Minutes of January 12, 2019 Meeting – Lafayette, LA

Called to order by President Chantal Gibson

The following board members were present: Melissa Chastant-Huval, Ashlie Allardyce, Maggi Bienvenu (proxy for Dr. Maria Ruiz), Allie Boquet, Leslie Ortiz, Mandy Roy, Dr. Gerlinde Beckers (proxy Dr. Colleen Klein Ezell), Matthew Caillet, and Dr. Donna Wadsworth (proxy for Dr. Kay Wilson). Bonnie Buckelew notified that she would not be able to attend. Bambi Polotzola was also not able to attend.

Minutes were read and approved. Motion made by Dr. Gerlinde Beckers and seconded by Matthew Caillet.

Donna Wadsworth presented the 2019 budget. She and Maggi explained the budget was basically the same as 2018 as they had been unable to get a final accounting for 2018 expenditures through Quick Books. If adjustments were needed they would be proposed at future meetings. The 2019 budget for LACEC and Super Conference were approved.

Maggi and Donna also reported that all persons employed by LACEC must complete a W9 whether a keynote speaker or clerical assistance for registration or program.

The balances in savings - $81,018.29, LACEC Operating Budget- $12,511.64, and Super Conference $20,851.57

The organization will file registration form with LA Secretary of State in early March.

The contract for one of Super Conference keynote speakers, Lillian DeJean was approved. Chantal is working on second keynote speaker.

Mandy Roy, newsletter editor, reported that our next one will be after Super Conference and will include all of our awards ceremony winners as well as the nominees for the 2019 election. Other news is welcome.

Allie Boquet, CAN Coordinator is trying to update our Constant Contact mailing list. It was also suggested we have a place at the LA CEC membership table for persons to sign up to be on CAN list. Allie also said we may need to contact national to make sure all of our connection at their level are current.

Ashlie presented the names of awards winners and Yes I Can Winners. These are listed on the last page. Awards ceremony will be 3:30 on Sunday of Super Conference followed by the reception.

Matthew reported we only had 14% response rate to our constitutional vote. The proposed revisions were approved.

The need for revising the policies and procedures manual was discussed. Donna and Gerlinde volunteered to work on the project after Super Conference and bring a draft to the board at a future board meeting. Board Members were asked to send any possible changes needed to Donna and Gerlinde.

Leslie reported 20 mini grant winners. She also reported some challenges with the scholarship competition due to late submissions and no applicants in one category prior to the deadline. After lengthy discussion the board voted for this year only one graduate scholarship would be given, 2 undergraduate scholarships, and 2 post-secondary scholarships. The extra cost will be taken from left over funds in mini-grant line and the general fund – total overage = $2000. This was approved by the board.

The website was discussed next. It continues to present challenges in making changes and overall design. Donna and Melissa agreed to ask national if they could provide any guidance.

Chantal will not be able to attend national CEC or Representative Assembly this year. Ashlie as President elect was asked if she could go. She will let Chantal know her decision. Donna will serve as Ashlie’s back up as she is already planning to attend conference.

Kaitlyn Daigle will now be serving as our SCEC Governor. We will need to find another student to serve in the capacity of President.

Donna requested that everyone needed a hotel room for Super Conference let her know asap. She also reminded the group of the board policy if you do not share your room then you will not receive mileage compensation.

The final discussion was regarding Super Conference. Chantal indicated that more presenters were needed. There are approximately 15 holes to fill. We currently have 5 vendors and 4 non-profit groups registered. Everyone was encouraged to help with these 3 challenges. Non-profit groups will be upstairs this year and vendors downstairs.

The problems with the organization gmail accounts was discussed briefly. A resolution for this problem will be need to be developed soon but not till after Super Conference. The possibility of board members using the Remind App for their specific activities in the future was also briefly discussed. No final decision made.

The meeting adjourned at 12:18

In absence of Dr. Wilson, Donna Wadsworth attempted to keep minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Wadsworth, Finance Chair

**2018 LACEC Award Winners**

**Professional**:

**Higher Education Professional of the Year**: Dr. Christine Briggs, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

**Paraeducator of the Year:** Crystal Blue, Poland Junior High School, Rapids Parish

**LACEC Clarissa Hug Teacher of the Year:** Brenda Simmons, Jackson Parish

**Special Education Leadership Professional of the Year:** Carol Ezernack, Calcasieu Parish

**Business Award:** Jonesboro State Bank

**Parent Advocate:** Hilary Bordelon

**Yes I Can:**

**Academics:** Timothy Bell, 4th Grade -Freshwater Elementary, Livingston Parish

**Arts:** Alisha Davis, 5th Grade – South Fork Elementary, Livingston Parish

**School and Community Activities:** Baylor Dupuy, 7th Grade – Poland Junior High School, Rapides Parish

**Self-Advocacy:** Carson Tullier, 3rd Grade – Juban Parc Elementary, Livingston Parish

**Technology:** Heaven Barker, 3rd Grade – Freshwater Elementary, Livingston Parish