**NAEA Special Needs Art Education SNAE**

**Minutes**

 **Business Meeting I, Chicago, IL., March 17, 2016**

 **Attendance:**

Julian Dorff, Joe Parsons, Meg Hoffecker, Sam Ventura, Kaitlyn Brandt, Doris Guay, Matthew Mohnbach, Dayna Hansen, Kristen Mohan, Wendy Seeman, Katie Murphy, Rande Blank, Leslie Grace, Charlotte Buttner, Anna Waldron, Laura Hubbard, Joyce Centofanti, Laura Tierney, Nelson Morris, Lisa Sitz, Barbara Spule, Sara Mitchell, Erin Price, Kelley DeCleene, Veronica Hicks, Sharon Malley, Adrienne Hunter, Gillian Furniss, Peter Geisser, Sabrina Rivas, Lynne Horoschak

**Meeting was Called to Order at 3:01 PM** by President Juli Dorff.

Minutes from 2015 SNAE Business Meeting were distributed to attendees. Minutes were also previously e-mailed to registered SNAE members.

**Opening Remarks**

President Dorff spoke to the attendees explained that our business meeting would be in two parts, completing as much of the agenda at this meeting and the remainder of the agenda would be completed on the 19th. President Dorff announced that we were without a projector and her “fabulous” power point presentation will be differed until the Saturday, March 19th 9AM meeting. President Dorff introduced herself as President of SNAE, Joe Parsons - Secretary, Lynne Horoschak - Past President and Doris Guay - President Elect. President Dorff also recognized Peter Geisser as our “celebrity” who is the outgoing Eastern Region Vice President.

President Dorff continued stating that it indeed takes a village to operate SNAE and that the many volunteers would become evident throughout the meeting.

President Dorff proceeded with the distribution of the Minutes from 2015 SNAE Business Meeting to attendees. She also stated that these Minutes were also previously e-mailed to registered SNAE members.

Apologies were made for the manner in which the minutes were presented and also reminded attendees to sign in on attendance sheet cycling through the meeting. Attendees reviewed the minutes as presented. President Dorff asked if there were any additions or corrections. Sharron Malley noted one correction in the VSA section. President Dorff asked for any other input, then asked for a 2015 SNAE Minute approval as corrected. Barbara Suplee moved to accept the Minutes as corrected. Motion to approve seconded by Lynne Horoschak, President called for the vote, and the 2015 SNAE Minutes were approved as amended.

President Dorff called for the Treasure’s report.

**Treasurer’s Report**

 President Dorff explained that our funding comes from two sources, the T Shirt sales, to be explained, and the annual dues of $10.00 ($5.00 for retired or student members). Dues pay for operating costs and awards.

The current treasurer, Lynda Abraham Braff could not be present. President Dorff reported that our account has $3,505.

President Dorff, through floor recommendation, changed the order of business and invited Randi Blank to speak about the fund raising T-Shirts.

Randi explained that the shirts were designed and printed last year and sell for $10.00 and higher for extra sizes. President Dorff explained the design came from “Larry” the logo SNAE has used coming for other publications and that “Larry” was the artwork made by Dr. Gerber’s Downs Syndrome son in his youth.

President Dorff called for the Membership Report.

**Membership Report**

Kelley DeCleen was introduced to the attendees as she took this position in 2015. She reported that membership was at 126 in 2015 and currently we have 313 members. Kelley spoke about member communications and that she received over 270 communications. President Dorff discussed the ongoing membership/dues problem through the NAEA Website. President Dorff stated that she and others will be communicating with NAEA to remedy the dues problem/member notification-laps/how to renew.

President Dorff proceeded to recognize individuals who volunteered for needed posts in our organization. For proposal reviews, President Dorff recognized Adrienne Hunter, Patty Bodie, Min Gu and Lauren Strichter.

President Dorff addressed the upcoming SNAE Awards Presentations to be held Friday March 18, at 1:00 PM. Two awards will be given out , The Beverly Gerber Life Time Achievement Award, and The Peter J. Geisser Educator of the Year Award. President Dorff also mentioned the Award Dinner that Friday evening with 32 committed and openings for 3 more who wish to attend. The Italian restaurant location and pre-set menu was also shared in the meeting.

President Dorff called for Megan Hoffecker to speak about the Delegates Assembly she attended.

**Delegates Assembly**

Megan thanked President Dorff for the opportunity to attend. The Delegates Assembly provided a pre-webinar to assist attendees in preparation for the meeting. The 1-day meeting lasted a number of hours ending at 5PM. Awardees were recognized. A presentation of the 13 NAEA “Position Statements” to be addressed were given to the body. Input was gathered. The Executive Director shared the mission of NAEA and the extent of the progress that the organization has made over the past year. Megan discussed A “Call to Action” movement from the NAEA to re-name “Issues Groups” to “Interest Groups”, was discussed. Megan shared that during the Assembly, delegates are able to network with other Issues Groups, and develop awareness of the these groups within NAEA. We give out “Larry Bars” which is a Hershey’s chocolate bar with our Issue Group, logo and information to the delegation.

