



Alaska Association of Student Governments
Winter Business Meeting 2007
ASAA
4048 Laurel St. Suite 203
Feb. 23-24, 2007
MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order: 1:41 pm**
II. **Roll Call, Quorum noted**

Executive Board

Pres: **Katrina Nore**
Vice Pres.: **Kevin Priestley**
PR: **Megan Waggoner**
Sec/Treas: **Chris Van Wyhe**
Parliamentarian: **Kari Nore**
ASAA Rep: **Annie Bartholomew**
SBEED Rep 1: **Melissa Steward**
SBEED Rep. 2: **Lindsay Birk**
Registrar Spring Conf 07: **Celia Ownbey**
Region 1 co-Reps: **Joe Hirt**, Karlo Mercene, abs
Region 2 Rep: **Grant Hicks** (late)
Region 3 Rep: **Maggie Yngve**
Region 4 Co-Reps: **Mike Deterra**, **Matt Cook**
Region 5 Rep: **Libby Parker**
Region 6 Rep: **Joe Byrnes**
Region 7 Rep: **Lance Sweenhart**
Executive Director: **Carol Waters**

Steering Committee

Robyn Atkins
Kyle Drasky, abs
Michael Mahoney
Mark Proch
Robyn Atkins
Joe Powers
Sonnie Anderson
Joe Powers
Jessica Lee
Jennifer Justice, abs
Patti Bills
Theresa Miller
Doug Wall
Joe Powers
Steve Heckman
Teresa Sweenhart sub for Jeff Dickrell, abs

Guests:

Friday: **Barbara Brown**, Leadership Anchorage (3:30);
T-C: **Jennifer Coughlin** and **Liz Hursh**, Rose Exchange Recipients (2:30)

Saturday: Wasilla Advisor and Students, **Sandy Aschenbrenner**, **Katie Wielicziewicz**,
Jordan Anderson, and **Nicole Anderson** (9:30)

- III. **Additions to, Approval of Agenda**

-Matt: new business add: Region 7 new principal/advisor
-Katrina: move Gary Matthews up in agenda?
-Motion to approve agenda:
-Moved by Megan, Seconded by Grant
-Motion passes: agenda approved

- IV. **Review of Fall Conference Minutes**

- Joe B: points out that minutes are not the updated version (includes mistyped version with Lathrop amendment in red)
- Katrina: states that minutes have already been corrected, wrong version was printed and passed out; Carol said that she sent the correct version, so will be sure the correct version is on web page
- Motion to approve 2006 Fall Conference Minutes**
- Moved, seconded by Matt
- Motion passes:** 2006 Fall Conference Minutes approved

v. **Approval of February 13, 2007 teleconference minutes**

- No additions or corrections
- Motion to approve February 13, 2007 teleconference minutes:**
- Moved by Joe B., Seconded by Annie
- Motion passes:** February 13, 2007 teleconference minutes approved

vi. **Reports**

- Katrina Nore, President:** Attended the Region 7 NASC meeting: we worked out new t-shirt design for the NASC Conference, Region's color is royal blue. Was busy with own student council.
- Kevin Priestley, VP:** not many resolutions passed at conference, got all sent out and in the resolution packet. Printed out table of resolutions. Now serving as student advisor board rep for Mat-Su Schools.
- Megan Waggoner, PR:** attended all AASG t-c's except one, is contacting all non-AASG schools, communicating with spring conference registrars. Refer to paper.
- Chris VanWyhe, Secretary/Treasurer:** has been taking notes...
- Parliamentarian:** been going over parliamentarian procedure, marking references, also got patted down at airport. Reminds board that "when you're talking, you need to address the chair."
- SBEED Reps:**
- Melissa:** I have not attended a State Board meeting since we last spoke, so there is no news from that end. I will attend a Board retreat in late March where we will work on some important issues. It looks like Governor Palin has decided not to replace any members of the Board, so that is good news for us and for education!

Our Student Council has been very busy the past few months. We have been putting in lots of weekend hours developing our Constitution and By-laws. They are coming along beautifully, and we are very proud of our progress so far.

Another project we are working on is a video documentary on the effects than cutting forestry receipts will have on our school. We plan to send it to the senate, so that maybe it will help sway their decision as to whether or not to continue designating money from forestry receipts to education. This decision will affect all Southeast Alaska schools, and will cut some schools' budgets by as much as 17%.

