

Minutes of the November 13th, 2009 NYSMHS Meeting

Present: Janet Pittelli, Chairperson
Jeanine Scinta-Sass, Co-Chairperson
Bob Hazen, AMTNYS Rep
Bill Shaul, Chapter Rep
Robyn Poulsen, Chapter Rep
Grace Wilkie retired Chairperson
Amy Owens, Cicero North Syracuse Chapter Advisor
Amanda Trombley, No. Adirondack Chapter Advisor

The meeting was opened at 10:45 am.

Introduction of Board Members and guests.

The **Secretary's minutes** of the Nov 7, 2008 were presented and approved by all on a motion by Robyn Poulsen, and seconded by Bill Shaul.

The **treasurer's report** was given by Robyn Poulsen (in absence of Tammy Casey). We have a balance of \$12,414.11, which includes \$2000 in scholarship to be mailed out in January (after 1st semester). The report was accepted by all on a motion of Bob Hazen, and second by Robyn Poulsen.

Old Business:

1. **Scholarship Winners for 2008-9** were Christopher Anslow from Troy HS, Christopher Seymour from No. Salem HS, and from Bethlehem HS Xiaoxi Niu and Michael Dymond. Thank you notes were received from Xiaoxi and Chris Seymour.
2. **Banners/T-shirts**: Grace had 100 beautiful green t-shirts and 35 banners made. The banners were a gracious donation from Grace. Grace gave us the name of the supplier, and he will be able to make 4-5 different color shirts and will be able to put another logo on either the front or the back. Chapter Advisors should contact Tammy Casey to place an order for shirts or banners. Shirts will be selling for \$15 and Banners for \$10. Tammy should send the information and picture of both to Bob Hazen to be added to our website. Upcoming ideas will be tablecloths, blankets and sweatshirts.

New Business

1. **Representation from AMTNYS, NYSED, and NYSAMS.** There has been difficulty in getting a representative from NYSED and NYSAMS to be part of our board of governors. In the constitution, it is stated that the board of governors will be a 9 person committee to govern the issues of the New York State Mathematics Honor Society. After discussion and history of the start of NYSMHS from Grace Wilkie and Bob Hazen, it was suggested that the chairperson of NYSMHS be the AMTNYS representative since he or she will

be appointed to the assembly to give reports at the 3 meetings each year. So this will no longer necessitate the need for a different person to be the AMTNYS representative. It was deemed important for NYSMHS to have the connection with the executive board of AMTNYS. After further discussion, it was suggested that we invite the NYSED and NYSAMS to appoint an ad-hoc representatives to our organization.

On a motion by Bob Hazen, second by Jeanine Scinta-Sass and unanimous support from the representatives at the meeting, a constitutional change was made to read:

Article II, Section 1

“The Board of Governors shall consist of six (6) members: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and an advisor from each of two (2) officially recognized local chapters. An invitation will be sent to NYSAMS and NYSED to appoint an ad-hoc representative without voting privilege.”

2. **Scholarship Application Changes:** The scholarship application for the press release should include lines for the student to list their local newspaper and address. This would then allow the chairperson to send the press release to their local papers as well as the AMTNYS newsletter, journal and website. It was also suggested that we update the checklist to change the copies to: 1 original and 3 copies (total of 4). Also an application without the required biography would be considered incomplete and shredded before distribution to the committee members. The cover sheet should be changed to a deadline date of March 15th. It was found to be too quick for a return of Feb. 15th.
3. **Rubric** Janet, Jeanine and Bob will schedule an eliminate session to complete a rubric for scoring the scholarship applications. This rubric will be sent out with the applications to all the committee members.
4. **Scholarship Committee for the year 2009-10** will be Chair Jeanine Scinta-Sass, Janet Pittelli, Robyn Poulsen, and Amanda Trombley. Janet should not score South Kortright, Robyn should not score Lake Placid, and Amanda should not score No. Adirondack. All applications and supporting paperwork should be shredded by committee members after the selection process.
5. **Scholarship Procedure:**
 - a. Applications will need to have the committee chairperson address added to the cover sheet of the applications. The applications should be sent out by Chairperson by late January or early February with a return date to the committee chairperson of March 15.
 - b. The committee chairperson should then check each application for completeness, and discard any incomplete applications (to be shredded).

- c. All complete applications should be mailed out to the other committee members, but not include any of their students.
 - d. Committee chairperson should ask members to select their top 10 ranked choices and sent by e-mail by a chosen date.
 - e. After taking into consideration those applications not review by all candidates, he or she should find the top 4 choices for the scholarship.
 - f. The committee chairperson should notify the NYSMSH Chairperson with the selections. He or she will then notify the chapter advisors in writing with a letter to the winners including the directions on how to receive their scholarships.
6. **Copying Costs:** Website: NYSUT.edu, under member benefits, you can get a card that will allow teachers 80% off copying costs at Office Max.
7. After discussion, it was suggested that the minutes from our annual meeting be posted to our websites to ensure that all chapters have the ability to see what changes have occurred at our annual meeting. The secretary's minutes will be forwarded to Bob Hazen for this posting. Bob and Grace both have speeches/ information that would be beneficial to honor societies and Bob will post this on our website as well.
8. Janet announced her **retirement from the Chairperson** position. Janet informed Robyn and Bill of her decision earlier to allow them time to consider taking this position. On a motion from Robyn Poulsen and second by Amanda Trombley, Bill Shaul was nominated for the office of Chairperson. Nominations were closed and the temporary secretary cast one vote for Bill Shaul as Chairperson.
9. With the election of Bill Shaul to chairperson, a **new chapter representative** was needed. After discussion of the duties of a chapter representative, Amy Owens from Cicero-No Syracuse volunteered to fill this position.

Starting a New Chapter or Questions about existing Chapters:

- 1. **Resignation from Chapters.** Grace suggested that maybe a student may appreciate a leave from the honor society to give a student a chance to re-group or re-organize or attend to family business that may be holding him or her back from participation. Making your honor society a family to help each other out in hard times or the need for tutoring to help raise their average will make your society even stronger in the end.
- 2. **Activities:** Math Tutoring at any grade level, Middle School Level Review for 3 nights the week before state exams, Family Math Night, Game night, Pi Day, Recyclables, Selling pies from local baker.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 am.