

NHSCA Executive Board Meeting
March 21, 2013 4:30 – 7:00pm
NHTI Grappone Hall
Trulson Conference Room
Concord, NH
March 2013 Meeting Minutes

Board Members in attendance: Robin Hogan, Cecila Sloason, Sara Jo Merriman, Amy Jo Muscott, Susan Theberge, Robin Gregg, Stephanie Collins, Gloria Eno, Mitch Tarrow, Sharon Nix
NHSCA member in attendance: Sean Quinn

Call to Order **4:38**

Welcome and Introductions

Changes to agenda:

Bring attention to position vacancies

Finance Committee convening for budget formation 2013-2014

Invitation to ASCA delegation with a deadline for response

Ethics dilemma will be brought up in subcommittee during dinner

Secretary's Report:

President requested lines from President report to be removed

No board quorum at this meeting. January minutes will need to be brought to the table again for approval at the May board meeting

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer report was emailed

No board quorum at this meeting. January treasury report will need to be brought to the table again for approval at the May board meeting

President's Report

On February 14, 2013, NHSCA members attended a formal Tea Meeting with the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Virginia Barry. Mariane Gfroerer, NHSCA DOE liaison to the Board hosted the meeting at the Walker Building in Concord, NH. The NHSCA President opened the meeting by reviewing the NHSCA 2013 Strategic Plan and highlighted the role of the School Counselor. Dr. Virginia Barry spoke about the role of evaluation for School Counselors and the new Smart Balance assessments for all students. Members of the board discussed how the new evaluation system supports School Counselors.

Thank you to Celia Slason, Kathy Hoppa, Colleen DesRuisseaux, Sarah Jo Merriman, Amy Jo Muscott, Barbara Geiss, and Mariane Gfroerer for your assistance in planning this event.

Gov. Maggie Hassan signed the NH School Counselors Proclamation supporting NH School Counseling Week on Feb. 4-8, 2013. Thank you to Tori Berube, NHHEAF who visited with the Governor and witnessed the signing of the Proclamation. The Proclamation was presented to NH

School Counselors at the DOE meeting on Feb. 14 and will be presented at the Board Meeting on March 21, 2013.

On March 6, 2013, members of the NHSCA Board Sarah Jo Merriman and Robin Hogan, along with Stacey Gagnon, School Counselor at Winnisquam Regional High School presented @ UNH-Manchester School Counseling Program. Topics of discussion centered on Job Interviewing, Leadership, and Benefits of NHSCA Membership.

Planning for the upcoming American School Counselor Association Annual Conference is underway. ASCA will travel to Philadelphia in June for the annual meeting, delegate assembly and conference. NHSCA will send three members, including two (2) voting members as part of the delegation. The President, President-Elect, and a member at large will be invited to attend. Mariane Gfroerer has begun the process of selecting the standards committee for review of the NH Rules for School Counselors. She has asked the President to survey the membership at this time for possible committee members. Please let the President know if you have an interest and the time commitment for a year-long revision of the NH Rules.

During the meeting: NHSCA Board Positions Intentions form was passed out to record intentions for participation in next years board

Finance Committee: Tracy Celia Robin others interested may participate

3 delegates invited to join "Liberty and Learning for All" ASCA Conference, ASCA Conference June 30th to July 3rd email Robin if you are interested in attending. Typically current President, current President Elect, and President Elect for 2013-2014 attend.

President-Elect Report

1. Annual Conference- tentative date is Friday, Nov. 1, 2013. There were several conflicts with the usual last Friday of Oct. Confirmation of the location is needed. Committee members have been contacted and will be planning a series of meetings in the spring. Dr. Virginia Barry's office has been contacted with the intent of having her give introductory remarks and speak to state initiatives. At this time the theme of the conference is "Collaborating with Community and Schools for Mental Health" (or along that line). Committee members and feedback from general membership seem to point in this direction for the conference topic.

2. The Valentine's Day tea organized by Marianne Gfroerer and Robin Hogan was a wonderful opportunity for our board. One of the topics of high interest will be the evaluation methods proposed for NH School Counselors. More specific information should be coming this spring. This may require follow-up with professional development needs for our membership.