In addition to that video, we are also making a video to send to the troops in Iraq to show our support of them. We feel that they do not get enough credit or thanks for the job they are doing, so we have decided to show them our appreciation in this way. The video will not be anything remotely professional or even structured. It will simply be a straightforward, heartfelt thank you that we hope will give them a little bit of joy knowing that they are thought of by us.

Homecoming is this week, and we have very busy preparing for that event. Also, we are redecorating our School Board Room to show them that we appreciate their dedication to our education.

Once again, I'm glad to be part of this new Exec. Board. I admire you all, and I know that we will be able to accomplish a lot together.

-Lindsay, SBEED Rep 2: Went to teleconference for state board, discussed steps to take for schools who don't meet adequate yearly progress, e.g.: allow students to transfer to schools with higher test scores, discussed rewarding schools that are making AYP. Hopes to start a website to go more in depth and get student opinion. Feels that SBEED doesn't respect her opinion and wants ideas on how to solve this.

-Annie Bartholomew, ASAA Rep: attended ASAA meeting in November, met with directors and discussed issues. Carol attended first meeting with me. ASAA had received money from Bristol Bay Native Association and Doyon, Inc. for cultural activities, which it was not able to accomplish. Carol asked that ASAA and AASG suggest that those funds be transferred to AASG for scholarship money. ASAA agreed, and Carol worked with Gary Matthews, Exec. Dir. and Lavonne Norman, Exec. Asst. and convinced the two organizations to transfer the \$9500 to AASG. \$8000 is to be used for scholarships to BBNA shareholders. Other issues: Discussing unifying drug policy across the State; request to change fall conference dates- Wasilla and swim tournament date conflict: (Annie's full report corrupted during file transfer)

-Region reports:

-Region, Joe: (absent)

-Region 2, Grant: Has been busy with basketball, missed last two teleconferences. Has been working on newsletter to send out to region 2 schools. Is trying to keep in contact with region 2 schools

-Region 3, Maggie: Has frequently been emailing people in region 3- keeping in contact. Looking for a region 3 replacement.

-Region 4, Matt, Mike: trying to get books to school districts in lower Yukon. Matt has been attending student advisory board in Anchorage. Some members of the Anchorage Assembly are trying to keep kids under 18 from serving on boards. Mayor Begich has done a lot to get students involved in boards and commissions. Mike has been working on AKStudentForum which has been getting great support from North Pole and Eielson. Matt went to Region 7 NASC, was representative candidate. NASC registration going up \$10/ year, no host families for NASC after this year.

-Region 5, Libby: Has been encouraging people to come to spring conference in Craig and generating new cheers for conference. Found region 5 constitution. Wonders if other regions have constitution. Working on a region 5 shirt.

-Region 6, Joe B.: Since Fall Conference, I have been primarily communicating with my region through our monthly Regional Meetings; we have had four. In November, we worked on our region's annual canned food drive which raised several tons of food just in time for Thanksgiving. Of the six participating schools, Monroe won the competition, again, bringing in an average of about thirty pounds per student. In December, our region collected toys to give to underprivileged children for Christmas. All the schools participated and brought in several boxes that we gave to Santa's Clearing House. Following a very relaxing Christmas Vacation, the Region met again for our annual business lunch with the school board who sat in on our meeting. It was a great chance for the region to interact with the board, get input, and for them to get an idea of what we are accomplishing as a Region.

Two weeks ago, Regional Student Council hosted our annual Junior High Workshop which was themed "I Lead." It was an amazing experience and opportunity for the high school leaders to mentor middle school students. Following an amazing talk by our keynote speaker, Alaska Nanook Head Hockey Coach: Tavis MacMillan, we divided the middle school delegates into different workshops organized by each of the high school delegations that focused everything from team building, making cards for soldiers, and organization, to line dancing, and baking cookies using parliamentary procedure. After the workshops, the junior high delegates made Valentine's Cards for the elderly while a member from each high school answered leadership questions in a panel discussion.

Besides our sweet Junior High Workshop, we have been working on school exchanges where each student council visits another high school for a full day.

As for me, I have been engrossed with working on our school newspaper: the M.C. Rammer, and working on our Homecoming next week, themed "Ram Revolution."

-Region 7, Lance: Is excited about money for scholarships for region 7 (BBNA shareholders). Having difficulty getting though to people re membership. Lance got his firefighter helmet.

-Executive Director, Carol: Fall conference was very successful considering the trouble to get there (flood). Was pleased with Valdez and advisors' decision on alcohol issue. Appreciates executive board on work with constitution and amendments. Very pleased with schools and ROSE participation. Carol lists goals for next five months.

