

**FCSS (Florida Council for the Social Studies)  
Meeting Minutes**

**February 5, 2016**

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**I. Announcements**

Meeting was called to order February 5, 2016 at 7:12 pm.

**Welcome to New Board Members:**

Roberto Fernandez

Tara Tillmanshofer

Returning Member:

Julie Gates/RHO KAPPA

Susie Fogerty: Get Well card was sent

Peggy Renihan: had emergency surgery/doing well

Virginia Parra: Family issues

**II. Committee Reports:**

**Leslie Lee:** Conference Next conference will be Embassy Suites: October 2016

Inisbrook near Tarpon Springs: 2017

Proposals are on the website.

Attendance was down this year. There were 290 people who attended.

Expenses were also down

**State of the Social Studies**

Presented by Chris Spinale

FASSS thanks FCSS

ELA and Science have been reaching out to Social Studies, not seen before. In the past it was how we could support ELA. Primary and Secondary Source Analysis very strong and important.

One area in which we all struggle is at the Elementary level. There needs to be more of an emphasis and focus on Social Studies, skills sets are being emphasized.

Elyssa Beachy said that progression for Civics is another focus. It is mainly a district based decision and Miami-Dade is one of the schools. Miami will change to US History in 6<sup>th</sup>, Civics in 7<sup>th</sup>, and World History in 8<sup>th</sup>.

Several districts are moving forward, Marion County: significant movement, Citrus County, Levy County (Civics is now in 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

There will be more discussion in April at our last meeting and there may be more news regarding course progression.

One of the questions is will there be a stumbling block in course coding and will we run into conflict?

The course progression could help with AP World in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Miami-Dade County: The course codes have been changed.

There is no person hired yet at the Department of Education for Social Studies.

## **Introduction and update:**

Dr. Randy Felton introduced the new test coordinator for Social Studies, Dr. Stacy Skinner.

She has had extensive experience.

The test development center is assisting the developing of test and interpretive materials for Florida Statewide Assessments

EOC Assessment

Test year is Spring to Spring

There is a DOE assessment Fact Sheet

The fact sheet is in the google drive

There is a share point site: <http://sharepoint.leon.k12.fl.us/tdc/external>

There was a US History Assessment Update: October 2015

There was also a Civics Assessment Update: October 2015

Power Point will be available in Google drive.

Item Specs Review: Nominations/want Social Studies Supervisors/Administrators.

Classroom teachers who can build PD for districts are wanted to work on item specs reviews.

Dr. Skinner's email is [skinnners@leonschools.net](mailto:skinnners@leonschools.net)

The contract with Pearson is over and has gone out to bid, DOE will make determinations by end of March (maybe)

Item bank will get us through next year.

Dr. Felton talked about the transfer of the item specs and remarked that it could be a problem.

## **Budget:**

Presented by Leslie Lee

Conference budget:

Is there any way to cut costs?

There is talk every year about the dinner.

Kassie Erenstoft asked about backing out membership fees and asked the question, "What is considered an expense?"

Erin Howe asked about membership fees?

Elyssa Beachy remarked that Membership fees are not recorded separately.

Sharon Ortiz said that maybe there is a way we can find a way to do that.

Dinner: TOYS just come to the dinner which is not really right.

Leslie said that in the budget analysis of the conference, the expense was more than income. There was a transfer of money to the operating account from the investment account.

We are no longer able to put money into the Management Reserve.

We did not transfer money this year: \$20,000 was transferred last year.

In the budget:

There are officers with paid positions:

Executive Director

Treasurer

Publications

Conference Chair: is a paid, but that position is empty and the proposal is now not to pay that person

There was a discussion among the management committee members.

The bylaws will change and will bring to a vote in April.

There is a policy and procedure committee.

The board has cut down expenses and there is no conference travel related expenses

Last year the travel was \$1265.33.

There was a discussion about RHO KAPPA.

Elyssa Beachy asked why the medallion order was so expensive.

It was explained that it really wasn't that expensive and that an order like this is only put in once every three years or so.

Terry Alexander asked if instead of medallions we should hand out cords instead.

In the last two weeks, many college students have inquired or joined FCSS.

