

VSLA Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2007
St. Johnsbury Academy Arts Center

President Jean Fournier opened the meeting at 1:30 PM, with about 40 members present.

One of Jean's students created a survey on how filtering is handled in schools as part of his senior Capstone Project. VSLA members were invited to fill out the survey.

Minutes. No minutes were available from the May 2007 meeting. Jean noted that the name change from VEMA (Vermont Educational Media Association) to VSLA (Vermont School Library Association) was the major item of business.

Budget Report. Donna Smyth sent her report. (See attached). Jean noted the increase in the amount of conference seed money from \$10,000 to \$20,000, and acknowledged the ads that were sold to vendors to help fund the VSLA newsletter.

Jean and VSLA Goals.

Jean stated the three goals she had in mind when she agreed to the presidency:

1. Keep active a liaison between the Dept. of Education and the Dept. of Libraries. Dan Greene has been attending meetings to that end along with Sue Monmaney.
2. Expansion of creative use of technology. Board members were asked to come up with ideas at the last meeting. Anyone who has any ideas should send them along to the VSLA board.
3. VSLA – spread the word to new librarians to find out about VSLA, become a member, and get involved.

Updates.

Dan Greene. Karen Hennig reported for Dan about Leda Schubert's old position. The Commissioner of Education telephoned Dan to say he would be coming to see him. Dan says things are moving along nicely, but he couldn't say anything more than that. It seemed the commissioner was willing, but there was no money.

Sue Monamany. Jean expressed her gratitude to Sue for getting the video licensing together. VSLA Logo – Sue had flyers for anyone interested in participating, and it is also in the newsletter. Entries are due by December 15.

Marsha Middleton. Newsletter. Marsha would like paragraphs from those members attending the fall conference about what meant the most to them at the conference, including pictures. She would also like articles and pictures of our libraries since everyone seems to like reading about other libraries.

Anne Gallivan. Curriculum Document. Shannon Walters offered to put it on a wiki, and Anne will check on the status of this wiki. Anne will see if she can have it ready in time for the spring conference in May.

- A break in the program to sing Happy Birthday to Lindy Sargent.

Karen Hennig. Membership updates. Karen reminded members to check the membership list to make sure they have renewed for this year and to make sure that the information is accurate.

Pam Burke. VSLA Website. Pam is soliciting information for the website. She asked for items that would be helpful and of interest to both new and old librarians. She noted that photos are welcome and very easy to share through Flickr Photo Sharing.

VLC. The Vermont Library Conference is scheduled for May 13 & 14, at the Sheraton. Jean reported that the conference committee is still in need of a co-chair-in-training. Volunteers are always needed.

VALS – Jean gave a reminder that October 31 is the deadline for contributing MARC records.

Library Automation Systems. Sheila Kearns (Department of Libraries). Sheila met with librarians about various library automation systems. If anyone would like information, get in touch with Sheila. She reminded everyone that there are lots of questions to ask before making a decision.

Open Discussion.

NEEMA. Merlyn Miller. NEEMA Conference is on Friday, April 4. The Keynote speaker will be Dr. Henry Jenkins from M.I.T., and he will talk about “Digital Learning.”

Jean. Assistive Technologies. Jean noted that schools will be dealing with this issue, and there are many resources here in Vermont to help take care of these needs. Dan Greene wrote an article for an upcoming issue of School Library Journal about this topic. Sue took a course called “Differentiated Instruction,” taught by Tim Fox at UVM, as part of the Education Technology Sequence, and assistive technology was included.

Listserv. Anne Gallivan. A reminder to everyone sending emails to use headers and descriptors to let people know who the intended audience is, i.e., high school, elementary school, etc. Karen will send out a reminder on the listserv, and Pam will put it on the website.

Motion to adjourn. Sue Monmaney moved to adjourn the meeting. Harriett Phillips-Hamblitt seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dollinda Lund
Secretary