VII. Old Business:

Budget: Profit/Loss for 06-07

- Carol: Refer to notebook, “profit/loss budget vs. actual”
\$9500 added into budget- we now have \$14,500 for scholarships; at Fall Conf budgeted expenses at \$14,000; spent \$12,100. We could reduce registration fees for conferences, if we tightened our budget. Noted that Montana only charges \$45 for conferences, but does go in the hole.
Must have 07-08 budget finalized for spring conference
A lot of money to spend for scholarships, we need to work hard to get the scholarships out to students.
- Megan: Will students who aren't in region 7 receive new scholarship money?
- Carol: BBNA requests student who are shareholders in their corporation receive that money. Because new money is going mostly to region 7, much of our other scholarship money can go to everyone else, meaning more scholarship money for everyone.

Constitution and By-Laws

- Joe: went through constitution bylaws, highlighted changes in blue. Some of the numbering in bylaws was off. He emailed his work to Carol. Carol emailed clean constitution and bylaws to you. Our Constitution and By-Laws look sound.

Spring Conference

- Celia (Student Registrar sub for Stephanie Merritt): ten delegates registered so far, need ideas on how to get people to register sooner
- Keynote speaker** is Butch Lincoln
- Workshops:** have all workshops worked out- half fun, half leadership workshops.
 - Executive board will have one on parliamentary procedure
 - Rose Exchange schools: Napaskiak (ZJ Williams) and Eielson
 - Butch Lincoln doing workshops: goal-setting, life lists, and preparing for future.
 - Drug abuse
 - Suicide issues
 - Law enforcement (not sure).
 - Working with kids with special needs
 - Service Projects:** need ideas, thought of winter clothing drive.
 - Schedule:** Executive Board meeting schedule: when and where would we have the meetings? Executive Board members can stay in school when they arrive but regular student council members can't, so early. Get a van/bus to entertain students when they arrive?
- Celia: Craig school has wireless internet, a dedicated place for writing resolutions, computer lab. Craig is having trouble with sleeping arrangements so it will be crammed- be prepared. Boys will be in the middle school- get bad bathrooms, no plug-ins, no mirrors.
- Megan: has more workshop ideas: Being effective, Student Council- School Administration communication
- Libby: asks about a schedule
- Jessica: the schedule is on website:
<http://www.ccsd.k12.ak.us/chs/AASG%20Website/site/Home.html>,
direct link: <http://www.ccsd.k12.ak.us/chs/AASG%20Website/site/Schedule.html>
- Melissa: offers housing for about a dozen EBoard members

-Motion for a short recess to have teleconference with Jennifer Coughlin and Liz Hursh:

- Moved by Maggie, Seconded by Libby
- Motion passes:** meeting recessed for short teleconference

Teleconference with Liz Hursh and Jennifer Coughlin:

- Liz: Eielson is building friendships and connections with Napaskiak.
- Jennifer: Eielson's coming to Napaskiak April 1, will be taking them to a culture festival. Napaskiak is going to Fairbanks on April 15 for a week. Cannot go to spring conference, hoping Eielson will inform them of business at conference and will present in Craig if AASG wants.
- Carol: put out an email asking if expenses were to be covered for spring conference, is Jennifer suggesting to present at fall conference instead?
- Jennifer: it would work better to present at fall AASG conference.
- Carol: Are Liz and students going to spring conference?
- Liz: yes, some are.
- Liz: Jennifer is communicating with email, some kids haven't responded. Haven't figured out everything yet. Have been communicating with Internet blackboard chat and AKStudentForum from Eielson.
- Mike: Is AKStudentForum working well for communicating?
- Liz: yes, it is.
- Jennifer: I think so, yes.
- Carol: anymore questions about Rose?
- Joe Powers: have you had any trouble getting kids to go?
- Liz: first everybody wanted to go, supposed to take 5- took 5. Students are very excited to meet people.
- Jennifer: Only had 8 kids in her student council. Students are nervous about staying with host families, but are excited
- Carol: has noticed that exchanges work better when students from bigger schools go to rural communities first.
- Jennifer: Urban kids think they're rural, they really experience small-school life with this exchange.
- Maggie: how many kids attend school in Eielson?
- Jennifer: 600 students grades 7-12
- Carol: what is native to non-native ratio?
- Liz: 100% of Napaskiak students are native
- Jennifer: Eielson has 1 native student
- Carol: is glad to see that Eielson is going to Napaskiak first.
- Liz: wants to know if Eielson could do a workshop or presentation at spring AASG conference in Craig about Rose?
- Cilia: sure
- Carol: we want to put Rose out front, hoping student council exchanges might take over bigger portion Rose exchange to a certain extent to get a lot of student councils involved- a great way to build student leadership is by exchange. Do Napaskiak and Eielson plan to do service projects together?
- Liz and Jennifer: not yet.
- Carol: we thought doing service projects together would be something that would happen during exchange
- Liz and Jennifer: yes, good idea, we'll work that out
- Joe P.: exchanges can help to find similar issues in different types of schools. First communication, such as t-c, can work to meet each other, talk about what student council does in the school, and talk about what is going well and noticing improvement areas. Second exchange can be used to solve concerns in both schools, through brainstorming, implementing strategies, and reporting back. Then the exchange will focus on sharing what each is doing in own school and involving the visiting students in service or school improvement.
- Liz: can u pass that on to us?
- Joe P: yes, we can get that to you now.
- Liz: if what you're putting together could get passed on, it would be great.
- Joe P: hopes a service project done together would be more meaningful...
- Carol: nothing in Rose addressing service projects
- Liz: agrees
- Carol: anything else?
- Maggie: how did you decide to pair up?