President Dorff called for Lynne Horschak to speak on “DARTS”

**DARTS**

Lynne spoke about CEC (Council for Exceptional Children) and our (the arts) entrance/acceptance into this 100 year old organization. She spoke of Dr. Gerber’s work getting the arts, as “The Division of Visual Arts and Performing Arts” of CEC, officially established as of January 2016. The divisions is known by the acronym “DARTS”. Lynne spoke of the importance of being an official part of CEC which directly affords us with network connections to those who work with children with special needs. A website has been established and is up and running. She spoke of CEC membership costs ($55.00-general and $20 for DARTS) and distributed membership applications for those interested.

Note: during Lynne’s presentation, a projector was set up and became operational for the meeting.

President Dorff continued the meeting by uploading the intended program and agenda and proceeded with the meeting. President Dorff stated that in the past year we established a Facebook Page. Appropriate safeguards have been employed due to a sunglass sales page being introduced in the website. We also have our website (Special Needs in Art Education). Both the Facebook and Website were set up by our webmaster Dan Humphrey who was unable to attend. President Dorff spoke about the work linking our site with NAEA. She also mentioned and thanked Ryan Patton (Virginia Commonwealth University), who has been working on member communications through e-mails.

President Dorff referred to the screen and identified information and photos from Megan of the activities related to SNAE and the Delagates Assembly.

President Dorff introduced Sara Mitchell from the Kennedy Center, and asked here to speak about 2016 VSA.

**VSA**

Sara, who works at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, explained her role as a coordinator between educators. She spoke of the 2016 VSA Intersections Arts and Special Education Conference. The conference takes place August 1st and 2nd in Pittsburg, PA. Sara shared positive quotes from prior conference attendees, literature and information related to VSA and her personal contact information.

President Dorff shifted in the agenda (due to absentee) and called on Doris Guay to speak on the Program Committee.

**Program Committee**

Doris spoke about the need to secure 5 members to conduct the readings and scorings of proposals submissions for the 2017 NAEA National Convention. Doris clarified that you must be a SNAE member to participate. She identified a need of a student, retiree, elementary, middle/secondary, with a total of 5 volunteers who will read the submitted proposals via a “blind review”. Doris and President Dorff stated the readings take place during the months of June, July and August as needed and are done on-line.

Joe Parsons asked a question referring, in general, to proposal scoring and the ability for a submitter to ask for and review the scores and comments on their proposal and to essentially learn from their mistakes. Peter Giesser took the lead on the explanation as to the size, scope and the ability of NAEA to review 5,000 proposals and their current capability to make available individual requests. Others attendees remarked as well. The current NAEA proposal system does not allow for thorough feedback to individuals.

President Dorff asked Peter to continue and present his report on NAEA Leadership.

**NAEA Leadership**

Peter proceeded to explain that NAEA was currently working on 4 Position Statements (available on-line) which he described as “Policy Statements” of the organization:

1. Fieldtrips - not limited to only those who can afford them or who would not normally get to go.

2. Testing - where do we stand on standardized testing and its impact on art education? Examples - student failing math taken out of art, where he excels, to tutor for math. Art teacher pulled to administer standardized test while a sub teaches art.

3. School Culture - Art is the heart of the schools dynamic - connect with

4. Attracting Diversity within the profession. What would we “like” our classroom, school, community, world to be. Conformity, consistency, commonality vs, individuality and creativity.

Peter continued with the NAEA Position Statement explanation, beginning in 2008, and how it has evolved including a 3-year review cap, that is to review the position statement to check on it’s viability in the present.

President Dorff furthered the discussion stating that an art educator can access the NAEA website and seek the answers to the “official” position on a range of issues concerning our field.

President Dorff noted that time was running out. She reminded the attendees of the T-shirt sales, sign up for CEC, to sign in on the SNAE meeting attendance sheet, and to seek out the SNAE presentations throughout the convention, and Friday’s SNAE Awards Ceremony at 1PM,

President Dorff recognizing Adrienne Hunter, present, as the Beverley Levitt Gerber Lifetime Achievement Award recipient for 2016.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded by Lynne Horoschak .

**Meeting Adjourned** **at 3:52PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph A. Parsons

SNAE Secretary

**NAEA Special Needs Art Education SNAE**

**Minutes**

 **Business Meeting II, Chicago, IL., March 19, 2016**

**Attendance:**

Juli Dorff, Joe Parsons, Sue Loesl, Adrienne Hunter, Katheryn Rulien-Bareis, Doris Guay, Sharon Malley, Lauren Stichter, Maura Geisser, Kate Murphy, Wendy Seeman, Kelley DeCleene, Laura Hubbard, Michael Bingham, Sarah Mitchell, Lisa Wax, Peter Geisser, Pam Brandt, Charlotte Buettner, Adrienne Brendlinger, Barbara Suplee, Lisa Kay, Laura Tierney, Kelly Gross, Kristin Mohan.

