

Classical Association of Florida

Spring Business Meeting

March 31, 2023

1. Call to Order and Welcome
 - A. Silvana Wilbur called the meeting to order at 5:20 pm.
2. Minutes of the Fall Meeting
 - A. Cory Granholm provided the minutes of the Fall meeting. Craig Biebergal motioned that they be accepted, with Al Kummer seconding. The motion was approved.
3. Officer Reports
 - A. President – Silvana Wilbur
 - I. FFLA was canceled and pushed back to January due to Hurricane Ian. Phil Dillinger was in attendance, and noted that few Latin teachers were present. There will be a second FFLA held this year in September, on the east coast, near Cape Canaveral. Phil endorsed joining FFLA to maintain our presence, and encouraged submitting presentations. The broader the appeal, the better. His own presentation was well received.
 - B. Vice President – Rachel Robison
 - I. Rachel Robison thanked everyone for coming. She discussed that the location of Fall Forum hadn't moved in several years. While having multiple Fall Forums at the same time would be nice, having the location move to be more accommodating to areas like Tallahassee would be helpful. Anyone interested in hosting please contact her for more information. Organizers are trying to make virtual versions of as many events as possible in order to include as many students as they can, regardless of area. Finally, if anyone has suggestions to improve inclusiveness in any way, please let her know. Amy Hornick emphasized the point that the state extends beyond Tallahassee.
 - C. Secretary – Cory Granholm
 - I. Cory Granholm had nothing to report.
 - D. Treasurer – Phil Dillinger
 - I. Treasurer's report Spring 2023
 - a. Starting Balance 8,490.92

b. Dues collected	1,420.00
c. Mama G money collected	85.00
d. TOY plaque	-52.76
e. CAF Raffle Basket	-112.95
f. Zelle and Banking Fees	-6.60
g. Sunshine Fund	-200.00
	-372.31
h. Scholarships paid	-4,000.00
i. <i>Pending Mama G scholarship</i>	-605.00
j. Current Balance	5,623.61

II. Phil Dillinger discussed the current state of the CAF account, as listed above. It was also stated that 2 travel scholarships were awarded this year, due to a surplus in account funds. The current balance of \$5623.61 is still more than needed, especially for a non-profit organization. As such, a travel scholarship may be offered for the coming year, after FJCL is confirmed to have enough for its portion of the award.

E. State Chair – Kendal Ogles

I. Kendal Ogles discussed the upcoming National Convention. Nationals will be held from July 23-28 at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. The state delegation is currently planning for a charter “Bus-o-fun” to make the one-day trip. The hope is for two busses to be available, traveling different routes through the state, and meeting in Tallahassee. The busses are planned to depart on July 22, and return on July 29. The Convention price is estimated to be a little over \$600 plus \$85 for the early day admission (mandatory for bus riders) and the cost of the busses, which is to be determined.

II. It is asked if there will be a Zelle for the payment for the bus. Kendal states that it would not be to her. Some attendees needed clarification on what Zelle is (i.e., a program for transferring funds used by many banks and, most important to us, by Bank of America, which hosts the CAF account). The funds should go to the CAF account, which would then go to the FJCL account. Adam Mize warned that, because of recently tightened IRS reporting rules, large transfers, especially digital ones, could be flagged as income, leading to additional paperwork to prove that a profit had not been made.

III. In closing the discussion, Becky Ream reminded everyone that linens were not going to be provided by the University this year. Kendal urged those interested in going who hadn’t previously attended, or who had a larger gap in attendance, to apply for the Miller Fellowship which covers a teacher’s packet to Nationals, as soon as possible. If

anyone had any questions, she requested that they reach out to her (kogles@stjohnseagles.org)

4. Standing Committees

A. Scholarship Committee – Phil Dillinger

I. Phil Dillinger announced that while there was only one applicant for the Mama G Scholarship last year, this year had shown growth with ten applicants, though only six were submitted on time. There were no applicants for the FJCL Scholarship. The travel scholarships were awarded to Anna Glenn and Rachel Robison, who will be visiting Turkey and Greece this coming summer. Phil then reiterated his hope to award another travel scholarship in the coming year.

