Minutes of the Classical Association of Florida

Friday, April 4, 2014

Orlando Wyndham Resort

President Susan McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m. There were 46 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 reminded all that the agenda, a survey on the NLE, the fall minutes, and the sign-in sheet were located on the back table, along with some free teaching materials provided by Sylvia Marini and Marie Girardeau’s classics library.

Amy Hornick explained that the books from Marie Girardeau’s library were free to teachers and she encouraged the teachers to contribute to the Marie Girardeau scholarship fund.

Susan reminded all to sign in and get a copy of the fall minutes.

Phil asked if there were any corrections to the fall minutes. Aurelia Ogles moved that the corrected minutes be accepted, Kathy Sturgill seconded the motion. The corrected fall minutes were approved.

Susan encouraged the group to go to ACL institute in June at the College of William and Mary. Susan and Dave Jackson would be presenting. Generosa Sangco-Jackson received a scholarship to attend.

Susan reminded all that FFLA convention will be in Miami. Susan has reserved a spot for the fall CAF meeting in October, at the FFLA convention.

Under Project Proficere, Susan stated that the project is finally at an end. Pilot and field testing are complete. Public school teachers will soon be required to teach to these state standards. Aurelia Ogles reminded the group that the committee wrote the test for all students not only the exemplary students.

Under NLE, Susan reminded all to fill out the small survey on the NLE, so she could present a written report to the NLE. Ginny Greenland stated that allowing the Latin teacher in the room during testing helped the proctoring.

Generosa Sangco-Jackson, CAF Vice President, congratulated the state officers for a job well done. She stated that we will be back at the same hotel next year. Generosa asked for email suggestions for ways to make Forum run more smoothly.

Phil Dillinger, CAF Secretary, reminded all to write their name on the attendance sheet.

Craig Bebergal, CAF Treasurer, stated that he will email the teacher of the year ballot soon. As of last week general fund had $7,117.20. Craig stated that expected expenses would be: the Marie Girardeau scholarship fund for $485, $2000 for the travel scholarship, and $100 for the Essay contest. This would leave a total of $4,432.20 in the account. After April, the Marie Girardeau scholarship fund will have $24. Craig asked for suggestions on how to continue the Marie Girardeau scholarship. He stated that if CAF dues were raised to $20 it would sufficiently pay for the scholarship each year. Craig asked if it would be alright to send a link to vote online. Julie Roper inquired about the coin wars charity. Generosa stated that this charity was determined by the students. The group was in agreement to vote online.

Adam Mize, Florida State Chair, encouraged all teachers to attend the National Convention July 28 to August 2, 2014, as it will be at Emory University. The bus trip will depart on July 26th, and visit Six Flags and the Atlanta Zoo prior to convention. The costs for students will be $250 for the bus trips, hotels, and excursions. Adam asked the teachers to poll their students about numbers. Generosa stated that the more students who buy into the bus trip, the less expensive it makes it for other students. Daniel Robie inquired about available housing at Nationals. Adam stated that there are currently many available spots for the convention. Generosa stated that 1,169 spots were available as of April 4th.

Under standing committees, Aurelia Ogles, stated that Craig Bebergal was the recipient of this year’s teacher travel scholarship. The scholarship is a total of $3000. With $1000 coming from the FJCL account.

Under student scholarships, Jim Sickinger stated that the winner of the student scholarship would be announced tomorrow in assembly. And the student essay contest will resume next year.

Under Forum planning committee, Aurelia Ogles, Financial Director, stated that Generosa was doing an amazing job. She stated that the FJCL was doing fine financially. Adam Mize stated that next year we will have more room for assemblies and testing. Daniel Robie thanked all for judging creative projects. Geoff Revard thanked all the Certamen readers. Susan McDonald, thanked all, especially Silvana Wilbur for her job as facilities liaison.