The question came up as to why have FASSS members not joined FCSS?

Cherie suggested that we ask FASSS (at conference time) to have time on the agenda for speaking about membership and the conference.

Chris Spinale stated that we have to look at the relationship between FASSS and FCSS. It has strengthened and over time it will get stronger.

Sharon Ortiz asked the question of why are we so over the budget.

Erin Howe commented that we should look at the investment account and go to the endowment fund as well.

It was also stated at this time that Cherie, Susie, and Terry were reimbursed to go to NCSS. Tim was eligible, but did not ask for reimbursement.

Cherie said we should move to committee as a whole and need to discuss the budget.

Elyssa Beachy made the motion and it was seconded by Terry Alexander. Mark asked about publications and the monthly maintenance fee. Steve Masyada complimented Mark on the website. Robin asked about management benefits. Mark said it is

Management Compensation. Cherie said that the board has offered the conference chair to Peggy Renihan who has accepted, but will not take the compensation.

Erin Howe questioned the idea of compensating other members of the board, but why not the conference chair?

Cherie: said to put back the conference chair and then amend the policies and procedures. Keep everyone the same.

Sharon Ortiz remarked that the conference chair should get paid for the amount of work, and wanted to know what each person makes.

Elyssa Beachy read off the salaries of the Treasurer, Executive Director, and Publications Chair.

Leslie Lee said she would do the conference chair 100 times over and that the Executive Director does a lot of work.

## **NCSS:**

Cherie: No one was sent to the Leadership Conference this year.

We didn't know ahead of time what the resolutions would be so we could not put Florida on the resolutions committee.

We need to keep Leadership Conference in the budget if we are going to send someone.

Sharon Ortiz said that we have to estimate the budget and investment fees better because we are going over budget.

Holly remarked that FCSS will not be in existence next year if we do not have enough money in reserve. As an organization we have to figure this out.

Kassie agreed with Holly and said we need to have the exact expenditures.

Holly said that if Terry Trimble is the one putting in the numbers and something happens to him, we are in a very bad position.

Holly motioned to table the budget so that there is an accurate reflection of the budget.

Cherie said we will table the discussion. We came back out of committee as a whole.  
A break was called.

Call back

Terry Alexander: NCSS Gold for FCSS was presented at the NCSS Annual Conference.  
(House of Delegates)

Motion to adjourn for the evening: Terry Alexander  
Seconded by Maureen Carter

February 6, 2016  
Call to order 8:00am

### **Endowment Board:**

Kris Scola called for a new elected member  
Committee Lists are going around

### **Awards Committee**

Teacher of the Year: Time to get started.  
Kassie and Chris are the chairpersons for the awards committee  
Both remarked that the website needed to be updated and documentation needs to be added.  
Chris mentioned that we could have a new award and Nystrom was a possibility.  
One of the ways in which to get TOYS to come to the entire conference would be to ask them to do a session.

### **Legislation Committee:**

Steve Masayda said there is a new Instructional Materials law which is very important.  
HR539/SJR734 could allow the legislature to form new district/priority of the incoming leadership of the legislature. The Best and Brightest bill is on the table.  
The Sports bill was looked at. The Pledge of Allegiance bill and the Financial Literacy bill are probably not going anywhere.  
Keep in mind that we wrote letters of support for FJCC.

### **House of Delegates Report:**

NCSS has voted to agree with Indigenous Peoples Day, Black Lives Matter resolutions.  
Question asked if we should engage in these kinds of matters.  
Holly, John, and Kassie commented and the general consensus was yes.  
Steve talked about The Political Classroom.

Other resolutions from House of Delegates did not pass.  
Perhaps we should start a committee exploring the possibility of submitting a resolution.

### **The Bylaws Committee:**

There has been a proposal for changes which will be voted on in April.

Committee Structure/Publications:

There have been inquiries on how to submit.

Resources on the website should be added

Cherie: brought back to discussion

Investment fees and interest/management fees are deducted from the interest/goes to Endowment. Funds that are earned cannot be spent in any other way/has to go to endowment. What we can do is approve the budget the way it is and will go with last year's budget. Leslie Lee has corrected the mistake and she apologized for the data entry mistake.

