

ASLTA Board Meeting January 25, 2017

Present: Arlene Garcia, President; Keri Brooks, Vice President; Bill Newell, Treasurer; Brenda Schertz, Chapter Chair; Jason Zinza, ASLHS; Christine Multra Kraft, Professional Development, Andrew Bottoms, Member-at-Large

Chapters: Only 4 active ASLTA chapters as of now. Information NEEDS to be on the website with their contact information. Important functions of chapters include working for state certification for ASL teachers in their states and providing networking/professional development for ASL teachers. Discussion on possible changes to the Chapters structure to allow for more spontaneity. POC for chapters, flexibility with certification requirements for Board members, providing workshops in areas without chapters. PD person possibly focus on providing workshops regionally, online, etc. instead of supporting conference planning. Often local-level people need support with how to host workshops – not sure how to form partnerships to fund location/speakers/etc.

Brenda will combine our brainstorming and create a vision for the Chapters position.

Ideas: Expo model- new way of ‘community connection’, regional models, centrally coordinated.

Need to seek input from the field – Forum at conference? Needs assessment? Survey Money?

Online forum? FaceBook Live? With a panel, possibly. Can set up FB event – Keri will figure out how FB live will work through an organization page. Brenda & Keri will work on this. Reach out to members/possible members BEFORE the conference. Would be ideal to host the FB live event before the February meetings, so we can follow up on information gathered.

Need eBlast announcement of FB Live event or anything else we host.

eNewsletter: Need a plan for the next newsletter. Spring issue – focused on Chapters and getting input on a new system.

Website updates: Will post Bylaws on the web so people can review before conference.

Arlene and Keri will be meeting with Alicia on finishing up portions of the web. Need to figure out a plan for us to maintain website content instead of paying Alicia.

Budget: Need to get back on track – now developing Budget to present to the Board at the February Board meeting.

Conference: About 100 registrations so far. Hands waving to Jason Zinza for putting together a great conference promo newsletter. Another eBlast is going out to remind people of the early bird deadline January 31. The Conference committee is working hard to seek out 30 K or more of sponsorship – Utah ASLTA gave the committee members the incentive: if they meet this goal, UTASLTA will cover their registrations. If not, they need to pay for their own registrations. Many details being worked out by conference presently – many balls in the air. Major props to Bill Newell for patiently answering many questions and keeping an eye on registrations/funds coming in. Committee still has a need for a hotel ‘point’ person.

Still seeking sponsors!! Hands waving to Arlene for helping to set up DSP. Working on GoReact and Route 66. Just got BYU, Sorenson and Purple.

Jason suggests we have a special promo for HS teachers – need to address their ‘fears’ and misunderstandings about their “welcome” to the ASLTA Conference as hearing people.

To help hearing people ‘bridge’ the Deaf culture present at ASLTA conference, possibly we can make a video framing the conference experience as a ‘cultural immersion’ experience, include research. Need to be careful – don’t tell hearing teachers it’s all sweetness and light, but give them tips for navigating the cultural immersion experience comparable to visiting a foreign country.

Rye – Keri’s friend who is a high school teacher concerned about hearing teachers being welcome at the ASLTA conference – he may be willing to help create promo.

Contact ASL emails – BIG THANKS to Jason for screening/answering/forwarding all emails since August 2016.

ASLTA Steering committee – Arlene, Keri, Jason and Bill are starting weekly meetings to discuss logistics, external partnerships, internal structure and transition issues. They’ll bring their discussion items and proposals to the Board.

Arlene is encouraging previous Board members to go to the conference – with their experience, they can give great input in organization planning.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS NEED TO FILL OUT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM and send to Bill. Schedule: Sunday is travel day to Utah. Will have dinner/dessert together on Sunday evening. Monday and Tuesday will be Board meetings. Wednesday is work day – opening ceremonies that evening. If anyone’s work can support their attendance in any way, then **go for it** to reduce the burden on ASLTA and the conference budget.

CIT – our CPA discovered they’re not a 501c3 organization, but a 501c6 – so our informal sponsoring of each other’s conferences – we need to be careful about not jeopardizing our

501c3 status. Arlene is in discussions with CIT President, Leslie Greer about possibly sharing a home office.

Board vacancies – we are publicizing Board vacancies and hoping to get good interest for the positions.

Professional Level certification required for President, Vice President, Evaluation Chair and Professional Development Chair. Since we are considering changing roles, we need to discuss this before the conference and share with members. Keri and Arlene will draft proposed changes to the Board structure.

Andrew Bottoms apologized that his job demands has taken away his energy & attention from ASLTA. He will do his best to support the Board from now until when his term ends at the conference.

Next online meetings: Feb 15 & 22

Possible face-to-face meeting – let Arlene know which April weekend you're able to travel to Colorado Springs for a meeting at her home.