**Michigan Council for History Education**

Board Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2019

Michigan History Center

Those in attendance: Petra Alsoofy, Michelle Anderson, Kailie Burk, Richard Cooley, Scott Durham, David Hales, Nadine Hall, Jim McConnell, Sean O’Neal, Jana Pisani, Tamara Shreiner, Catherine Tuczek, Wilson Warren

The meeting was called to order by Michelle Anderson at 10:12 am.

The minutes for the previous meeting June 7, 2019 were approved, moved by Jim McConnell and seconded by David Hales and was approved unanimously.

Michelle presented the Treasurer’s Report – we have $24,464.93 in the bank and received $1,000 for the USYYP. The only pending debts are a $20 fee for nonprofit compliance and $35 for membership in the Historical Society of Michigan. A motion to accept the Treasurer’s report was moved by David Hales and seconded by Richard Cooley. The motion was approved by unanimously.

Michelle presented Anne-Lise’s report for the annual awards. Awards will be presented at the Great Lakes History Conference on Friday from 2-4 pm. Currently we have 23 students showing interest in participating in the USSYP. Sean asked about who would be part of the process of interviewing. Scott named the members of the Committee (Anne-Lise, Nick, Petra, and Scott) and suggested that the interview was meant to strengthen the process. Tamara added that the Hearst Foundation wanted us to ramp up the process as well. She said that Anne-Lise has been able to meet some of the demands suggested to us and offered that if anyone who wanted to join the committee and the interview team would be more than happy to join. Tamara also suggested that we wanted to get more students from other places besides southeast Michigan. Sean asked how the Hearst Foundation wants us to use their money. Tamara suggested that we could use it for travel, publications, and/or stipends. Scott reported that they hope to have the Semi-Finalists by October 21 and that if anyone wanted to join the team to email Anne-Lise.

Jim asked if the Award Winners can be included in the minutes:

The three McConnell Award Winners:

Gilder-Lehrman: Paul Scheidler

McConnell HS Teacher of the Year: Craig Barker

McConnell Elementary Teacher of the Year: Heather Quamme

McConnell Pre-Service Teacher of the Year: Sarah Kennedy

Michelle talked about the logo contest. She passed out a contest form. She asked about if we should go ahead and move forward with this contest. Sean asked how we could use the logo – Michelle responded it would be nice for outreach to have our logo, website, contact into, etc. on various things to give away. Jim added that we created our logo for this same purpose. David Hales suggested this is a good time to get a new logo with the new standards. Jim moved to offer a logo contest to students. Petra seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. David Hales has agreed to lead this effort and collect submissions.

Michelle asked if limiting the contest to grades 7-12 is appropriate. Catherine suggested we could include elementary students for posters that we could use in the future. David mentioned that the real challenge is getting this out to teachers around the state. Richard Cooley suggested we can reach out to graphic art departments at ISDs around the state too.

The Board had a discussion about the Guidelines for the logo contest. Michelle asked for the Board to think about it and send her ideas for clarifying the guidelines within 10 days (September 17, 2019 deadline). Petra asked how we could publicly recognized the winning artist. David mentioned that in the War of 1812 logo contest, he surprised the winner in a public-school assembly. Tamara suggested we give a plaque with the logo, crediting the artist on our website, etc. Michelle will compile the thoughts and send out the new guidelines for electronic Board approval.

David Hales moved that the winner of the logo contest is awarded $200 and the runners-up get $50. The motion was seconded by Jana and was approved unanimously.

Tamara gave an update about the new Social Studies standards. The roll-out is going to try to create some excitement for the new standards. David Hales said there are some roll-out events scheduled for Genesee County in October. Tamara mentioned that David Johnson shared a website called - Mysocialstudies.org – which will be a one stop shop for social studies educators. Here teachers will find the standards, broken down by grade bands, grade, eventually lesson plans, etc. They had begun talking about Professional Development. David Hales added that the plan is to do this both in geographically diverse ways around the state but also electronically. Tamara suggested that one idea is to develop teacher leaders in schools and districts that could be able to use the standards for the particular needs for each school and district – including different levels of training (facilitator, trainer, etc.). David Hales said that there is a combination of excitement and money around developing support for the new standards. Tamara added the intention was to provide resources to the discipline organizations to help develop this support.

Tamara also shared that she is working with Deans and leaders in Colleges of Education as we move forward with the grade band adjustments. These professional standards are already created for PK-6 have already been shared and 5-12 are coming later.

Tamara shared that the Great Lakes History Conference will be on Sept. 20-21 with the Awards presentation on Friday from 2-4pm, followed by the Awards reception sponsored by MCHE. Tamara, Bill, and Nadine will be presenting at the MCSS conference as well on Sat. Nov. 2nd.

Jim McConnell reported on the Capital Idea workshop for teachers. It is all set for two weeks from today. We did publicity in a lot of different and five had signed up so far.

Michelle talked about the proposed partnership with the River Raisin Institute. There was some talk about how this fits into the bigger picture of MCHE. There was some talk about whether or not to ask teachers to produce something during the Institute. Catherine suggested that perhaps we should just focus on the learning. Petra asked if we could also address the state of the profession adding that there is value in creating cohorts of learners and/or future teachers. Tamara said that this ties into a larger conversation about our future efforts. Perhaps our mark, she added, would be to connect local history to national and world history. Jim suggested that this is a good idea but perhaps we shouldn’t be focused a lot of resources on a single event. David Hales suggested this is a way to connect and develop partnerships with other stakeholders in history education in the state. Nadine added that maybe we should take more action in developing PD for teachers. Sean suggested that we this is a good conversation to move forward with. One question was posed: If we are putting our brand on it, why are we so minimally involved in the process? Kailie suggested that we need to give something to get something and that perhaps this would be a way to start doing something. Bill asked what is the value-added for this organization? He said that every organization is struggling with members, etc. and so we must be able to figure what value we provide. Catherine added how can we as an organization help in the standards rollout in this process too.

Jim moved that we continue working with River Raisin Battlefield on developing a River Raisin Teacher Institute, seconded by Petra, and passed unanimously.

Jim asked if someone would like to run the Electoral College contest. The winners get tickets to watch the Electoral votes and these must be requested six months out.

Michelle will send out a poll for possible future meeting dates.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Durham