

Vermont School Library Association Semi-Annual Meeting  
Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center  
May 12, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM by President Jean Fournier.

Before continuing with the meeting, we sang "Happy Birthday" to Peter Lihatsh.

President's Report. Jean spoke about some of the highlights from her end-of-year report and was pleased that she had accomplished most of her goals. She stressed that this was done with the help of many and thanked the members for their hard work. (Full report on website)

Secretary's Report. The minutes from the semi-annual meeting in October 2007 were read by Secretary Dollinda Lund. Madeline Sherman made the motion to accept the minutes with a correction made to the date of the spring conference, Karen Hennig seconded the motion, and the minutes were accepted with correction.

Jean introduced the current board members. She then announced the names of retiring VSLA members and gave them each a gift. At this point Jean "handed over the gavel" to Sue Monmaney. Sue thanked Jean for all her hard work as president this past year. She thanked her for being flexible in the way meeting attendance was handled and for being a visible presence for the coordinated efforts between VLA and VSLA.

Slate of Officers was offered. Marsha Middleton's name was brought forth as the new President Elect, and the other officers remained the same. Madeline made the motion to accept the slate of officers as presented and to have the secretary cast one vote. Peter Lihatsh seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

- Fall Conference. The co-chairs for the 2008 conference will be Dan Greene and Cheryl Kissel. The conference will be held at U32 in October.
- The board representatives remained the same.
- The Spring Conference co-chair representing VSLA is Sara Goldstein.

Treasurer's Report. Donna Smyth gave the year-end report and presented the 2007-2008 budget and the 2008-2009 proposed budget. (On website) Donna noted that it may be time to spend down some of our savings, and it was suggested that some of this money could go toward the Professional Development Initiative and advocacy in the coming year. Madeline Sherman suggested that board members be given reimbursement toward mileage because of the rise in gas prices, and that perhaps this could come out of miscellaneous expenses. Madeline made the motion to reimburse members up to \$20.00 per meeting, and the motion was seconded. After some discussion Madeline amended the motion to read that VSLA will reimburse round-trip mileage from a board member's school at one half the IRS rate. At this point Joanne Bertrand noted that it would be a lot of work for Donna to keep track of all of all this. She suggested it be

tracked rather than putting it under the broad miscellaneous category, perhaps in a sub-account under miscellaneous. It was voted to leave this decision to the discretion of the board. Cynthia Nau made the motion to approve the budget, Chris Varney seconded, and the budget passed.

VSLA Logo. Sue showed the membership an image of the new logo. The winner of the contest was Trevor DeVries from Burr and Burton Academy, and he won a \$100 gift card to Book Sense.

Department of Education Liaison. Dan Greene. Dan spoke very recently with Commissioner Cate concerning the Library Consultant's position, and the acceptability of a half time position was discussed. Dan called him again to find out where this was going, and was told that at this time the School Library Consultant's position will not be reinstated because at this time the Department of Education has 16 people retiring or leaving for other reasons, and they will not be replaced. Therefore this is not the time to fund this position. The commissioner said his intent is to fully fund the position when the financial situation is better.

Legislative Concerns. Library Confidentiality Bill. The governor signed the bill today!

Full annual reports are available on the website.

Sue thanked Jean again for her work this year and Dan for his efforts communicating with the Department of Education. She reminded the membership that we all must be fully involved for VSLA to remain successful.

Cheryl Kissel asked for help in planning the fall conference. If anyone is interested, see her or Dan.

Karen Hennig made the motion to adjourn, and Jean Fournier seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dollinda Lund  
Secretary

