Committee

Committee Report

Committee Name: Teacher Activities

Members Present:

Allison Dye -
Julie Wabe stopped by to visit -
↳ Jason Bell, John Hill, → all visited during other mtgs as
no one came to Teacher Act. mtg.)

Summary of the Committee meeting:

- 1) Dates will remain same on the Essay Contest
April 1st Submittal
- 2) By mail - or Email - digital submission was
easy! Laurel Tech director helped open different
media files
- 3) # of essays -
Elem division: about 40-50
MS division: about 20-25
HS division: only 3

How more?
- Push at State Exec's mtg
- Get more people on committee to help
-
- 4) discussion of moving the Committee meeting
to a session during conference - immediately
following Teacher of Year lunch - & ask
all teachers to come! This helps
push not only contest - but possibly
get more involved on committee.
- 5) will get the new prompt out
and updated on website R. 1 April.

3.12 Teacher of the Year selection Committee

Committee Report

Committee Name: Teacher of the Year

Members Present: Jason Bell, Allison Myers, John Hill

Summary of the Committee meeting:

The committee thoroughly reviewed the application during the previous year. This year's focus will involve examining the scoring rubric to make the scoring process more detailed.

The committee also discussed moving the on-site committee meeting to a day during the conference to encourage more participation by teachers. Ranking and recognizing the top 3 applicants was also agreed upon by the committee.

3.13 Technology/Telecommunications Committee

Committee Report

Committee Name: Technology

Members Present:

Jules Waber
Bill Tarleton
John Hill Guest: Allison Nys

Summary of the Committee meeting:

1. Jules opened the meeting by asking how we can improve/strengthen the committee. The committee meets monthly via video conference, & we will continue to identify issues and solutions throughout the year.
2. The website usage has been steady, much better than in previous years. It had 1587 hits, 1067 of those new, for mo. of September. Also had 305 FB likes, 537 twitter followers.
3. Though no solutions are immediate, we discussed the need for connectivity in rural areas.

3.14 Ways and Means Committee

Committee Report

Committee Name: Ways & Means

Members Present:

Don Rogers

Gerald Moore (visitor)

John Hill

Summary of the Committee meeting:

Adopted a budget in ~~July~~ June via Conference Call.
Expenditures ~~are~~ and Revenue are in line with the budget.
We are solvent, and utilizing good financial
management practices.

Don Rogers
Oct. 16, 2015

	Projected Income 07/01/2015 to 6/30/2016	Actual Income 07/01/2015 to 9/30/2015	
Membership	60,000.00	23983.81	39.97302
Convention Registration	40,000.00	32848.39	82.12098
Convention Exhibitors	1,800.00	1700	94.44444
Convention Ads	600		0
Sponsors	30,000.00	15500	51.66667
Grants			#DIV/0!
Interest	200	22.49	11.245
Other	1,000.00	5	0.5
Reserve Transfer			#DIV/0!
TOTAL	133,600.00	74059.69	55.4339

	Projected Expenditures 07/01/2015 to 6/30/2016	Actual Expenses 07/01/2015 to 9/30/2015	
Personnel			
Purdue Contract	61000	9850.72	16.14872
Grants and Awards	5000		0
Convention	30000	1485	4.95
Printing	1000		0
Office Expenses	4000	2563.24	64.081
Postage	2000		0
Publications	14500		0
Dues	3000		0
Meetings and Registrations	0		#DIV/0!
Telephone	100		0
Travel EX Committee	2000	408.04	20.402
Travel Staff	10000	2096.13	20.9613
Refunds	1000	250	25
Other			#DIV/0!
TOTAL	133600	16653.13	12.46492

3.15 NREA Foundation Report

The Foundation Board will meet on Saturday October 17 and will elect new board members. Nominations will be sought for those positions during the delegate assembly meeting.

3.16 Executive Director Report

The executive director reported the following activities for the previous year:

- attended state meetings in Indiana, Texas, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Wisconsin, and Nebraska.
- attended the Rural Forum in Columbus Ohio
- represented rural education on the Rural Access panel at the USDOE
- served as rural representative at the teacher leadership summits in Louisville and Denver
- served on an expert panel at a GAO meeting on the efficacy of competitive grants
- represented NREA at a Future Ready meeting at the White House
- submitted rural education questions for republican presidential candidates to the RFD TV network
- participated in a rural education summit in Hazard Kentucky with Sandra Watkins and Lois Gray
- work with Battelle for Kids to combine the Rural Forum and the 108th NREA Convention and Research Symposium
- participated in the Midwest REL TV program on rural dropouts
- conducted the business of NREA including billings, recruiting sponsors, writing newsletters, and conference planning.

4.0 A motion to adjourn was made by Jules Waber and seconded by Allison Nys. The motion passed unanimously.