**Meeting was called to Order at** **9:02 AM** by President Dorff.

Secretary Joe Parsons announced that the meeting is being recorded, and asked attendees to sign in on the attendance sheet and to please state your first name if you speak out during the meeting for “minute accuracy” as voice recognition is iffy on the recording device.

**Opening Remarks**

President Dorff opened the meeting stating that we would continue with the agenda although not in the order as published. We would continue and complete old business and then proceed to new business.

Verbal introductions were conducted.

President called on Sue Loesl to speak on American Arts Therapy Association.

**American Arts Therapy Association**

Sue Losel spoke about the organization and noted that there are 3 sessions/presentations in this convention related to art therapy. She noted the upcoming conference that will held in Baltimore Maryland, July 6-10 titled “Arts Therapy – Integrating Healing, Creativity and Professionalism”.

A New website, “Art Therapy Today” has been developed along with a weekly journal with input availability.

A quick discussion started related to Sue mentioning job openings, different state requirements and the current status of art-teachers and individual state requirements.

President Dorff asked several latecomers to introduce themselves. (They are included on the attendance roster).

President Dorff continued with an update of what transpired during the meeting of the leaders of the NAEA Issues Groups. Juli spoke of the many complaints related to convention seating in common areas, the lack thereof in hallways etc., and the extreme walking distance to the venue and sessions. Hopefully it will be addressed when we meet in New York next year. Juli continued with the collective concern related to Issues membership, including membership status and renewal capability relating to the way NAEA currently has its site constructed. The last item Juli spoke on was the number of concerns related to convention proposals and rejections. There appeared to be a problem because if a proposal was targeted for more than one division (ie special needs **and** elementary/middle/high), up to 8 persons may have reviewed and scored the proposal without sufficient knowledge of the topic, hence low scores. Juli also noted a decline of total proposal acceptance from 1,200 to 900 (an attempt to ensure more attendance at a given session). She also addressed the issue of proposal and submitter feedback. The NAEA will be working on this. A new rubric will also be implemented increasing the scoring from 15 points to 40+ points. Issues reps asked that this new rubric be published asap. It was shared that one should make sure that they identify the **one** intended group they wish their proposal to be directed towards, so that it will be **that** department/group of readers who will score the proposal. It was also noted that one must check their proposal with the NAEA rubric to ensure that **all** points are covered, like a new addition, “references” which if omitted would reduce your score.

President Dorff moved the meeting on to new business.

**New Business**

President Dorff announced the need to elect a new SNAE Secretary as Joe Parsons had served for 2 terms. She opened the floor for nominations for the position. Kelley DeCleene was nominated by Adrienne Hunter. Kelley accepted the nomination. Her nomination was seconded. President Dorff asked for other nominations. There were none. Nominations were then closed, voted on and the sole nominee, Kelley DeCleene was voted in as the new SNAE Secretary for 2017-2018.

President Dorff presented outgoing Secretary Joe Parsons with a Larry Bar.

President Dorff continued with new business discussing the formation and work of the “Dialogue Committee”. Juli explained that last year a disabilities studies issues group approached and met with SNAE. With little movement/progress, Juli formed the Dialogue Committee from volunteers. Sue Loesl, a member of this sub committee, spoke. From meetings and discussions between theses people, Sue said that the goal of this group was not that of SNAE.

Juli added that there was an expressed concern related to our Issues Group name, that is our use of “Special Needs”. More specifically the word “special” which has been under scrutiny through a number of groups and organizations.

Discussion among our members in this meeting continued. It was stated that the term Special Education was a well known term/identifier throughout our profession, to new professional teachers, and to the public (defined correctly or incorrectly). It was also stated that the term “special” allows for the wide range of areas we embrace, like the homeless, migrant, incarcerated, physically, mentally, emotionally, gifted, and profound. Further discussion worked around the understanding of “needs” (which we all have) and are they “special” and perhaps it is really the special approaches we use to reach others. The end result from the many who contributed to the discussion was that we have no perfect or correct answer to the wording concerns expressed by others. As Peter Geisser said we need to listen to those who are “special” and they might be able to give us the answer to this question. The discussion will continue.

A new issue was brought up. Juli and Sue “realized” that we have no “deals” (that is the sticker ribbons for name tags for the convention identifying SNAE members). It was also realized that we have funds and we will pursue and remedy the void. Design, wording and colors to be resolved.

President Dorff concluded the meeting by reminding other about membership, websites and communications.

Peter expressed the success of webinar communications and predicts that this will the way of the future and encouraged the members to engage in this medium.

President Dorff asked for any other comments, hearing none called for a motion to adjourn. Motion to Adjourn made by Adrienne Hunter, seconded by Barbara Suplee. Passed.

**Meeting Adjourned** **at 9:59AM**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph A. Parsons

SNAE Secretary