

John Dewey Society Annual Business Meeting  
April 13, 2012  
Vancouver, BC

Present: Deron Boyles, Mark Kissling, Craig Cunningham, Debra Seltzer-Kelly, Robbie McClintock, Maura Striano, Doug Simpson, Dave Waddington, Larry Hickman, Linda O'Neill, Jim Garrison, Barb Thayer-Bacon, Paul Shaker, Dennis Buss, Dan Tanner, James Schul, Diane Schul, Gregg Jorgensen, Kyle Greenwalt

Deron Boyles welcomes everyone and calls the meeting to order. Introduction of the members present.

Minutes from last year's meeting are distributed. Lynda Stone offers motion to approve them as presented. Barb Thayer-Bacon seconds. All in favor.

Deron Boyles announces the results of the elections. Kathleen Knight-Abowitz is President Elect. Walter Feinberg, Barbara Thayer-Bacon and Naoko Saito are elected to the Board. Rosetta Marantz Cohen agrees to fill spot of Jeanne Connell on Board. Deron Boyles especially thanks Len Waks, Chip Bruce and Patrick Jenlink for their willingness to serve and their valuable contributions to the Society.

Deron Boyles explains the new initiative to gain institutional sponsors for the meeting. He recognizes the support of Miami University of Ohio, Teachers College, Columbia, Pragma and Georgia State.

Kyle Greenwalt gives the treasurer's report. He notes the relatively solid financial position of the Society, given moves over the past year to increase dues, cut costs for the annual meetings, and the ending of *Insights*. Money is needed for new initiatives, such as the membership office and new School and Society web portal. Membership has been slowly growing--we should consider more initiatives, like the School and Society Forum, as they seem like a wise investment of Society money in terms of its mission and gaining new members.

Mark Kissling is introduced as the new membership officer. Kurt Stenhagen is thanked for his service.

It is announced that Barbara Stengel is stepping down as the CSI director. David Waddington is her replacement. David notes that the site has received over 80,000 hits in the past year. New writers are needed for the blog.

David Granger and Nick Burbules mailed in reports on the journals, *Education & Culture* and *Educational Theory*. Reports are shared with the membership.

Debbie Seltzer-Kelly reports on the School and Society initiative. She notes that we currently have 3 separate web sites that are not well integrated, and the first step of the committee is to work on an interface for those. However, given that she is moving to a new university, and this university is interested in supporting that work, the transition will take a few more months. She will work immediately on setting up discussion threads for issues of interest to members. We will continue to work towards an online practitioner journal with some special content reserved for members (monetization of some aspects of our work).

Dan Tanner gives archivist report and report from the Tanner Fund. He notes he is pleased with the new School and Society initiative and our return to our original purpose. Quoting Dewey, he notes that we are always "beginning renewal afresh." Foundation is interested in purchasing Lectures printed as books and sending them to the membership. Since 2005, the Tanner Foundation has given over \$8,000 to the

Society. Such support will continue in the future, and likely grow if the focus can remain on the problems of the schools.

Deron Boyles gives presidential address. He notes that in September of last year we sponsored a session at the PES-Eastern Division on philosophy for children. In January of this year we co-sponsored the Dewey in Mexico conference. This year, under the leadership of Margaret Macintyre Latta, we had our first annual School and Society Forum.

Maura Striano suggests some pre-Forum sessions next year at local sites, which could be put up on youtube, and shared prior to the Forum.

Deron Boyles notes that he did not advertise in *Ed Researcher* this year, but did send out the program to all divisions and SIGS. He notes the book drive for an organization in Pakistan. Old copies of Dewey can be sent to Mail Lucas-Green by the end of August. Deron Boyles thanks Lynda Stone for hosting, this year, the first annual Past President's Paper Session. He thanks the Constitution Committee of Gert Biesta, Jim Garrison and Kyle Greenwalt for their work. He thanks Barb Stengel, Kurt Stenhagen, and out-going Board members Kathleen Knight-Abowitz, James Campbell and Bill Gaudelli for their service.

Constitution and By-Laws are discussed. Deron Boyles notes that he took the work of the committee and undertook an extensive final edit. Constitution is discussed first. Dan Tanner asks about the source of the purpose statement. Kyle Greenwalt says it is a hybrid of the original purpose statement and some newer ideas. Craig Cunningham notes the new purpose can be broader than the original one. Debbie Seltzer-Kelly says the language of the proposed purpose statement is too academic in tone, and too one-way in its implications (researcher TO teacher). Jim Garrison says the key work is "foster," which means we are not doing all this work, but undertaking initiatives with various publics to put it into place. Mali Lucas-Green says the current wording, especially the word "scholarly," excludes those who don't see themselves as scholars. Lynda Stone says the word "scholar" could be broader. Mali Lucas-Green says the key point is whether people self-identify in this way. Craig Cunningham points out the roots of the word are in its relationship to the schools. David Waddington asks for a more direct inclusion of the work and study of Dewey.

Deron Boyles suggests we review the other sections and come back to the purpose last. Each remaining section of the Constitution is approved without revision.

In turning to by-laws, Lynda Stones asks about the inclusion of "fellows." Deron Boyles says it is an honorific. Lynda Stone moves to strike such language. Motion is approved to strike fellows.

Minor other changes to by-laws: Add "with" on line 133; add "and any other it shall undertake" on line 205.

Return to purpose statement of Constitution. Membership works to propose the following: The purpose of the Society is to foster intelligent inquiry into problems pertaining to the place and function of education in social change, and to share, discuss and disseminate such studies.

Craig Cunningham moves to accept the Constitution and By-Laws as presented and so revised. Barb Thayer-Bacon seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.