B. Nominating Committee – Craig Bebergal

- I. Craig Bebergal announced that the following positions would be opening, and the current nominees.
- a. Academics Co-Chair – Robert Amstutz would not be running again. The nominees are Ethan Ream and Craig Bebergal. Both candidates gave brief speeches on their qualifications, and a vote via secret ballot was held.
 - b. Orals Co-chair – Emma Perry is nominated unopposed. Her nomination is seconded by Amy Hornick. The motion passed.
 - c. CAF VP – Zack Mair is nominated. Robert Amstutz seconded the motion, and it passed.
 - d. Treasurer – Phil Dillinger wished to renew the position. He ran unopposed. Rachel Robison motioned to accept, and the motion passed.
 - e. FSCL Advisor – Shannon O’Neill needed to step down from the position early. This vote was to elect a candidate to fulfill the rest of her term. Craig Bebergal nominated Rachel Robison, who was accepted unopposed.
 - f. Certamen Chair – The candidates for the position are Noah Harris and Ben Ream. Both candidates gave brief speeches on their qualifications and proposed goals. A vote via secret ballot was held.

C. Forum Planning Committee

I. Speeches and Costumes – Craig Bebergal

- a. Judging went smoothly. Thanks are given to the judges for their work.

II. Projects – Joanna Piris and Alexandra Ramsey

- a. The judges are thanked for their work, with special recognition for Anna Glenn and Drew, who put in over three hours of work to assess various categories. The chairs call for all teachers to participate in judging if they can, as it gives valuable insight into helping students with their projects in later years. 267 projects were registered this year, and most were of good quality. The chairs urged everyone to come to the open viewing, and emphasized that nobody had permission to touch the projects, especially not teachers nor the original creators. It was also emphasized that during project pick-up, all projects would be verified against the collector's name tag, with sponsors only allowed to collect projects from their own school.

III. Registrations – Kristen Kenney Youngblood

- a. Registration went well this year. Apologies were given for the short window to register, due to the hotel's schedule, and for contacting sponsors during Spring Break. 827 student delegates registered this year, higher than last year. The number of additional delegates was also up. Everything to that point was going well. The chair thanked the group for allowing her to be the Registrar for the last 10 years, and stated that she would be happily passing it on to Kyle McGimsey. For future years, attempts were being made to secure copies of the scoring software used for Nationals. A survey on what worked and what could be improved would be emailed out at a later date.

IV. Testing – Robert Amstutz and Antonius Haakman

- a. Robert Amstutz stated that testing went well after an initial issue with the scantrons. The delegates were all in and testing within 25 minutes, which was great. However, getting tests back from the assigned writers this year was the worst it had been in some time, and he emphasized that there were communication issues which needed to be solved. He proposed a discussion on offering rewards to motivate test writers, such as offering a waiver for one State Forum registration fee per completed test, or financial penalties for those who did not complete their obligations. He concluded by thanking all test writers for their work and contributions.

- b. Antonius Haakman stated that editing had gone very well, and that the tests were well written this year. Out of 50 challenges, only 10 led to changes, and most of those were caused by having the wrong letter entered on the key.

V. Officer Report – Rachel Robison

- a. Rachiel Robison offered thanks to everyone, especially as this would be her last year as CAF VP. She stated that the students and chaperones had been great this year, and congratulated everyone on choosing well. As such, there had been fewer problems compared to last year. Thank you notes were going to be available for those who wished to send them out. As a final reminder, as she was the new chair, she urged everyone to talk to their kids about joining the SCL.

VI. Wrap up

- a. Sylvana thanks Shannon, Robert, and Craig for all of their hard work. The winners of the votes were announced, with Noah Harris elected as the new Certamen Chair and Craig Bebergal as the Academics Co-Chair.

5. Old Business

A. Passing

- I. Linda Mishkin had recently passed away. Donations to the Moffitt Cancer Center were being accepted in her memory. Antonius Haakman mentioned that St. Stephens greatly appreciated the gesture, and the school was giving an additional donation.

B. Tabled Constitution Discussion

- I. The matter of the ratification of the FJCL constitution created by the student officers, which was tabled at the Fall meeting due to copies of the document not being available for inspection, was broached.
- II. Arguments are made to end the ongoing debate. Kendal Ogles states that the document in question has been in limbo for 5 years, partially due to covid, and it is stated that amendments have continued to be made and ratified to the old constitution by the officers after its initial vote. Confirmed versions of the document had also not been provided.
- III. Craig Bebergal had begun to motion to reject the new constitution, when Zach Mair stated that he had confirmed copies of it. He stated that there was a proposed summer

