

Kansas Geographic Alliance
Minutes for Executive Committee
June 22, 2005
Hays, Kansas

In attendance:

Guests: Dr. Tamara Korenman, KGA Co-Coordinator effective 9/1/2005

Members: Melanie Campbell, Judy Dollard, Don Everhart, Cheryl Everhart,

Deb Hamil, Pam Keller, Alice King, Rosanne Wilson

John Heinrichs, KGA Coordinator

Rich Heinrichs, KGA Co-Coordinator

Cheryl Heinrichs, KGA Resource Center Publications

Absent: Sandy Wallace, attending GAW! workshop in Washington, D.C.

Melanie Campbell was unanimously elected to chair the meeting since Sandy was absent.

MINUTES

The minutes were read and amended. On the second page, second line, the word Council was amended to read Committee. In the second paragraph, 7th line of the Coordinator's Report, the title of the act was amended to read No Child Left Behind Act. On the third page, in the Membership Committee report's next-to-last sentence, the words after sacred were stricken from the minutes. Pam Keller moved to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded. Carried.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Please refer to John's report. GPS units aren't purchased yet. There was discussion about the summer institute whose finances seemed "in good shape." The payout for this summer's SGI is about the same as the one for the 2004 SGI.

There was a short discussion (following a lengthy retreat with much discussion concerning this topic) about the Plan for the NGS grant. It was suggested that the plan be emailed to Executive Committee members for preview before sending it to NGS. The grant is due to NGS by July 1. Rich volunteered to email us a "preview" by June 29th. In order to better facilitate a plan for the grant, a revision of when we usually offer the SGI in the summer is needed. A consensus was reached for the 2006 dates for the SGI; the dates will be June 11 – 17, followed by participants' presentations on June 25 – 27. The Executive Committee would meet June 27th and the 28th. The SGI would end at the picnic instead of returning to the campus. The Executive Committee would meet immediately after the picnic.

It was suggested that the committee consider setting as many dates for meetings as is possible for the upcoming year.

CO-COORDINATOR'S REPORT

The SGI ended well. Thanks to all who helped with the event. There were eleven who fully participated. The student helper for the KGA Resource Center sat in during activities in order to gain a better sense of what the KGA is and to experience the immersion. The participants felt they had become "Geo Evangelists." The participants in the SGI had experienced the GeoPower workshops and felt compelled to continue their geography experiences with the SGI.

Rich moved that all future SGI applicants pay 1 hour deposit equivalent to 1 hour graduate tuition. The deposit will be refunded if the accepted applicant can't attend and notifies the KGA no less than 1 week prior to the start of the SGI. This amount shall be applied to the tuition. Seconded. Discussed extensively. Question moved. Motion withdrawn. Rich said he'd work on this idea for a more workable motion. The process would be included in Old Business for the next Executive Committee meeting. This was agreed to in general by the committee.

RESOURCE CENTER/PUBLICATIONS

Cheryl reported about the financial awards given for the Quilt Block winners. It had been difficult to award checks because the procedure required social security numbers of the student winners. In order to run the checks through, the students' social security numbers are treated as vendors in order for them to receive the money. It was suggested that a different procedure might make use of gift cards from Amazon.com or a choice of the Executive Committee. During discussion, Target, WalMart, Kmart, and National Geographic were mentioned as possibilities. It was felt that it was important to give a gift card incorporating full value of money awarded.

Don moved that the adult and student awardees for the Quilt Block Contest be given National Geographic gift cards. Seconded. There was discussion that the young people might better appreciate a gift card from another source. Motion withdrawn. Don moved that the adult awardees be given NGS gift certificates and the student awardees be given WalMart give certificates. Seconded. Passed.

There was discussion concerning the NGS **Explorer** magazine—reemphasizing discussions held in earlier meetings about how much the magazine was being used and seemed to be greatly appreciated by the KGA's membership. Don moved to expend \$1,000 (raised by \$500) for the NGS **Explorer** magazine for the coming school year. Seconded. Passed.

Cheryl and Judy reminded us that the individuals who were given preference for receiving the magazines from the KGA in the past were TCs and K-12 classroom teachers. During group discussion, it was decided that for this coming year, preference will be given to classroom teachers who are TCs and haven't received the magazine in the past year; the teachers will be asked to write a paragraph about the expected use. Cheryl also passed around letters she'd received from last year's recipients. She also indicated the order for the magazines would be sent in soon.