-Liz: they chose for us, Rose paired us up.

-Katrina: thank you both for coming on, hoping to hear from you both at spring and or fall conference.

End teleconference.

Meeting called back to order at 3:10

Awards:

-Megan: all updated award nomination forms have been given to executive board members; one thing we need to start doing with these awards is a lot of advocating. Any questions?

-Maggie: how are you spreading the word about the awards?

-Carol: as you can see in your folders, the broadcast fax I sent out before (first orange sheet) Carol can put it out next week.

-Megan: if your student council is coming, work on awards, region reps- spread the word to your schools. Could reps send out a newsletter before conference to advocate for conference as well as awards? Megan thinks it's a good way to spread the word.

Student Councils of Excellence:

-Mike: what's happening with student councils of excellence?

-Megan: thinks if student councils put in time and work, they will be recognized as a student council of excellence

-Mike: is concerned about longevity of award if we award it to every student council who puts in the work

-Megan: doesn't see it as an award, but a way to recognize a student council for doing more than just holding pointless meetings and actually getting worthwhile things done.

-Carol: NASC is considering awarding a banner saying that a student council is a student council of excellence, and years could be added every year that student council wins the award/recognition

-Megan: thinks Carol's idea is great, and thanks board for the great questions.

-Carol: all schools who have applied have been student councils of excellence. (Showed last year's plaque with Chugiak, East, and Juneau listed)

-Maggie: school sports teams get rocks (?)

-Carol: plaque-makers will put multiple years on student councils of excellence plaque.

Poster Contest:

-Melissa: are all posters to be entered at this spring conference?

-Megan: yes, it's very important to tell contestants that they do not need to be at the spring conference to win the poster contest

-Libby: money prizes?

-Carol: \$200 has been budgeted for poster contest prizes

-Megan: get the word out there about the contest, we want a good turnout

Joe Hirt, Region 1 Rep, enters meeting: Welcome, Joe.

Scholarships

Bristol Bay Native Association: \$8000

Doyon: \$1500

Wilder Construction: \$5000 - \$2000 already spent

Rose: \$8000

Literacy Explosion Celebration

-Libby: it would be nice to have closure on literacy project, it's done now. Do we want to have each region submit a school that excelled at the literacy project?

-Kari: likes idea of closure and award

Resolutions

-Kevin: all resolutions have been sent out. He wants to put resolutions on the website and liked what Phil did with resolutions.

-Carol: asks for a committee to assist with website

-Matt: "I'll help."

-Carol: Re resolution writing, we have a challenge, ferry doesn't get into Craig until 10:15, we won't have time to do resolution planning and writing in the evening. Will need to plan for that.

-Maggie: has been making a list of past resolutions, is hoping to finish over spring break.

Absentee Balloting

-Robyn Atkins: only sent out absentee ballot to seven schools. The host school did not have broadcast-fax possibilities. Didn't get responses back from all schools. Suggests that if you broadcast-fax, send to ASAA office and have ASAA broadcast fax out to schools. Saves time and is much easier

-Carol: future possibility of no longer having to fax, maybe email. No absentee balloting for Spring Conference for regional reps.

