TAER Business Meeting

3/28/15

Meeting called to order: 10:15

Treasurer’s Report: as of February 28, 2015

* Current Checking Balance: $75,326.48
* Business Investment Account: $7,750.83 (as of Jan. 31 2015)
* TAER Balance: $83,077.31
* 2014 Conference Wrap-up
  + 2014 Conference Income: $44,161.00
  + 2014 Conference Expenses: $50,636.10
  + Loss of $6,475.10
  + 269 attendees

Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report: Debra motioned to accept minutes: 2nd from audience

Motion approved

Business Minutes Read

* Kelly Marts motioned to accept minutes; 2nd from the audience
* Minutes approved

**Old Business**

* Discussion about committee to look at 3rd party issues
  + This is being discussed at the National Level
    - Rona Progrund and Mary Ann Siller are on this committee
* Discussion to post minutes from business meeting minutes on the website for membership to view ahead of the business meeting
  + This will be done with the understanding that they are only for looking at; not for approval—they will be read and approved at next business minutes
* Discussion about awards winners and categories—lack of nominations or inappropriate candidates
  + TAER Board will look carefully at award submissions for nominations
  + TAER Board is looking at making nomination process more efficient;
* Discussion that TAER website is not friendly to screen reader users.
  + TAER executive board members will look at website accessibility along with webmaster
* Discussion to look at either putting O&M board and business onto TAER website or a link to O&M website (not sure it old site is still working)

AER National Conference:

* National Office gave $5000.00 for host night.
* TAER paid: $23760.00 for food
* TAER paid travel for young man who sang at opening ceremonies
* TAER paid for DJ and music and room for overnight
* TAER paid for security
* TAER received $300 from Dr. Laura Miller toward Host night
* Host Committee was responsible for all room facilitators
* Host night was well received by AER members. Attendees were pleased with food and entertainment

New Business

* TAER Board will discuss moving Business meeting times to encourage more members to attend
  + TAER board will look into different options
    - possible credits to encourage attendance or changing dates.
* Marjie read election results
  + President Elect: Shay Utley
* Secretary: Gema Nelson
* Member-at-Large: DJ Dean; Hillary Keys
* Marjie discussed creating a new Policies and Procedure manual to reflect current guidelines without changing by-laws

2015 Conference

* There were 45 sessions
* 21 Vendors attending (24 vendors total)
  + brought in almost $6,000
* 31 tables
* 265 attendees
* Currently there are 341 TAER members with 2 new members
* Merchandise (hats, shirts, visors) $497
* Silent Auction: $1515.00
* Art in the Dark: pre-conference
  + 64 attendees
  + $726 profit
* Discussion that food choices were good
* Discussion in that sessions were informative and helpful
* Discussion to re-vamping website so more people can look at and/or make area for members-only
* O&M business meeting was offered to have ACVREP credit
  + Most people liked having it as a session
  + Will look at timing as it was offered during other sessions and people were conflicted
* Kate Moss: discussion to have other division meeting in addition to O&M meeting
  + Valery Alverez: Discussion to have: how VRT and education are integrated
  + TAER board will look into this
* Discussion that 2016 conference that now conflicts with STAAR dates as TEA just changes dates
* Discussion to change conference to Friday/Saturday instead of Thursday/Friday—no one wanted to change it.

Winner for Computer for student use that was donated by David Jeppson was Kristin Gartman

Plaques for Outgoing Board Members given out

* Brenda Lee
* Jill Brown
* Tracy Hallak
* Shay Utley

Meeting Adjourned at: 11:06

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jill Brown, TAER Secretary