

TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

2521 Riva Road, Suite L7
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MINUTES - Representative Assembly Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Nicole Disney-Bates, at Severna Park High School, at 5:15 p.m.

Reading of Mission, Vision, and Land Acknowledgment - The Mission, Vision and the Land Acknowledgment were read by President Disney-Bates.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

No quorum.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

No quorum.

CONCERNS COMMITTEE

President Disney-Bates split the group up into elementary, middle, high and specialty sites for Concerns Committees.

ELECTIONS

Board of Director Seat - No quorum.

LOCAL

Bylaw Presentation - Geoff Turk, Board Liason of the Bylaws Committee, presented three proposed Bylaw changes in Article VIII - Committees, Article XIX - Amendments to the Bylaws, Article VIII - Committees and Article IV - Representative Assembly. These changes were sent out electronically and presented in hard copy. This is your opportunity to read them, and the rationale is included. Hopefully, there is a quorum next month to vote on the changes. If there are any questions or concerns, we will do that at the May meeting.

Geoff Turk stated to continue to consider issues and we will try to provide more clarity and have a good discussion, so that we are all on the same page when we get to the vote in May.

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UniServ Update - Jason Fahie, new TAAAC UniServ Director, provided a brief background on himself. He stated that he is currently taking over Allison Yunda's schools. Mark Mench's schools are being covered by a retired UniServ Director named John Gates.

Mr. Fahie reported that the 2022 contract that was negotiated has been signed by both parties. We are waiting for it to be uploaded and printed.

Mr. Fahie reported on cases being managed at the TAAAC office. In the event you are going to leave the county, please do that by July 15. If you don't leave before July 15, the Board of Education can ask the State Board of Education to suspend your certificate.

Negotiations Update - Mike Magee reported on the status of negotiations. The next Bargaining session is scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2023.

Budget Advocacy - President Disney-Bates reported that we have signs, and we are targeting District 1, 2 and 5. She stated that our next big ask is on May 11 and May 25. There are Budget Hearings, and we need to be there in force. The dates are May 11 and May 18, not May 25.

Budget Forum - Mike Magee reported that last month there was a Blueprint Forum with MSEA staff. The forum is recorded and on the TAAAC website. There will be another forum in May.

TRAINING: FACULTY COUNCIL

Mike Magee reported that TAAAC has started micro trainings at the Representative Assemblies to help building representatives to be stronger. This month's will be on How to Run an Effective Faculty Advisory Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Disney-Bates announced that the next Representative Assembly will be on May 10, at 5:00 p.m. at Severna Park High School. Dr. Tobin and Bob Silkworth will be attending to answer questions. It will be our Member Awards with a dinner provided. The Foundation will present the scholarships to this year's winners. The final Representative Assembly will be on June 7, 2023. There will be a dinner and a happy hour afterwards.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Involvement - Kristina Korona reported that the committee will be taking a team this Saturday, to Quiet Waters Park, for Earth Day from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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Racial and Social Justice - Kristina Korona reported that the committee is planning a training on Safe Just Schools on Monday, May 22, 2023.

Annapolis Pride - Jessica Roth reported that Annapolis Pride is on Saturday, June 3, 2023. TAAAC will have a booth at the parade. We are looking for people to come out and help.

Government Relations - Brendan Maltese, Chairperson, reported that the Maryland General Assembly has concluded their assembly for the year. There were a lot of good things passed. Please consider showing up wearing blue at the Budget Hearings. We need to get Board of Education candidates. There is a Board of Education election in a year and a half.

Credentials Committee - Robin Murray reported that there are 55 Representatives for 30%, and 50 Units for 33%.

Nominating Committee - Betsy Brininger reported that we have a lot of vacancies that need to be filled in terms of committees. We need people to run. Nomination forms are on the TAAAC website for Sick Leave Bank Approval Committee, Credentials Committee, Nominating Committee and for a Board of Director Vacancy.

Government Relations - Kristina Korona stated that the Anne Arundel County Republican Central Committee has a meeting next Tuesday at Hellas Restaurant. They are inviting Alliance Defending Freedom which is considered an LGBTQ+ hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center. The meeting is called Champions for Children. We don't have a quorum so we cannot decide what kind of action we would take as a union. As an individual, you can decide how you would like to respond. This is a concern that they would invite such a group to be experts on education issues.

President Disney-Bates stated that since we cannot take a stance as a group, she recommended that if you are concerned about this group, you can write a letter to the editor, write to the Republican Committee of Anne Arundel County, and write to Corine Frank.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Approved:


Diane Barnes, Secretary-Treasurer


Nicole Disney-Bates, President

Minutes approved at ARC meeting May 10, 2023
(Date)