Minutes of the Classical Association of Florida

Friday, April 13, 2012

Orlando Wyndham Resort

President Susan McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. There were forty-one members present. A list of members in attendance can be found as an attachment to the bottom of the minutes. Susan welcomed the CAF members and new teachers to the meeting.

Phil Dillinger, CAF secretary, reminded all to sign in and get a copy of the fall minutes. Susan reminded Phil to ask for changes to the fall minutes. One change to the fall minutes was brought to attention: in the first paragraph, it should have read: Kristen Youngblood of Rickards High School. Alan Blessing moved to approve the minutes, Leslie Perkins seconded the motion. The corrected fall minutes were approved.

Susan stated that last year’s ACL institute had a large number of teachers from Florida. This year at least five members present stated that they will attend the institute in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Susan informed the group that the FFLA board meeting will be in May. This year’s FFLA conference will be at the Renaissance in St. Augustine. FFLA is now in a much better financial situation, with a $10,000 surplus. The 2013 conference will be with ACTFL in Orlando. Susan encouraged all CAF members to also become members of FFLA, as the CAF is now a vital part of FFLA.

Susan explained that Project Proficere, part of Race to the Top, is a grant that many CAF members have been working on. Members of Project Proficere are currently writing questions that may eventually become part of an end of course exam. If anyone has a question: Jeffrey Satriano, Timothy Kandel, Alan Blessing, Aurelia Ogles, and Susan McDonald are involved. Susan asked for questions and comments. Leslie Perkins thanked Susan for recognizing NLE recipients.

Silvana Wilbur, formerly Silvana Iuculano, CAF VP, spoke about the new venue for this year’s State Forum. She stated that things have been running smoothly and the hotel has been resolving issues quickly. Silvana asked for questions and comments. Guy Earle commended the hotel on distributing keys and the food. He asked if it would be possible in the future to move the Bazaar outdoors. He also asked for clear expectations and guidelines for Bazaar booths. Adam stated that attendance to the Bazaar increases when it is held indoors. Leslie Perkins commended the indoor Bazaar. Silvana said that Bazaar activities will be clarified for the next year with the hotel and published in the Ludi packet. Guy Earle stated that the catapult competition needs more sponsor supervision and attention. He volunteered to run the catapult competition in the future. Generosa Sangco-Jackson said there was a lack of oversight with some of the Bazaar activities. She also said that the indoor Bazaar was disruptive to academic competitions and Certamen. Casey Carpenter-Smith agreed with Generosa, and suggested that the Bazaar could be moved from the corridor adjacent to Certamen rooms. Cindy Hicks stated that the SCL poorly handled some aspects of Olympica. Silvana assured her that these things would be discussed with the SCL sponsor, Matt Yates, and with the SCL at fall planning meeting. For next year’s State Forum, Generosa requested that a liaison from the hotel be present at an information table, in order to assist convention attendees with directions. Aurelia stated that over the years, the CAF has put more and more responsibilities on SCL. Aurelia agreed with Guy that it might ease some pressure on the SCL by having sponsors help them with Olympica. Matt Yates said that more help would be nice and that there is a book of rules and regulations for Olympica. Susan and the CAF thanked Silvana for her work planning and coordinating State Forum.

Craig Bebergal made the treasurer’s report for Sue Shelton. He stated we had a beginning balance of $3433.03, an income of $2150.60; expenses came to $1000.00, with an ending balance of $4583.09. Concerning, the teacher of the year ballot, Craig announced that to be qualified for Latin teacher of the year, one must have taught in the state of Florida at least ten years, been a member of CAF, paid dues, and plan to teach next year. Craig read the lists of names of teachers who qualify for the teacher of the year award. Craig stated that the ballot for teacher of the year voting will go out electronically on Sunday. Susan asked for comments or questions on the treasurer’s report. Geoff Revard asked about the teacher travel scholarship. Alan said $1000. Geoff pointed out that we would be down a $1000 if a scholarship is awarded next year.

Adam Mize, State chair, spoke about this year’s National convention; it will be at Wake Forest, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, from July 26th to July 31st. He said that last year over 150 delegates from Florida attended the convention. Adam has begun planning the bus trip for this year’s Nationals. Adam hopes to have three busses: one starting from Tallahassee, one from the west coast, and one from east coast. The bus trip will include: one night in a hotel, a visit to a zoo in Riverbanks, and five or six hours at the Carowinds Water Park. On the return trip, the drive will be a straight shot back home. The prices will be published when sign-ups are done. Adam said that conservatively the bus, theme park, and hotel should not be more than $300. Adam asked that we canvass our students and encourage interests in Nationals and in a week or so please give him an estimate for numbers for Nationals.

Leslie Perkins asked Adam if attendees would do preconvention housing. Adam said the students riding the bus would do the preconvention which includes a dinner, an activity and breakfast on Monday. Adam announced that National’s packet registration is now available online. Leslie asked about chaperones for students whose teachers are not attending. Adam stated that he will be the male chaperone and Leslie Peebles will be the female chaperone for students without sponsors at NJCL convention. Adam reminded the group that after April 30th the price goes up $50. He said that to guarantee a spot at the convention, you must sign up before May 1st. Adam encouraged all teachers to attend. Adam stated that the FJCL spirit fee and registration would be set up as a form on the website. This form includes emergency information and t-shirt size. Adam also stated that delegates would be able to pay by credit card on the website.