3. The release of the NH Children's Behavioral Health Plan was on March 11. There is the possibility that regional events will be planned to present the implementation of the plan throughout the state this spring. NH School Counselors may be able to assist with the regional events.

During meeting: Amy Jo Muscott has further information about the NH Children's Behavioral Health Plan for board members to review. NHSCA is currently not an alliance of New Hampshire Children's Alliance. Board may want to further discuss becoming an alliance..

Past President's Report

No report

VP REPORTS

Elementary

No report at this time. Gloria Eno (Elementary VP) will work with Amy Jo Muscott (Merrimack Regional Rep) on the regional meeting

Middle School

Working on a message to send to all Middle School Counselors to gather their interest in topic

High School

no report

Post Secondary Report

After 17 years of working at Keene State College in the School Counselor Program Susan Theberge will be moving on. Officially she ends in May although the actual end date is sometime this summer when she has tied up all the loose ends. Susan will be focusing on critical issues in public education such as high stakes standardized testing and the increasing privatization of public education, the environmental crisis and policy issues related to economic and racial injustice. She has treasured her many years on the NHSCA Board and hopes she can continue to contribute.

Susan is compiling a document to share with the person who will be replacing her and administrators at KSC and would love to get input from Board members as to what to include. Susan wants to be sure that traditions such as the KSC graduate credit for the NHSCA conference and active engagement by faculty from School Counselors Programs in the state continues on after she is gone.

Monadnock Regional Rep/KSC team is working on their Regional Meeting which will be held at Keene State College this Spring. Robin Gregg (Monadnock Regional Rep) will be sharing about that at the meeting.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Seacoast

Report: Seacoast Region Counselors Breakfast

Please join the Seacoast Regional Counselor Breakfast on Tuesday April 2nd for a morning of collegial conversation with other counselors in the Seacoast area. The meeting will focus on strategies for ensuring students are graduating college and career ready. Val Castonguay from NHHEAF and Scott Powers from

NH Scholars will present on the free resources they provide to NH school counselors. Additionally, there will be time to discuss highlights and share resources from your districts K-12 guidance curriculum.

When: Tuesday April 2nd, 2013 Time: 9:00 am to 11:00am

Where: Dover High School, Dover NH ~ The Culinary Arts Restaurant Topic: College and Career Ready

RSVP: kvcote@yahoo.com

Greater North Woods/White Mountains

report emailed to Robin Hogan

Monadnock

Report: Preliminary planning is underway for the spring Greater Monadnock regional meeting, to be held in Keene, NH, in April, 2013, exact date, time and topic to be announced soon!

Lakes -vacant

Capital - vacant

Dartmouth/Sunapee

Merrimack

Amy Jo Muscott is excited to report that a meeting for the Merrimack Region is scheduled for April 11, 2013 at SERESC. She has invited regional counselors, their school counseling colleagues/interns and a few consultants from SERESC and other professional organizations to join us to have an informal discussion about mental health and schools in NH. This broad topic will give everyone a chance to address various systemic and community issues facing counselors in their schools. She has also asked them to bring interventions and questions to share with the group.

In addition, Amy Jo Muscott working on our next meeting which will be a school counselor and clinician breakfast. She is in the process of compiling our invitation list. The date of our breakfast meeting is to be determined.

Administrative Assistant

More articles need to be submitted for newsletter.

Ideas shared for how to disperse newsletter articles. Sharon Nix and Robin Hogan have been conversing with Gary Denowitz a possible option for outsourcing the production of the NHSCA directory. More information to follow at a later date. Newsletter editor can be a member at large appointed by the board.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Nominations and Elections

Robin will prepare information for May newsletter regarding nominations for 2013-2014 board members.

Technology

Work has begun on the website to make some pages "Members Only". The Technology Committee is exploring options for making more use of photos on the website -- embedding a photo slideshow of recent pictures on the home page and having a photo gallery page. The Committee would like input from the Board on which pages to make Members only, and for how long Conference Handouts should be made available on the Home Page to non-members.