- meeting where we were to go over it, but it had never occurred. Zach requests to have a chance to go over the document before we make a decision.
- IV. Adam Mize pointed out that we hadn't seen the copy in some time, but that the document had held errors when it was last viewed. He also states that with the passing of time, we would not be able to speak with the writers to gauge their intent.
- V. Zack counters that the current constitution doesn't match with expected and required elements from the NJCL constitution. As such, our affiliation does not fit, as the two are no longer compatible, and the current constitution would still need to be completely replaced or heavily amended to correct it.
- VI. Geoff Revard interjects. The only reason our organization has had to approve, or more accurately reject, the constitution was due to a large overreach by students. It was not our prerogative to approve their decisions by their merits, just to make sure there was nothing grievously wrong, such as on the one occasion we did reject it, due to the officers attempting to take control of the finance accounts. The fact that we had been having this debate without cause was part of the problem.
- VII. Zack stated that two students had made this in extenuating circumstances. However, it was in line with the changes that needed to be made to bring it into compliance with the National Constitution. The officer who wrote it also did well on updates to the National Constitution. He admits that there are things to be amended.
- VIII. Craig amends his motion. He proposes that Zach distribute copies of the constitution to everyone for inspection within 10 days, and then we vote. Zach requests enough time to organize with the new student Parliamentarian, and suggests May 30 as a clear, stated deadline. Craig agrees, suggesting a virtual vote be held by June 30.
- IX. Kyle McGimsey states that the constitution should be accepted in whole, and that everyone should be very exacting in reading it, lest we run across something in a year or two that will cause problems and massive delays. He worries about something falling through the cracks.
- X. The question is raised on whether the errors previously seen had been corrected before or after the students had approved it. Zach stated that the corrections were made after the approval. It is decided that the students would need to approve it again by a vote.

Hunter asks if we can accept it, and then amend it. It is clarified that we cannot amend it, and it would be up to the students.

XI. The final state of the discussions is as follows: the sponsors will be provided a copy of the new constitution by May 30. We are to look over it for any major errors or overreach, and hold a vote on whether to allow it to be confirmed in its current state by June 30. The students will hold a vote to confirm the edits that had been made after its initial approval, to be held possibly at Nationals or Fall Forum.

XII. Geoff seconds the motion, and the ayes approve it.

6. New Business

A. Test Writing

I. The discussion is proposed to be moved to the fall meeting

II. It is asked what our stance is regarding Chat GPT and the Modern Myth contest. Specifically, how we would know if it had been used. It is stated that a module is being developed that can analyze a submitted text to determine whether it was AI generated.

B. FFLA

I. It is happening in the fall.

7. Announcements

A. Recognition of New Teachers

I. Noah Harris at Oak Hall

II. Van Williams at Forest High School

III. Mary Caroline Gillam at The Bolles School

IV. Lindsay Cheesborough Holy Comforter Episcopal School

V. Bradley French at St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School

VI. Alan Pagán at Timber Creek High School

B. Retiring

I. None

C. Job Openings

I. Kendal Ogles – St. John's Episcopal is looking for a teacher for Spanish, Latin, and afterschool.

II. Cory Granholm – Pineapple Cove Classical Academy – West Melbourne is looking for a full-time middle school Latin instructor.

III. Michele Lane – Pineapple Cove Classical Academy - Palm Bay has a standing opening they are looking to fill.

IV. Mark Chimiak – Pineapple Cove Classical Academy – Lockmar will have a middle school opening in a year or two.

V. Brenda Fields – Is leaving her position at Windermere Preparatory School to become an administrator. It is a private school, teaching high school and IB Latin. The position has not been formally posted yet.

D. Other

I. none

8. Adjournment

A. Robert Amstutz motions, Kendal Ogles seconds. Motion is approved.

Attendance

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|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Phil Dillinger | 23. Stephanie Johansen |
| 2. Robert Amstutz | 24. Ren Beck |
| 3. Bradley French | 25. Anna Glenn |
| 4. Kendal Ogles | 26. Kyle McGimsey |
| 5. Adam Mize | 27. Bozena Lawson |
| 6. Geoff Revard | 28. Craig Bebergal |
| 7. Margaret Elsner | 29. Emma Perry |
| 8. Tony Haakman | 30. Joanna Piris |
| 9. Meredith Kendall | 31. Alex Ramsey |
| 10. Mary Caroline Gillam | 32. Rachel Robison |
| 11. John Henson | 33. Al Kummer |
| 12. Ben Ream | 34. Kevin Cox |
| 13. Noah Harris | 35. Kristen Youngblood |
| 14. Allen Walker | 36. Zachary Mair |
| 15. Harriet Livesay | 37. Amy Hornick |
| 16. Sarah McDaniels | 38. John Seary |
| 17. Ethan Ream | 39. Will Harvard |
| 18. Michelle Lane | 40. Judith Hahn |
| 19. Becky Ream | 41. Mark Chimiak |
| 20. Daniel Germain | 42. Silvana Wilbur |
| 21. Alan Pagan | 43. Cory Granholm |
| 22. Brenda Fields | |