

NERAASA 2019 Business Meeting Minutes

Hunt Valley, MD

February 23, 2019

Opening: Meeting called to order by NERAASA 2019 Chairperson Linda J. at 2:48p.m. The Serenity Prayer and Declaration of Unity were read followed a moment of silence.

Parliamentarian: Gary L. (Area 59) explained the business meeting procedures to conduct business today.

Secretary Report 2018: Linda J. read the NERAASA 2018 Business Meeting Minutes. An error was noted that the minutes should reflect Eastern Ma, Not Western Ma. Motion to accept Minutes with correction as noted was seconded and passed with substantial unanimity.

Finance Report 2018: Craig T. (Area 11) presented the NERAASA 2018 Financial Report. An error was noted that the prudent reserve total should reflect 6026.00 Motion to accept the Finance report as corrected was seconded and passed substantial unanimity.

Intentions to BID for NERAASA 2022: The following Area Delegates provided their Area's "Intention to Bid" for NERAASA 2022: (1) Don S., Area 48, HMB, Northern New York.

Ad-hoc Committee Report: The Ad-hoc committee on the NERAASA inventory brought forward a report. The report had been included in all registration packets and was formally presented by Ken L., Panel 64, Area 43 Chairperson of the Committee.

For brevity the report is attached and not included in these minutes.

A significant discussion followed the presentation of the report and recommendations:

Q: Will this result in a new ad-hoc committee? A: Yes

Q: Will this be done every other year? A: Yes. NERT will appoint the new committee members and approve questions. Results will be published. The term will begin when the panel is seated and every other year.

Q: Committee members recommended by who? A: Current Delegates

Q: Recommended translation by who? Where are meetings held, off site or during NERAASA? A: Ideally the member would translate English / Spanish. Some meetings will be conference call meeting.

Q: Will bi-lingual persons be on the committee for full participation or only as an interpreter? A: full participation.

Amendment 1: Bilingual member or monolingual with an interpreter can be utilized. An interpreter could be used on conference calls if needed. Funds would be requested from the host committee.

Resp: All documents - anything in writing - needs to be translated.

Q What is the cost per page? A: 60-90 dollars per page.

Is the purpose of the bilingual member to translate or provide input? The membership should not be a substitute for professional translation.

Comment: Ct can provide translation for \$35 per page.

Q: is everyone available to onto the conference call? A: No, participation will be by answering questions. Questions will be determined by the committee.

Q: Will Young People be included on the committee? A: Delegates and the NERT will determine members.

Q: How does an inventory differ from a survey / evaluation? A: An evaluation is about the current event, and inventory is broader in scope and more about NERAASA's scope and purpose.

Friendly amendment 2: Completely strike the words "and preferably one bilingual member (English / Spanish) to help with translation. (Point of Order: Are we amending the report? A: We are recommending specifics of a motion, not the report) Committee accepted the Friendly amendment.

Q: Has an inventory been done in the past? A: No.

Q: Will the inventory apply to current and past? A: Yes.

Q: What if a person has not participated in NERAASA for several years? A: Person should have participated in the last 2 years.

Delegates on the committee could present a problem due to rotation and this will place an additional burden on the host committee.

A motion was made to redirect / resubmit. The motion carried by substantial unanimity. There was no minority opinion expressed.

New Business: (There was no new business-the inventory ad-hoc committee was redirected)

Old Business: (There was no old business-the inventory ad-hoc committee was approved in 2018; their 1st report has been discussed)

What's on your mind?

We should compensate the equipment providers interpreters with room, travel, registration etc. If the area sends equipment, they should not have to provide costs for the hander. NERAASA should purchase its own equipment for the interpreters, the cost would be under \$10,000.00. the host committee could pass equipment onto the next host for use.

Point C under procedures information posted on the website and in each registrants' packet. What caused this wording to be used?

How much more paper can be put into an envelope? Some information relevant to newcomers but how much really is used? Subject for inventory committee?

Is there a format to NERAASA to talk about issues at the NERAASA conference? Are we supposed to be discussing GSO Conference issues? How does the committee choose? Can they better inform the attendees prior to the event?

What makes a person a member of NERAASA A member of NERAASA is anyone attending the NERAASA business meeting.

There is no Hispanic roundtable or Hispanic meeting. Can the committee consider adding one next year?

Could we better preplan, look back, and check self-support, budgeting for accessibilities? Money could be available for reimbursement if committees need it.

We should establish guidelines, purpose and policies for choice of subjects of discussion at NERAASA. Program committee will be appointed by Chair to choose subjects for discussion. Polling of area were used in the past to determine subjects.

Numbers don't matter – service does. Do not take registrations as hard numbers. This is Gods work.

Can we re-visit item 10 in the guidelines concerning the website? Costs seem low.

Two years ago, we had enough interpreters to cover all the roundtables. We should track roundtable attendees to determine the need going forward. There could be a Spanish Round table at the same time as the Young Peoples.

Please take information back to the Hispanic districts to PLEASE pre-register.

If all areas brought equipment we would have enough for all roundtables. Cumbersome to buy equipment for 1 year. We have 18 areas, why can't we bring enough equipment?

Last year (2018) 1 panel 100% Spanish with inclusiveness on the program, Moderator and presenters.

Some areas have DCMCs and they should be included in the DCM roundtables.

Why are there not more deaf members? You would not go to the desert looking for water? This helped us to look around and we started hearing impaired meetings in our area.

There is an app, AVA that is available for use by the Hearing-Impaired committee and to translate language as well. This could be an easy solution for the small settings such as the roundtables.

Google translation can bring on its own issues. Sometimes it is easier to start from scratch.

Not a big Spanish population in New Hampshire, we need help in 2020. Please help us by sharing experience, volunteering, etc.

Equipment from 2 areas here supplied by 2 areas. We have 4 translators that needed expenses paid (400 ea.)

People providing equipment need the same expense (400 ea.) this adds up to about 1600 and after 4 years this expense to purchase equipment would be covered.

Petro lux on phone, used by hearing impaired, free and no equipment needs to be purchased.

Motion to Close at 4:17 p.m. was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale R.

Secretary, NERAASA 2019 Business Meeting

NERAASA 2020 Chair

Past Delegate - Area 43, Panel 66