

PLATO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

August 21, 2015

DCS Office, 21 North Park, Madison, WI

Present: Frank Power (President), Sybil Better, Lewis Bosworth, Mary Boyd, Janet Cabot, Mary DeWolf, Mike DiIorio, Patricia Herrling, John Koch, Scott Kolar, Aleta Murray, Tim Otis
DCS: Barry Orton

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME – Power called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. He welcomed new board members Herrling, Koch and Kolar. He also reminded members of the changing roles of some board members: Boyd is now past president, Kolar is president-elect and Power is president.

He discussed meeting rules and requested that members speak loudly and clearly and that they seek permission prior to addressing the group and avoid side conversations.

II. MINUTES – On a motion by Koch and a second by Kolar, the minutes of the June 19th meeting were approved with the correction of a typo.

III. PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Power reported on his activities since assuming the presidency in July. He is very interested in strengthening social opportunities for PLATO members. To this end, a picnic is being planned in conjunction with a trip to the Vilas Zoo.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT –The preliminary end- of-year report for 2014-15 shows a surplus although the exact amount awaits reconciliation between Wild Apricot and our bank statement. The need for a bookkeeper to handle future reconciliations remains to be determined.

The Finance Committee, the newest standing committee, held its initial meeting and added a member with significant financial expertise.

V. FALL PREVIEW – Boyd reviewed preparations for the event. A few coordinators have yet to indicate whether they will be attending.

VI. BOARD DISCUSSION OF MEMBER SURVEY – Power divided the board into four small groups to review the survey results and identify meaningful takeaways and actionable directives for the Executive Committee. The groups dealt with length of membership, courses, other programs, and website/online communication. Each group then reported to the Board on its take on the survey.

VII. COMMITTEES – Boyd reminded the Board that the minutes of the committees are drafts and are not final until approved by the committees.

Otis reported that a letter soliciting donations for the PLATO fund will be going out to all members soon. He encouraged board members to donate to the Fund.

Bosworth reported that Volume 4 of the Agora will be available next week. A celebration of its publication is planned for October 14 at the Senior Center.

Bosworth reported that the ad hoc committee on diversity had held two meetings. A report from the group will be available in November and possibly sooner.

VIII. BEHAVIORAL GUIDELINES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS ACTIVITIES – Guidelines were drafted by the Special Events Committee and approved by the group in June. On a motion by Otis and a second by Cabot, *the Board approved “PLATO Guidelines for Managing Inappropriate or Unsafe Behavior at Special Events Activities.”*

IX. VOLUNTEERS – Boyd requested that each Board member visit three PLATO classes to encourage more volunteerism by PLATO members. A sign-up sheet was circulated so members could indicate which classes they would visit.

X. OTHER BUSINESS – The MOA with the University was signed in late May. Orton reported that everything seems to be going well with the new agreement.

XI. SEPTEMBER MEETING – The next meeting will be held on September 18th. Fowler distributed a list of meeting dates for 2015-16 as part of the agenda packet.

XII. ADJOURNMENT - Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sybil Better
Secretary

Approved by the PLATO Board on September 18, 2015.