Susan thanked Adam for his work on organizing the trip to Nationals. Susan asked for reports from standing committees.

Alan Blessing, Travel Scholarship/History) stated that September 30th would be the deadline for the travel scholarship. The Scholarship application is posted on the website. Alan reminded the group that he is also in charge of collecting CAF history from 1985 to 2010, and he asked for more information and anecdotes. Alan expressed interest in forming a committee to collect a history. When Susan asked if anyone would be willing to assist Alan, Dave Jackson volunteered to help with the last decade worth of history.

Linda Mishkin, for the Student Scholarships committee, was running Certamen, and her portion of the meeting was postponed.

For the Nominating committee, Leslie Perkins stated that Susan and Phil were willing to continue in their offices, as President and Secretary respectively. Sue Shelton, who recently retired, is no longer able to be CAF treasurer. She asked that if anyone was interested to email her. Susan clarified that Sue has recently retired to care for her husband who is in poor health. Susan reminded the group that per the constitution, Sue will no longer be able to be treasurer since she is no longer actively teaching. Aurelia mentioned to Susan and the group that Craig Bebergal would be a good replacement. Susan McDonald, appointed Craig to fill in for Sue’s term.

Leslie Perkins, introduced the head master of St. Johns Country Day School. Because Leslie is going to teach at Paxon next school year, St. John’s is currently looking for a Latin teacher. Her headmaster commended the planning committee for the FJCL convention. He asked anyone who knows a Latin teacher looking for a job to mention that St John’s has an opening.

Linda Mishkin, committee of Student Scholarships, arrived from Certamen. She stated that there was a winner of the FJCL scholarship and it would be announced in assembly on Saturday by Silvana and that the recipient of the Marie Girardeau scholarship will also be announced.

Aurelia Ogles, Financial director of forum planning, said we are doing well financially and we will recover what we lost last year. She will have a full report in the fall.

Dave Jackson, Academic/Testing Chair, thanked all for helping with testing. He asked if anyone would be willing to apprentice or co-chair academics, it would be appreciated and he would like to speak to them. Generosa Sangco-Jackson asked that if there is anyone willing to help out with Certamen, it would also be highly appreciated.

Linda Mishkin stated that Amy Hornick, regional testing coordinator, would also appreciate help.

Susan confirmed that it would be wonderful for new faces to step up and get involved in the forum planning. Craig stated that it would be beneficial to split the academic chairs into two or three positions. Aurelia encouraged all to consider the apprenticeship.

Alan Blessing, Facilities Liaison, stated that so far there have been no discipline problems at this forum.

Under old business, Jim Sickinger, stated that there would be three places awarded for the essay contest. The contest will continue next year.

Under the Sunshine committee, Susan reminded the group that during the last CAF meeting it was decided that the executive committee would take over the former sunshine committee duties such as cards, flowers, and well wishes.

Susan informed the group that Meredith Sitz volunteered to do the Latin basket for FFLA this year. Leslie Perkins inquired about the deadline for basket donations. Meredith said she would need them at the beginning of the FFLA conference. Susan asked that if anyone could make contributions to the Latin basket, it would be much appreciated.

Under Elections, Susan stated that both she and Phil would be interested in serving a second term. Leslie Perkins moved that we accept the nominations. The nominations were accepted and Susan and Phil were elected for a second term.

Under new business, Susan informed the group that the Region maps need to be revised because the numbers are currently off kilter. She asked the group to think about how we could readjust the maps. Craig Bebergal asked for this year’s regional hosts to send him a list of schools that attended 2012 regional competitions. Adam Mize stated that he has a list of schools that offer Latin who haven’t attended in a while. Mark Chimiak asked if we could look at changing the dates of state forum so it doesn’t conflict with other spring school events. Susan asked the CAF to think about the possibility of creating a test bank.

Under other announcements: Jim Sickinger stated that CAWMS conference would be in Tallahassee on November 1st and there would be seminars aimed at secondary Latin teachers.

Susan asked for a motion for adjournment, Craig motioned to adjourn, Aurelia seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Phil Dillinger, CAF Secretary

Members present, who signed in

1. Jennifer Frank 21. James A. Buchanan
2. Phil Dillinger 22 Jim Sickinger
3. Jessica Branshaw 23. Shane Lieffers
4. Adam Mize 24. Alan Blessing
5. Julia L. Roper 25. Ed Ellison
6. Sylvia Marini 26. Mark Chimiak
7. Timothy W. Kandel 27. Craig Bebergal
8. Joanna Piris 28. Keturah Kiehl
9. Guy Earle 29. Silvana Wilbur
10. Meredith Sitz 30. Geoff Revard
11. Keith Stafford 31. Kristen K. Youngblood
12. Cindy Hicks 32. Generosa Sangco
13. Judy Hahn 33. Lisa Bunge
14. Leslie Peebles 34. Casey Carpenter-Smith
15. Christina Danielle Goldsby 35. Lindsay Rogers
16. Leslie Perkins 36. Megan Wallis
17. Christy Tucker 37. Amy Hornick
18. Arika Cullen 38. Linda Mishkin
19. Matt Yates 39. Cathy Sturgill
20. Laura Sroka 40. Nick DeGroot

 41. Megan Kabella