Under old business, Jessica Bradshaw-Ballantine, stated that her husband was working on a test question bank database called Theban Sphinx. She explained many different aspects of the program and explained its many benefits. Jessica asked for questions. Geoff Revard asked who would be granted permission to enter the database. Jessica said that the Forum planning committee would have access to the database. Jessica stated that students could be included in the database but this was only an option. Dave Jackson stated that the plans for the database were mainly to relieve the burden from the academic chairs. Jeffrey Satriano stated that a separate student database could be created. Generosa stated that the NJCL does this already with the NRCE, and other tests on QUIA. Jessica stated that the creators of the database would like to retain the rights of the program, if the FJCL decided not to use it. Jeffrey Satriano suggested that a lawyer be involved before the program is purchased. Jeffrey also inquired about a server for the database. Craig recommended that Kevin Cox read the contract. Adam also inquired about licensing fees. The group consented to pursue creating a contract to purchase the program.

Under AP results, Susan received a spread sheet concerning the scores on the AP exams for the state of Florida. Susan stated that out of the 311 students taking the AP Latin exam, the mean score was only a 2.57. Susan stated that there was a discussion last fall to see how the CAF as a whole could help struggling teachers. Generosa stated that this year, the percentages for the AP Latin exam were normed differently. She added that there is a trend to farm AP exams. Susan asked the group if they would like to pursue this further at FFLA. The group consented to pursue discussing the AP Latin exam scores. Leslie Perkins inquired about IB Latin teachers and stated that she would like to get a support group for teachers of IB Latin. Janice Lee stated that she would like to see a panel formed concerning IB. Craig stated that he will send a Surveymonkey out about IB.

Under new business, Leslie Perkins, of the nominating committee, stated that the offices of CAF President and Secretary are up for election. She stated that Meredith Sitz has expressed interest as Recording Secretary.

Leslie nominated Dave Jackson, for CAF President. DJ Holt seconded. All were in favor of electing Dave Jackson. Dave Jackson was elected CAF President.

Leslie nominated Meredith Sitz for CAF Recording Secretary, Ginny Greenland seconded. There were no further nominations. A verbal vote took place. Meredith was unanimously elected CAF secretary.

Susan McDonald congratulated Dave and Meredith.

Under retirements, Susan stated that Keith Stafford would be retiring after teaching Latin in Florida 16 years. Keith thanked the CAF for their support over the years. Susan also stated that Sylvia Marini would be retiring. Aurelia Ogles stated that Susan McDonald would be retiring. Susan stated that it has been a pleasure to be a member of the CAF.

Under new positions, Susan stated that the following schools were in search of a Latin teacher: Niceville, two schools in Manatee county, and Windermere Prep in Orlando.

Susan asked for new CAF members to introduce themselves. Maria Petosa of West Shore High School and Robert Amstutz of Rickards High School introduced themselves. Jeff Yeakel stated that he finished his PhD at UF and is currently seeking employment. Roland Mullins from Christ Classical introduced himself, and Donna Reynolds from Windermere Prep introduced herself.

Generosa thanked Aurelia Ogles for organizing Joe Goodkin’s performance at Forum.

Brenda Fields stated that UF and FSU have amazing Latin programs, and we should encourage our students to attend state schools.

Susan stated that it was time to adjourn. Jessica Ballatine-Bradshaw moved to adjourn, Craig Bebergal seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Dillinger, CAF Secretary

Members present, who signed in

1. Phil Dillinger 24. DJ Holt

2. Donna Reynolds 25. Meredith Sitz

3. Megan Wallis 26. Robert Amstutz

4. Silvana Wilbur 27. Amy Hornick

5. Brenda Fields 28. Aurelia Ogles

6. Craig Bebergal 29. Keitha Ito

7. Leslie Peebles 30. Rolan Mullins

8. Ginny Greenland 31. James Buchanan

9. Christy Tucker 32. Matt Frazer

10. Joanna Piris 33. Kelly A. Ranch

11. Maria Petosa 34. Matthew Yates

12. Kyle McGimsey 35. Jim Sickinger

13. Cindy Hicks 36. Adam Mize

14. Daniel Robie 37. KK Youngblood

15. Christopher Nitti 38. Jeffrey Satriano

16. Jennifer Frank 39. Janice B. Lee

17. Sylvia Marini 40. Nicole Sellers

18. Julia L Roper 41. Nick DeGroot

19. Laura Ansola-Crowley 42. Geoffrey Revard

20. Jessica Ballantine-Bradshaw 43. Megan Kabella

21. Harrison Sepulveda 44. David Jackson

22. Judith Hahn 45. Catherine Sturgill

23. Timothy W Kandel 46. Leslie Perkins