

(Draft)

# WISCONSIN FORENSIC COACHES ASSOCIATION

## Fall Business Meeting

Union Hall – Marquette University – Milwaukee WI

Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm

Call to order – President Jodi Becker – 1:06 pm

Members present – Ben Kroll-Sheboygan South, Elliot Fischer-Sun Prairie, John Peschl-Sun Prairie, Tamara Mantinsek-Tosa East, Chris Zoch-Sheboygan North, Doris Sexton-West Bend East, Kelsey Palmer-Whitefish Bay, Jodi Becker-Berlin, Rachel Rosenthal Garza-Hartford, Joe Meinecke-Muskego, Mary Wacker-Brookfield East, Bev Kingma-Nicolet, Adam Jacobi-NFL, David J Wyatt-Nicolet, Peter Woods-Marquette, Diane Hardy-Rufus King, Carrie Baker-Reagan HS, Lynda Luce-Waupaca, Moira Sennett-Dominican, Mary Jane Simon-St Joan Antida HS, Sarah Hubbard-Delavan Darien, Catherine Czapski-Delavan Darien, Bonni Knight-Eau Claire North, Michael Traas-Appleton East, Tim Scheffler-James Madison Memorial, Fr Gary Wegner-St Lawrence, Sarah Taylor-Madison East, Gail Birkel-Messmer.

### Secretary Report – Mike Traas

The minutes from spring meeting were reviewed (Bev Kingma moved, Mary Wacker 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept) – the motion passed unanimously

The current calendar was reviewed (Mary Wacker moved and Bev Kingma 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the presented calendar) – the motion passed unanimously.

Michael Traas articulated that “executive board members will formulate a proposal to present at the winter executive board meeting, which will clarify procedures for appropriating the protocol for developing a comprehensive calendar of tournaments. This proposal will then be published on the website and come to the general membership at the spring meeting for discussion and approval.”

Category report – Mary Wacker first acknowledged David Loos’ existing protocol of inclusion – and Mary also recognized the current committee members and thanked them for their extensive work. She then presented her written report of the category committee – which included both action items and discussion items.

Action items:

1. **Approve Moments in History time period for 2008-09:**  
*1450-1650 – Reformation, Age of Discovery and High Renaissance*
2. **Approve Public Address Topics for 2008-09:**
  1. *Internet Regulation: to what extent, if any, should content on the World Wide Web be regulated?*
  2. *Human Trafficking: What, if anything, should be done to address the worldwide problem of human trafficking?*
  3. *China: What impact did the 2008 Olympics have on the Chinese culturally, economically and/or politically?*
  4. *Origin of Human Life: What should public schools be required to teach with regard to the origin of human life?*
3. **Approve Special Occasion topics for 2008-09:**
  1. *Speech to Gain Good Will*
  2. *A “Roast” Speech*
  3. *A Nomination Speech*
  4. *A Wedding or Anniversary Speech*
4. **Approve Storytelling Topics for 2008-09:**
  1. *Hans Christian Anderson Story*
  2. *A Story with Numbers*
  3. *A Story with Poverty of Hardship*
  4. *A Music Story*
  5. *A Chinese Folktale*
5. **Approve Group Discussion Questions for 2008-09**

(Lyn Luce moved to accept all 5 items – Doris Sexton 2<sup>nd</sup>) – Motion passed unanimously

## Discussion items –

Mary reviewed discussion items – *(Mary articulated that these are not action items but for future consideration by her committee)*

- Laptops and electronic retrieval devices
- Group discussion - #3 should be in the second half.
- Poetry – discussion to be more accepting of thematic programs – not against the rules.
- Storytelling – consideration of going to 4 instead of 5 stories.
- Critique sheet uniformity – Criteria for evaluation across the categories
- Significant speech – WHSFA is NOT considering adding it.
- Music and sound effects – non-singing is being considered singing – Recommending review of wording
- Concerns about inter-organization communication – no action recommended but should always try to communicate better.

## **Treasure Report** – Kelsey Palmer

YAHOO FOR GRANT!!! We have been awarded a \$10,000 grant from “The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, Inc.” The purpose of this grant of \$10,000 is to support hosting the state tournament and the scholarship program.

