

Florida Association of Science Teachers (FAST)
Pine Jog Environmental Center, Palm Beach
December 4th, 2021
11:00 am

Board Meeting Minutes

President Marjorie Miles Dozier called the meeting to order at 11:17 am and welcomed those attending on Zoom and in person including:

In person - Amy Trujillo – Grants, Marjorie Miles Dozier – President, Mary Tweedy – Past President
Monika Moorman – Secretary, Nancy Besley – Treasurer, Khyanne Green-David – Area II Director,
Debi Bowen – History, Yvette Greenspan – Post Secondary, Jennifer Davis – FASS President,
ZoEllen Warren – Newsletter/Journal

Via zoom: Sharon Cutler, Angel Alexander, Marsha, Denise Mcilwaine, Mayra Cordero, Janice Novello

The meeting continued with the guest presentation by Jennifer Davis, the current president of FASS (Florida Association of Science Supervisors). The main points mentioned in the presentation included the current state of professional development, budget cuts, COVID related limitations and the overall sense that there are not enough science specific PDs. The consensus is that money would rather be spent on quality science PD vs. classroom/lab supplies. FASS is hoping to partner with FAST to address questions like how we can advocate for quality PDs for science teachers.

Monika Moorman, FAST Secretary, read the minutes from the two FAST meetings dated: August 14, 2021, and October 23, 2021. Both sets of minutes have been approved unanimously.

Next, Nancy Besley - Treasurer, provided a financial report which can be found in the FAST google docs folder.

President Marjorie Miles Dozier introduced herself to all members in attendance. President-Elect – Sharon Cutler shared her report via Zoom. Members were pleased with the FAST conference facility and accommodations. She explained that there was a limited number of vendors due to Covid, but she anticipates that next year there will be more.

Immediate Past President – Mary Tweedy thanked to all for their hard work before/during the conference; she looks forward to a great year ahead.

President Marjorie Miles Dozier mentioned that Stephanie Killingsworth took upon two roles this year as Area 10 – Director and Member at Large. She also shared that Area 10 is looking for volunteers who are willing to be judges at the science fair (Wednesday, Dec. 8th) and ask for anyone interested to please email Jennifer Davis/FASS President.

Next, the Elected Administrative Officers Reports were given.

Mayra L. Cordero representing Area 3 (via Zoom) reported that members have been wondering when the results of the survey will be shared. She also shared an inquiry about the ownership of the articles published in the FAST journal. President Marjorie Miles Dozier responded that once the results of the survey are narrowed down to reflect the common themes and most pressing points, they will be shared with the rest of the members. As far as the ownership of the articles published in the FAST journal, they belong to the authors.

Dr. Janice Novello (Area 7) shared a report. Angel Alexander (Area 8) informed that the report has been uploaded and inquired about the current membership rosters. Khyanne Green (Area 11) gave a report including the following points: Science fair updates (Science Fair – 17th), SECME – Dec. 8, NSTA - a conference in LA (Dec. 9th – 11th). She added that member email addresses seem outdated as many have

been returned. She also inquired about recruitment activities/incentives and brought up the concern of how we can expand FAST membership.

The Appointed Administrative Officers Reports followed.

Post-Secondary – Yvette Greenspan reported that several universities in our state have new presidents (FSU – new president has an extensive background in science; hope this will be reflected in the university’s outreach), this school year is the last one for FSA testing (transitioning to progress monitoring). She also brought up My Florida Future – free online college planning tool accessible to students.

Next, the Appointed Administrative Officers Reports: Committee Chairpersons followed.

Past President, Mary Tweedy, shared a report on Barbara’s behalf that vendors are committed to returning to FAST conference. She explained that many vendors did not show up due to Covid. She also added that a smaller venue in Tampa is being considered, as well as possibly lowering food obligations/room allotment with a 2-year contract.

Next, Appointed Administrative Officers Reports: Ad Hoc Committee Chairperson:

Marsha Winegarner would like to see a better attendance in board meetings. Denise Mcilwaine discussed the fact that very few apply for awards. The applications usually arrive the week after they are due. She proposed moving the deadline to June. She also proposed designating the award money for the New Teacher Award (keeping the other four) and to allocate it towards e.g., door prizes, or other prizes. Nancy Besley asked if the award should be structured differently, she wondered if FASS members should be invited to nominate teachers. Mary Tweedy proposed a possibility of awarding FAST membership as an award to new teachers without a membership. Nancy Besley also brought up a possibility of adding an additional award (New Teacher), starting a seasoned teacher award at year 3, moving the application deadline to June. Mary Tweedy suggested to continue with the electronic submissions and moving up the time – something that should be discussed further. She also asked if a committee should be formed to discuss it further.

Amy Trujillo discussed FAST grants. Presently, the applications are online. FAST offers a lot of grants but very few members seem to be aware of them. FAST needs to promote grants more. Winners need to submit the report showcasing how they are using it.

Debi Bowen followed with her report on History. She sent to area coordinators a list of items to ask the members. She also asked to contact her with suggestions on what to contain in the history content (former journals, etc.); decision would have to be made what to do with the volume of materials as you pay for space.

ZoEllen Warren followed with updates on the FAST journal and newsletter.

Next, Appointed Administrative Officers Reports: Associations and Affiliations:

FFFS – Nancy Besley provided information about the regional, state and international science fairs.

New Business:

President Marjorie Miles shared that Gary shared we are up to 400 members and that area directors are a valuable source of membership drive. She also shared the 2021 FAST Survey Interest metrics. A few of common threads included educators wanting to have more time to network during the conference, earning micro-credentials/certifications, modifying registration to include student teachers or 1-day tickets.

President Marjorie Miles added that the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 19th in Lakeland.

President Marjorie Miles-Dozier adjourned meeting at 12:52 pm. She thanked all in attendance for joining the meeting.

Accepted: April 30, 2022