

MINUTES
North Dakota Teacher Center Network
February 4, 2008
10-11:50 a.m. CST
IVN

I. Participants

Directors in attendance were NDTCN President Marty Odermann-Gardner, NDTCN Vice President Doris Griffin, Pat Beil, Mary Geffre, Darlene Schwarz, Sandra Schilke, Deb Sisco, Valeria Becker and Leah Krauth. Advisory Board members in attendance were Valerie Fischer, Dr. Kris Warmoth, Beverly Sandness, Dakota Draper and Glenda Fauske. Also in attendance were Tom Geffre of Mayville State University and Dana Schaar of Clearwater Communications.

II. Welcome & Call to Order

Odermann-Gardner called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

III. Approval of Minutes

Sandness moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2007, meeting. M. Geffre seconded the motion, and it passed.

IV. Financial Report

Warmoth reviewed the current fiscal summary. The current balance in the operating and advertising accounts is \$9,930.45.

Schaar presented the 2007-2008 advertising summary. To date, advertising revenue is \$14,425, an increase of \$2,800 over all advertising revenue for 2006-2007.

V. Other Reports

Fischer of DPI reported that budget negotiations are underway for the next biennium and that the NDTCN needs to consider whether or not to ask for additional funds. Budgets have to be submitted by July 2008. Fischer said an increase for the NDTCN would be appropriate with justification. She said that center partners are important for future funding, particularly partnerships with universities and REAs. The work of the NDTCN has been well-received by the legislature. There was discussion on current and future relationships between centers and REAs.

Sandness moved to form a committee to discuss the future direction and governance of the centers, including partnerships and the budget request. Sisco seconded the motion, and it passed. Committee members will include Odermann-Gardner, Fischer and T. Geffre. Odermann-Gardner will coordinate a meeting over IVN.

T. Geffre asked about the possibility of an additional NDTCN budget line item for guest speakers. The consensus was that the dollars received by each center in the current NDTCN line item may be used for guest speakers.

Krauth and Becker reported that their meetings with experienced directors were a good approach to mentoring in lieu of formal training for new center directors.

Fischer reported that the new HIV/AIDS funding cycle will restart March 1 if approved by the CDC. Requests for funds should be submitted prior to that date.

VI. Business Items

The website committee met in December and recommended discussion by all directors on two pages: Links and Director's Area. Schaar reported that the committee felt clarification was needed on which websites to include on the Links page. Beil moved to allow any website that is a resource to teachers to be posted on the Links page with no specific criteria for inclusion. Fauske seconded the motion. Fischer amended the motion to ask directors and advisory board members to review the links prior to each meeting to ensure they remain current. The amendment was accepted, and the amended motion passed. Discussion of the Director's Area was postponed until the May meeting.

Sandness reported that she distributes the NDTCN brochures with new licenses and has one box left. Brochure status will be included on the May meeting agenda.

T. Geffre moved to accept the Clearwater Communications grant writing proposal as a letter of intent for any future grant projects. Beil seconded the motion, and it passed. Ideas for grant projects should be brought to the May meeting.

Discussion of the future of the NDTCN will continue at the May meeting. There was strong consensus that the NDTCN should continue.

T. Geffre asked if there is an NDTCN policy regarding center library collections. Amendment I/Minimum Standards of the Constitution states that centers must "develop and maintain for checkout a collection of materials developed according to the Teacher Center and Network goals." Sisco moved that each center address their library collections as needed for their specific situation. Beil seconded the motion, and it passed. It was suggested that the questions related to the number of library materials and the number of checkouts be removed from the annual report.

Sisco will contact Jody French of United Streaming regarding a potential link for videos on the NDTCN website.

T. Geffre asked about the possibility of making the HIV/AIDS workshop available to all college students, not just education students, through a first aid or freshman seminar class. Fischer will look into the possibility, and it will be included as an agenda item at the May meeting.

Beil asked the other directors about an appointment she has with someone from Marketplace. Griffin reported the Marketplace individual is mostly likely looking for support from the REAs for a Marketplace grant. Schilke also has had a similar meeting.

Discussion on the connections between centers and REAs was continued from earlier in the meeting. Griffin discussed the issues she has faced with the Lake Region center being placed under the REA, even though the budgets have remained separate. Beil reported that the Valley City center and REA are holding a series of meetings to determine the future as she is retiring at the end of the year. Fischer stated that it is important that the NDTCN stay involved with partners, particularly the REAs. Fischer also said that DPI is supportive of the NDTCN but that the centers must focus on finding their niche (professional development and teacher resources) in order to remain relevant. The consensus was to continue the work of the NDTCN and allow each center to continue their unique relationships with partners based on local situations. Based on the discussion, Sandness moved that the committee formed earlier in the meeting to discuss

future direction of the NDTCN be dissolved. Griffin seconded the motion, and it passed. The NDTCN budget request will be on the May meeting agenda.

Sandness moved to hold the May NDTCN meeting in Bismarck. Beil seconded the motion, and it passed. Schaar will e-mail potential dates to everyone this afternoon.

VII. Adjournment

Odermann-Gardner adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.