Urban-Rural Communication

AK Student Forum

-Carol bought glow-sticks for AKStudentForum members (glow-sticks handed out by Mike) AKStudentForum reinforcement during the Conference...

-Megan: brings up spammers on the forum

-Mike: a solution to spammers is to set up a system that site administrators approve before posts are actually posted, which he is now doing. Has been trying to boost forum attendance. Eielson has encouraged students to post on AKStudentForum by requiring posting; It has really helped. Mike suggests that other schools reinforce Forum use.

-Libby: contest for most posts on AKStudentForum?

-Katrina: AKStudentForum has its own committee, which will meet here.

Flat Stanley and Stella

-Maggie: Flat Stanley was thrown away in Valdez... Stanley died. There was a Flat Stanley workshop in Valdez and only two people came. Getting the project to go is like "beating a dead horse."

-Mike: suggests using Flat Stanley as a way for sister schools to communicate or find each other

-Maggie: is hesitant to keep Stanley going

-Kari: flat Stanley could be used as a preview for sister schools.

Motion to recess for presentation by Barbara Brown:

Moved by Lance, Seconded by Mike

-Motion passes: meeting recessed for Barbara Brown presentation

Barbara Brown:

-“hums and snags.” Practice courage; don't lock it up and save it for later. If you don't make courageous acts, will not develop your courage.

-Alaska Humanities Forum, Leadership Alaska picks 20 people who are expected not to get along and have them discuss “blood-on-the-carpet” issues (e.g.: pro-life vs. pro-choice).

Thanks to Barbara for sharing her ideas about leadership.

Meeting called back to order: 4:42

Membership

-Megan: in report you'll see a full list of AASG schools, and all high schools. All non-AASG schools are highlighted. Asked someone from a non-AASG school if they wanted to be on AASG, they didn't even have a student council. We need to encourage the development of student councils, if we don't have local student government, we can't effectively lead as a state student government. Even if there's only 10 people in a school, that's enough for a student council. Asks region reps to encourage starting student councils in non-AASG schools.

-Libby: maybe region reps and Megan could get together and brainstorm ways to get a "student council starter packet" for schools without student councils

-Megan: supports Libby's idea.

-Carol: on the paper that was typed up, if it's a light-colored (grey) school it's not an ASAA school and cannot be on board with AASG- but we might consider an alternative, such as associate?

-Maggie: four of the non-ASAA schools are in Maggie's district. There aren't enough kids.

-Megan: what does our constitution say about scholarships for non-AASG students?

-Carol: if a non-ASAA, non AASG school attends an AASG conference we have to charge them nonmember fee and they do not get to participate in GA except as observers.

-Megan: we need to take into consideration the difference between an ASAA team, and an AASG student council.

-Libby: right now if your school's not a member of ASAA and your school attends an AASG conference, could we temporarily forgive their non-ASAA-'ness' and let them attend the AASG conference for an AASG member cost, to maybe get them hooked on AASG and encourage them to join ASAA?

-Carol: our bylaws say that you have to be an ASAA member to vote- even if a non-ASAA school did attend, they couldn't vote.

-Megan: maybe we should reconsider the way we handle non-ASAA schools

-Melissa: maybe we just need to start pushing ASAA to let smaller schools be a part of ASAA and AASG

-Annie: if they're not joining ASAA just because they don't have a sports team, why can't they still be a part of AASG?

-Joe B: how much is it to join ASAA?

-Carol: it's a membership fee plus a certain amount per student

-Lance: sees that we need to work with ASAA to make this work

-Carol: possibly some sort of "honorary membership" or make a non-ASAA school an associate, allowing them to participate in our meetings. Last year I took this to ASAA and they refused our request. Dahkoose, a Juneau alternative school, lobbied, to no avail. Dahkoose came last year as part of Juneau-Douglas.

-Maggie: we couldn't make a non-ASAA school equal to an ASAA school

-Megan: we need to focus on the rural schools that don't have the resources, and allow them to become an associate member- based on school population and funds. We should make a membership committee to discuss membership.

-Kari: there is no way to let non-AASG members vote

Commitment to Executive Board

-Carol: executive board application is in your notebook. When advisors and admin signs application, they commit to the organization. We can't work well with people absent.

-Libby: can we make a list of meeting dates so members know what to expect?

-Maggie: a basic calendar included in the application would be very helpful

Annie: it's too complicated to work in everybody's schedule and have a list of exact dates.

