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Minutes of National Writing Centers Association Executive Board Meeting

November 23, 1991

NCTE: Seattle

Board Members Present: Pam Farrell, Pat Dyer, Nancy Grimm, Lois Green, Sally Fitzgerald, Jim Upton, Al DeCiccio, Gloria Martin, Diana George (ex-officio), Rosemary O'Donoghue, Susan Hubbuch, Steve Fields, Lady Falls Brown, Christina Murphy, Byron Stay, Irene Clark, Julie Neff.

Guests Present: Vicki Scannell, Donna Reiss, Bonnie Sunstein, Mark Shadle.

President Pam Farrell called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and welcomed new board members.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

Nancy Grimm, executive secretary, reported that the NWCA treasury balance was \$2,920.03. New memberships since February 1991 totaled \$800; expenses totaled \$1,484.65. Grimm reminded members that Starter Folders for new writing centers are available from her.

Old Business

Members had a lengthy discussion concerning dues and expenses. The subscription cost for *Writing Lab Newsletter* is being increased from \$10 to \$15. Christina Murphy moved to raise the total cost of membership to \$35, including subscriptions to both *The Writing Center Journal* and *Writing Lab Newsletter*. The \$35 will be distributed as follows: \$10 to NWCA; \$10 to *WCJ*; \$15 to *WLN*. Julie Neff seconded the motion. The motion carried. Members discussed the importance of having regionals encourage national membership.

Farrell reported that Muriel Harris had recuperated from surgery and was back at work part-time. Members should notify Harris if there are concerns regarding their subscription to *WLN*.

Diana George, co-editor of *The Writing Center Journal*, reported that the fall issue was in the mail and showed members the new cover design. There were problems with the print in this issue related to the printer not having the right font. This will be corrected in the next issue.

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Farrell reported that the writing center directory is ready for the printers and that announcements have been sent out. Purdue was originally going to handle the printing but because they are asking for \$4,500 up front, members decided to investigate other printers. Julie Neff will contact the print shop at her university for estimates.

Members reported on regional meetings:

The Midwest Writing Centers Association had their conference in October with Diana George as keynote speaker. Byron Stay reported that the Mid-Atlantic Association plans a two-day conference in April with Stephen North as keynote speaker. The South Central Conference featured Ray Wallace as speaker at their November conference. The East-Central Conference is scheduled for May with Lil Brannon as keynoter. The New England Association will gather in April with Pam Farrell conducting workshops and Anne Ruggles Gere presenting the address. Gabrielle Rico was the keynoter at the Pacific Coast Conference in October. Byron Stay recommended that regionals promote each others' conferences rather than be concerned about boundaries.

Special Interest Group reports:

Rosemary O'Donoghue indicated that there was a poor response regarding revision of the Starter Kit. Julie Neff discussed interest in software for students with learning disabilities and referred members to a recent article in *Writing Lab Newsletter*. Pat Dyer indicated that there was interest in a meeting of people who are conducting writing center research.

This year's NCTE workshop is entitled "What Keeps a Writing Center Going?" and is scheduled for Tuesday. Thirty-six are registered for the session.

Farrell arranged for the Council on English Leadership to sponsor a session at NCTE entitled "Writing Centers and their Place in the School."

Lady Falls Brown reported that the CCCC Writing Centers Special Session will be "Computers in the Writing Center: Past, Present and Future." Brown also told members that the writing center computer network has been active.

Farrell has written to Writing Program Administrators regarding a liaison but has not heard a response.

New Business

Descriptions of the responsibilities of officers on the NWCA Board have been completed and were distributed to the officers.

Forms are available from Grimm for at-large nominations to the executive board.

A committee was formed to screen applications for the graduate student scholarship. The committee includes Lady Falls Brown, Lois Green, and Irene Clark. Clark will chair the committee. Scholarship applications are available from Grimm.

Pat Dyer is soliciting nominations for outstanding writing center scholarship for the year Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 1991. Nominations for this award are due by January 20.

Rosemary O'Donoghue volunteered to chair a membership committee.

Byron Stay nominated Ray Wallace for the position of second vice president. The nomination was seconded by Steve Fields and carried by the board.

Julie Neff announced that the board members were invited to her home for dinner.

President Pam Farrell passed the gavel to the new president, Pat Dyer.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Grimm
NWCA Executive Secretary