

PLATO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Friday, February 18, 2011
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 110 N. Whitney Way, Madison WI

NOTE: Next Meeting: Friday, March 25, 9:30 a.m.

Present: Judy Sadowsky, Chair, Marv Beatty, Patricia Becker, Mary Boyd, Mike Lovejoy, Tim Otis, Ved Prakash, Arden Trine, Barry Orton, Wendy Kerr.

I. CALL TO ORDER – J. Sadowsky called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. MINUTES – The minutes of the January, 2011, meeting were accepted unanimously.

III. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Curriculum and Facilities – No report

B. University Relations – M. Lovejoy

1. Revision of the MOA will be presented at the April Board meeting.
2. Major issue is how to reflect the changes in the financial arrangements with DCS. DCS no longer pays bills, but sends dues revenue to PLATO, which pays its bills directly.
3. The MOA is being designed to be in effect more than just a 2-year period, with changes made as needed through amendments. UW Risk Management will sign off on the final document.
4. Risk sign-off procedures: M. Boyd noted that Madison Senior Center has requested a risk sign-off. B. Orton will look into DCS procedures.

C. Special Events and Activities - M. Boyd

1. About 50 persons attended the third of the election lectures – 14 had signed up ahead of time.
2. Nepal dinner/lecture: Very good reviews. Despite bad weather, there were 63 paid attendees. Madison Senior Center has requested a donation to cover the extra custodial work. Motion made and carried to send \$100.
3. Spring Preview. Despite problems with parking due to the rally at the Capitol and an initial decision to cancel, about 120 persons attended. Five new members signed up. Procedures went smoothly. A letter of thanks will be sent to Christine and Pat for their support.

D. Outreach – J. Sadowsky for A. Falconer

1. The last meeting was aborted due to a scheduling mix-up.
2. Web Site Task Force – T. Otis. Development of the site is progressing under leadership of Scott Kolar. Target date for completion is early May. M. Boyd suggested having a Web Workshop. B. Orton will organize it for the fall. Scott will be invited to the next Board meeting to give a full report.
3. PLATO Brochure – B. Orton. DCS staff is working on this, and DCS will fund it. T. Otis will help develop a draft.
4. *The Agora* - M. Beatty. There are five review groups reviewing the 108 submissions: 2 for the arts, 1 for fiction, 1 for nonfiction, and 1 for poetry. Deadline for their rankings is March 14. To stay within the budget contents will be limited to about 80 pages.

E. Ad Hoc Scholarship Committee – V. Prakash

The Committee (V. Prakash, F. Stein, and P. Becker) recommends allocating \$3000 for two \$1500 scholarships for DCS undergraduate returning students. Moved, seconded, and approved.

IV. Other

- A. New Member Meeting – T. Otis. Despite bitter cold, there were about 24 attendees. T. Otis suggested it be moved to the Fall.
- B. Bus Trip Coordination – M. Boyd. The Committee has a possible candidate for overall organization of the bus trip program, and a few others at the New Member meeting expressed interest. T. Otis will follow up on the latter.

V. UW Foundation/PLATO Proposal – M. Beatty

- A. Statement of Purpose: The UW Relations Committee is working on this. It will include a recommendation for the source of the initial \$10,000 deposit. Target date for completion and approval by UW Foundation is early summer. Publicizing to encourage donations will begin in September.
- B. Ongoing surveillance: M. Lovejoy proposed creating a permanent committee.
- C. Contributions by non-members: Whether a tax break could be taken by non-member donors will be checked with DCS legal counsel.

VI. Strategic Plan Updates

A. Committee reports:

1. Curriculum: Number of sections has been increased, and new times offered.
2. Leadership: New people have been recruited to several committees.

B. Procedure for updates: It was proposed that each committee prepare a formal review of the past year and a plan for next year, to be presented to the membership at either the Annual Luncheon or Annual Business Meeting and reported in *The Persimmon*. J. Sadowsky will alert committee chairs not present. M. Beatty will organize the committee reports for presentation.

VII. Nominating Committee – M. Beatty

The Committee presented the following slate:

President Elect: Pat Becker

Treasurer: Mike Lovejoy

Secretary: Lauren Blough

Members-at-large: 3 needed

Frank Stein's term is up

Joann Savoy and Jean Blake have resigned

Nominated: Helen Arli and Frank Powers

One more to be recruited

VIII. Old Business: May 24th Annual Luncheon update – W. Kerr and B. Orton

Biddy Martin is not available to be the speaker; she has suggested Darrell Bazzell. The other candidate discussed is Russ Feingold. It was decided in view of the possible Public Authority of UW-Madison proposed in the Governor's budget repair bill to invite Bazzell. Barry Orton will make the contact.

IX. New Business – None

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next meeting: **Friday, March 25, 9:30 a.m., Mt. Olive Church.**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Becker, Secretary