The Grant foundation will check in with us periodically – we only have 1 calendar year to spend this Money.

Kelsey stated that we will apply again and hope to broaden the application and also make the grant re-occurring.

\$5000.00 of the grant money will be used to offset cost of trophies and filming at tournament.

(Mary Wacker moved, Bev Kingma 2<sup>nd</sup>) – to present 5 \$1000 scholarships and also match the \$500 of the Maria Chelmo Scholarship for the current year with grant money. The motion passed unanimously. Thus \$5000.00 of the grant would be used for scholarships this year. The association publicly thanked Bonni Knight, Anita Fleisch, Doris Sexton and Kelsey Palmer for their work on the grant application!

Kelsey reminded all that membership forms and fees are due.

## **Past President** – Bonni Knight

Bonnie shared the rework done for the state ballot, it is a half sheet of paper – encouraging judges to write more – (this was initially proposed and passed for final round at state, but is now ready to implement for all 5 rounds at the state tournament.

Constitution cleanup – 2 proposals.

#1 – Delete (from the constitutional Bylaws) the second sentence of Article VI, Section IV, 2 This reads: “the committee shall audit the tabulation of sweepstakes awards at the state tournament.”

(Moved by Fr Gary Wegner 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Zoch) passed with 2 dissenting votes.

#2 – Delete (from the Operating Bylaws) II. Recommended Tournament Practices and Procedures (Note: a new section in the handbook with this title would replace this section of the bylaws).

(Moved by Mary Wacker 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tamara Mantinsek) after considerable discussion it was moved to table (by Mary Wacker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Zoch) the motion to table passed unanimously

The new coaches roundtable was successful, thus an online forum for new coaches will be explored.

Past President Knight would like to pursue the selling t-shirts at the state tournament.

## **President Elect** – Rachel Rosenthal Garza

President Elect Rachel Rosenthal Garza announced that the spring meeting will be in Hartford. The spring meeting time frame – Friday, May 1 (executive board meeting and new coaches workshop). Saturday, May 2 (committee meetings & tournament directors meeting in morning with Spring Business meeting to follow) lots of discussion – no definitive result. – More information to come.

**TPP** – Fr Gary Wegner

The Tournament Practices and Procedures will be looking at the issues of judging concerns, and divisions at the state tournament.

**Public Relations** – Bev Kingma

Bev Kingma will be available to sell Pins at every tournament she is at – additionally the PR committee will continue to make available, videos. Additionally the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary is coming up in 18 months.

**Program Assistance** – Joel Peschl

Program Assistance Chair Joel Peschl had four items -

- Constantly looking for regional mentors
- looking for job descriptions for coaching forensics – for compilation
- Fall workshops
- will be organizing the recording of DVDs, at the state tournament

**State Tournament Director** – Chris Zoch –

April 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> are the dates for this year's State Congress and Tournament.

We will return the state trophies to the original size. (Couple of replacement awards are still on their way.) Concerns were expressed about semi rounds bussed to the high school (was mostly done b/c of impromptu), solutions are being looked into, but need space information regarding bringing the semis back to campus.

Semi & final judge identification. Chris wants schools to identify specific judges at registration, which will help develop semi and final judging panels.

State Tournament director Chris Zoch presented a proposal to create an uniform numerical breaking procedure (Lyn Luce moved, Mary Wacker 2<sup>nd</sup>) A friendly amendment to maintain a uniform number of 6 in finals regardless of the number of semi-finalists was accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

**Student Congress Report** – none

**Webmaster** – Scott Peterson

Scott would just like anyone that has information that they need on the website to get him that information and he will get it up on the web.

**Old Business** -

None

**New Business** -

The hired positions for 08-09 were announced.

Scott Peterson – Webmaster

Chris Zoch – State Tournament director

Jodi Becker – Site Manager state tournament

Doris Sexton – State Congress director

Poetry Out-loud – would be offered a vendor booth at the State tournament

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 3:28 by Doris Sexton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lyn Luce. Passed – 1 dissenting vote