GEA Minutes

Sept. 14, 2023

Call to Order: 3:25 pm

Present: Darcie Crete, Amanda St. Pierre, Mary Grassett, Derrick Landano, Julie Lawes, Matt Govoni, Patricia Moriarty, Emily App, Sam Burgess

Secretary’s Report: Accepted

Treasurer’s Report: Accepted

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship (Darcie, Kristen, and Amanda):

We’re looking to brainstorm potentially switching up the turkey raffle this year – everyone think on it! We will also be moving money into the scholarship fund in memorializing Lynn Auger’s late husband, Michael.

Grievance:

Nothing at this time.

Negotiations:

Nothing at this time.

Elections (Kendra, Matt):

Nothing at this time.

Website: (Desrochers, Grassett, Tisbert)

The work continues . . .

Social: (Merritt)

Discussion around the idea of switching from “socials” to “business meetings.” While we all love and enjoy a good social, if we’re the only ones who attend, perhaps there’s a less expensive and time-consuming way to get information out to our members. Potentially, this could even be done via Microsoft Teams.

By-Law Committee: (Former “Constitution”)

Nothing at this time.

Sick Bank: (Lawes)

Members who would like to join the sick bank need to have their forms submitted by 9/29/23.

NEA-NH: (Need new people because Damboise and Saunders were on this committee)

RSA306 is still a huge issue for educators in NH! It could create very significant changes that will hugely affect us; please make sure that you are looking for the NEA emails you receive. Sam Burgess will be our NEA-NH rep with a stiped of $80, after the motion was made and accepted during our meeting.

Old Business:

Early enrollment for non-members- approach with the information. They can join for free now with benefits if they commit to staying members in September.

This summer (Aug. 7-11th) is NEA’s Leadership week. This is free and you don’t have to be an officer to attend. Mary has offered to give copies or a mini workshop on how to approach people for joining the association.

Kristi talks about member form for members to fill out. Information includes address, school, if they are in the sick bank, email, etc. Needs to be back by June 15th. Reps at each school will be sent a list.

Mary asks if there is a need to increase dues from $35.03. Kristi shares based on our current costs, there is not a need to increase dues at this time. She suggests we should re-evaluate next year.

Mary has the meeting calendar set up for next year. One meeting needs to be a Thursday due to the schedule for the month. The election day for March 19th should be a Remote Day.

New Business:

Committees need to be redistributed; please email Mary if you’d like to be on a committee. There is also an open seat at both GHS and MVMS for building reps. We do not need to have an election, but the board can decide if we receive any volunteers.

New membership: Mary, Matt, Kendra, and Julie (as well as Jason from NEA-NH) attended a new hires meeting during the summer and had more than twenty new teachers to join the union! Mary has also sent posters to each school from NEA as materials to encourage others to sign up. This included member information, so building reps just needed to check that it was correct. Jessica Murray used NEA materials to create a booklet on providing recruiting tips as well: yay team!

There is a safety issue regarding traffic at Maple Ave for teachers arriving after 7:55 based on a town ordinance, which we will be following up on.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:20

Next meeting: October 3, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Lawes