There was a technology presentation during board meeting: demonstration on what areas would be members only and how it would look. Discussion about the possibility of putting professional development opportunities on the website, the board will need to determine which organizations workshops will be shared.

Areas to be made public: Pictures and resources

Areas to be Members-only: toolbox and professional development

expand professional development area linked with organizations on our resource page

Public Relations/Professional Recognition

Three winners have been chosen by the committee as NH School Counselors of the Year. Presentations will take place in the next few weeks. On Monday, March 25, Kathy will be in Hopkinton at 8:15am and Raymond High School at 2:15pm. If any board members are available to help present the award, it would be very appreciated! Also, if anyone is able to present the award up in North Country sometime in the week of March 25 (the exact time has not been planned), it would be very helpful. The plaques have been ordered and will be ready for the presentations.

It was an honor to attend the Counselor Tea with Commissioner Barry. The discussion was timely and very meaningful to the work of school counselors across the state.

Newsletter

During meeting: Recognition to newsletter editor: As a NHSCA board member we are thankful for the amazing work Beth Harrington has done as our newsletter editor. We are especially grateful for Beth's willingness to complete the newsletters for the 2012-2013 year.

Idea to design a theme around the newsletter to help generate article topics. Survey members about what is occurring during the school year that is of importance.

Advocacy

no report

Fall conference

fall conference information can be found within president elect report. Committee will make a proposal for dates. Discussion about whether the day of week matters. Plan to look at both Grappone and SERESC for location.

Scholarship

No report

LIAISON REPORTS

Guidance Director's Liaison

no report

Department of Education Liaison

no report

Student Liaison

Student Liaison report

- Attended Tea with the Commissioner on February 14th

- exciting news for future school counselors!

-Student liaison position will be opening up soon. Sarah Jo will be more than happy to talk to anyone who may be interested.

During meeting: Request for Sara Jo to visit Keene State and Plymouth State to talk with graduate students to generate interest in Student Liaison position and membership in NHSCA. Sara Jo will also provide a write up to hand-out

NHHEAF Liaison

no report

Old Business/New Business

Administrative Assistant is able to compile the NHSCA newsletter in the future.

442 NHSCA members for the 2012-2013 year. Board needs to look at what last years membership was in order to compare. Part of the strategic plan is to increase membership. Mitch will assist Sharon to locate the data through Wild Apricot or years past minute meetings.

NH Rules for Education Ed306.39 Guidance and Counseling Programs committee: Marianne Gfroerer requested names of counselors interested in participating in the committee. It will be a year long commitment.

Conversation occurred around what to do regarding:

- Policy and procedures for Executive Board actions without a quorum present
- Use of technology for discussions and voting purposes
- Procedure for discussion of new members while in attendance at Executive Board meetings

Board discussed how the prior incident without a quorum and the use of technology to vote went.

Opinions were shared. Further discussion will be needed because moving forward with technology is a new endeavor. **Without a quorum no decisions will be made. As a board we will relate back to examining our policies and bylaws around voting.** It is essential as an association to move forward with technology and determine how to use online meetings and voting.

Discussion around amending the bylaws regarding what constitutes a quorum for voting.

Question that arose: Do these new business item decisions require a change in policy?

To be considered for May board meeting:

Lynn: Motion when voting on new members to the executive board we will require the candidate to exit the room for a discussion.

Mitch: Bring in technology component for meetings to pilot the use of technology. Those who can not be at the board meeting can use technology to be present. Each time assess how the technology is working for member to participate in the meeting. When there is a group consensus as to when it is working we and procedures are in place then voting could take place by members not physically present at the meeting. At that time we may need to change policy to include use of technology.

We will not accept email votes as part of a quorum vote and will table votes until the May

Looking at by-law changes for quorum %. Ceila will review by-laws about voting.

Adjournment

Next NHSCA Executive Board Meeting: May 10, 2013 @Common Man Restaurant in Concord, NH. 4:00pm-5:30pm Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm Dinner. Stephanie will book the Common Man.