Cherie called for a brief break.

Call back to order at 10:30 am.

### **New appointments:**

Cherie announced she would like to make some appointments.

They are:

Maureen Carter: Secretary

John as Parliamentarian

Peggy Renihan to be conference chair.

Robin Blalock made motion to move back together as a whole.

Terry Alexander seconded it.

Motion approved

Discussion of the budget:

Mark said there is an extra expenditure of the maintenance of the website of \$1,000.00

Hospitality has expenses of gifts and miscellaneous which are unpredictable.

Cherie proposed that Tim Girard take the position of historian and make an update to the book. We should digitize the endowment and association history.

We will take \$200.00 out of the hospitality budget and \$1200.00 will be given to publications. \$10,000 needs to remain for the website. We built the new website and recommend that the money be transferred. The website made money of \$1200.00

Executive Director Leslie Lee said that \$707.57 will go back to Management Asset Account and the management compensation is \$14,000. Erin asked if other people

receive compensation and the answer from Leslie was no, no one else ever had. Regina Stuck asked if we take out insurance for cancellation of conference in case of storm or hurricane. Leslie Lee will look into it.

Kris Scola stated that Terry Trimble was a miracle worker with the numbers. The conference went from \$10,000 to 9,000. Publications and website balance: decreased the encumbrances to \$981.16 to \$781.16. Total of bottom will adjust to \$43,450.00.

Cherie said we need a motion to come out of committee into session

The motion was made by Kris Scola and seconded by Scott. There was also a motion to accept budget as revised (worksheet). The motion was made by Regina Stuck to accept and Roberto Fernandez seconded.

All approved.

Kris Scola explained about the Endowment.

For History Fair; \$3500.00 was spent.

The Conference sponsored students from UCF to FCSS and NCSS.

Mentor session was a very good session.

There were 30 students.

There was also a training by Dr. Scott Waring (CUFA)

Florida is the only state with a CUFA.

There were 10 registrations that came out of it.

### **Mini Grants:**

1,000.00 mini-grants to:

Region 2: Fort King

Region 1: Pensacola

Region 3: Florida Historical Society

Region 4: Spady Cultural Museum

Region 5: Fort Pierce

A plaque was given to each organization.

Assessment will be done at April meeting.

### **Update on FSU**

Portfolio: FCSS Fund for Excellence in Social Studies Education

Two students who are the most recent to receive the scholarship sent letters of thanks.

There was a reception for all Social Studies graduates and a member of FCSS/Tim Girard went and thought it was great.

## **Questions on Endowment Board:**

Separate Board for this:

There is a current sitting President and Current Executive Director

Three appointed positions: Past President, Director Emeritus, and Executive Director

Current Members are:

Cherie Arnette

Fran Holleran

Leslie Lee

Kris Scola

Joanne Wetzel

Kathy Taylor/Past President

Connie Brown

Mary Ellen Falvey

Dates stagger for meeting

Cherie proposed we break into committees after the break.

Called back into meeting

Resources were discussed and the question is how do we want resources to be set up?

Title of units and standards would be good and an annotated resource list.

We should have an updated Facebook page and Tim Girard suggested we beef up on Twitter.

Perhaps at the next meeting set up a training for Twitter.

Miami-Dade Social Studies Conference:

It is maxed out and will be held February 16, 2016.

It was suggested that we offer PD in different ways in the name of FCSS and we need to advertise as FCSS.

April 2: Escambia County Conference will be held and presentations will be made in the name of FCSS.

We need to do conference brainstorming.

It would have an Elementary focus and perhaps we should have awards for TOY presenters.

TOY attendance needs to be explored more as stated earlier. Perhaps to get the award TOYs need to be required.

Scott said there is a misunderstanding of the teachers that win actually think they are county winners and don't need to attend the conference. They don't understand that there is a difference.

Questions were asked about training presented by winners of the awards and maybe lower the cost of the dinner.

Cherie brought up membership and also stated that the deadline for making the hotel block. It will be at Staybridge Suites. There will be a draft agenda.

The motion to adjourn was made by Maureen Carter at 11:00 am.

Robin Blalock seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.