RESOURCE CENTER/PUBLICATIONS continued

The next issue of **Insights** would probably be mailed by August 1, Monday. A flyer for the Fall Conference should be included. July 15th is the deadline for getting in articles to Cheryl.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The committee will need to meet during July in order to make more decisions concerning the Fall Conference. A flyer would need to be designed. Tamara volunteered to assemble basic information and send it to Cheryl. The PDC will meet July 16, in Lindsborg with Tamara hosting the 10:30 meeting. The committee members should meet her in the Courtyard Gallery at Main Street.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Alice received a list of TCs from Cheryl. Judy, Pam, and Rosanne volunteered to help Alice contact all TCs in order to update information such as correct listing of name, home address, work address, what the TC wanted to receive from the KGA, and opinions about KGA activities such as Fall Conference. John would assist the callers with the expense of calling for KGA businesses by giving us access to a calling card. The volunteer callers would divide the names on the list.

FUND RAISING

John said he would work on this when he was able to do so.

OUTREACH

Judy felt that the GeoPower workshops would have a greater impact if we knew further ahead of time when they would be held. Planning events around the workshops would be easier and it would be easier to announce those events to GeoPower workshop participants so that more individuals might attend/further participate in KGA activities. It was decided to give greater consideration to areas of the state where GeoPower workshops had not been given in the past. Alice and Deb agreed to collaborate for a GeoPower workshop in October; the area would be in/around Manhattan as well as north of the city. Judy might contact a TC from Southeast Kansas and one in Northwest Kansas so that those TCs might help us offer workshops to those areas where there had not been one presented. Pam agreed to help sponsor a workshop during January 2006. A goal will be to have these dates set up and confirmed by the September 2005 Fall Conference.

Melanie asked Rosanne to compose some general guidelines for GeoPower workshops. Suggestions were given.

COMMUNICATIONS

Don indicated he would contact the appropriate sources about having a booth at the NCSS conference to be held in Kansas City this coming fall, November 17 – 19. He would check into the cost for a booth. Group consensus was that the limit for cost of a

booth should be \$300. If this becomes “a go”, he’ll be contacting us for our time to work in the booth.

OLD BUSINESS

Melanie distributed a committee’s examples of evaluation sheets for Coordinator and Co-Coordinator. These outlines are not final; they are working documents. Two topics that should be added to the Coordinator’s duties would include the retreat as well as being responsive to directions. The Co-coordinator’s duties for the Fall Conference should include developing a conceptual draft and requiring a speaker or special event. He/she should also collaborate with the GAW! coordinator for activities as well as make arrangements with the state governor’s office for a proclamation of GAW! Week. (This would probably result in us writing the proclamation and the governor’s office approving it.)

Don distributed the evaluation sheet for the Resource Center Manager and led discussion for it. John shared some ideas such as (1) being paid by Ft. Hays from our monies. (2) The Resource Center Manager will hire his/her own assistant. (3) Take out the last duty under attendance/participation which is “perform other duties as needed by the Executive Committee and/or Coordinator.” (4) Reword the last statement under financial so that the duty of making payments is not his/her job; but rather, the job of the coordinator.

Don continued to lead discussion about the duties for Publications Director. These duties should reflect policies rather than make policy. It was suggested that under Kansas Geographic Alliance Publications, the last 4 words should be deleted so that it reads “create documents as requested by the Executive Committee”. The responsibility of making nametags and passports should be added to this list.

Melanie asked all of us to scrutinize the lists of duties/evaluations so that we could better provide feedback at fall conference.

On a different subject, Sandy is in charge of notebooks for KGA members.

NEW BUSINESS

Judy moved that the KGA elect John Heinrichs as Emeritus Coordinator for whose KGA duties shall be as an advisor. Seconded. Passed.

It was noted that KansasView was developing NASA materials for teachers and that there were very real possibilities for the KGA and TCs with the organization.

Melanie, Cheryl Everhart, and Don Everhart are presenting at the summer academies. KGA will not be paying for a day as had been discussed at an earlier Executive Committee meeting. The Kansas State Department Social Studies Consultant, Lynn Stanley, said it was OK to tout the KGA during presentations by the three. KGA flyers are being handed out.

The meetings for the next year's Executive Committee meetings were set. The next Fall Conference will be held September 17 in Lindsborg. The Executive Committee will meet the Friday evening before the conference, September 16 at 6:30. Tamara said she would reserve 6 rooms for us to use Friday night as well as let us know about the hotel accommodations and meeting place for the Executive Committee meeting.

Other meeting dates for Executive Committee are as follows:

- January 28, 2006 --- in Topeka, Rosanne will be host
- April 29, 2006 --- in Salina, Pam will be host
- June 27, 2006 --- in Hays for the Retreat
- September 2006 --- Fall Conference, more details to come

Don moved the meeting adjourn. Seconded. Passed. 3:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne Wilson