-Lance: at our last business meeting we had this exact discussion and we decided not to do it.

-Carol: this Winter Business Meeting has been difficult to plan; we had to work around all of your schedules. If we set the dates a year at a time, then all know what to expect.

-Sonnie: Melissa's missing homecoming and her senior night because she made a commitment to AASG. When you make a commitment, you need to commit to it.

Governor's Youth Board

- Matt: wants to start a governor's youth board. Sarah Palin wants to hear youths' opinion
- Megan: lieutenant governor's office gives support to governor's youth board. Matt and Megan have been strategizing ways to make it work.
- Matt: we're really in need of more people to help out
- Megan: legislators are available to contact
- Libby: do you want people from this board to help? What would it take?
- Matt: we're still figuring that out
- Megan: we will work through the planning stages until we decide if we are going to use AASG or not
- Mike: why not have the governor channel through us as an exec board and have our region reps convey opinions from their regions?
- Matt: wants to include not just students from AASG, but also students from all over the state, even non-AASG schools
- Matt: Megan and Matt are working through details. They're working to convey their opinions to the governor's office
- Maggie: points out that governments get their power from their people, AASG is a government and its power is derived from its students. She thinks that we don't need so many committees. We have a government and we should represent our students.
- Joe B: we represent our schools, we need to speak on their behalf.
- Matt: the governor's youth board would discuss resolutions, and would converse with the governor and legislature.
- Megan: we have to look at our mission as AASG, do we have time to visit the opinion of every house? Do we want to sit here and add to the agenda? We want another committee, not to take away AASG's rights.
- Kari: a committee already exists, Junior Close-up
- Maggie: reminded board of AASG's statement of commitment
- Matt: has never heard of Junior Close-up that Kari refers to, wonders if it does what he is proposing
- Annie: we need to appropriately represent our students; they elected us to do that. AASG should represent them
- Megan: wants support for governor's youth board
- Mike: start small, see if there's any interest, then come back to AASG and ask for support
- Melissa: wants a student legislative representative.
- Maggie: maybe we could get Governor Palin to attend AASG and address certain issues-Palin is from Wasilla, and it looks like AASG fall conference will be held in Wasilla
- Matt: just because Governor Palin comes to one conference doesn't mean that she will continue to talk with AASG. We want to converse with the governor, not just once.
- Libby: we need to represent our students
- Melissa: it's a great idea to have a legislative board, why would Governor Palin continue to correspond with AASG after the fall conference?
- Megan: we came to AASG executive board for support for the governor's youth board- either yes, support; or no. It's worth giving it a shot. We will continue developing the board, with or without AASG's support
- Kari: suggests writing resolution and getting student support at spring conference
- Annie: what would the governor's youth board do with AASG support at this point?
- Megan: we're just saying as a whole, that AASG supports it
- Lance: believes writing a resolution is the best way to obtain what Matt and Megan are looking for.

Motion to recess for dinner:

Moved by Lance, Seconded by Joe B.,

-Motion passes: meeting recessed for dinner

Meeting called back to order: 6:25

VIII. New Business

Thank you to Melody, Out-going Secretary-Treasurer

-Katrina: possibly write a letter, give a gift

-Joe B.: thinks it a great idea

-This is a job for the Everybody Loves Everybody committee. Thank you card signed.

Swearing-in of Secretary-Treasurer: Chris

-Chris is sworn in

Motion to table agenda until tomorrow:

Moved by Lance, Seconded by Grant

-Motion fails

Fall Conference 2007

-Annie needs to know which regions will be affected if AASG Fall Conference 2007 dates are moved to Wasilla's proposed dates

1: no, will not affect region

2: no

3: no

4: yes, will affect region

5: yes

6: yes, major conflicts with 2 schools

7: no

-Libby: suggests another school.

-Kevin: Wasilla is ready to host conference

-Kari: compares to former fall conference in Valdez that was postponed, changed dates did not dramatically affect attendance

-Carol: Actually, it did affect. At least 100 students different from first date to second, and we dropped down in numbers by at least 50.

-Maggie: knows that a very miniscule amount of student council members will not be able to attend conference because of swimming date conflict

-Libby: smaller conference wouldn't be the "end of the world"

-Joe B.: wants to know from Wasilla if there is an earlier date able to be set

-Carol: no other date is available for Wasilla; the ASAA calendar is very cramped, too. Finding another school that would jump at this short notice would be very hard

-Megan: Mt. Edgecumbe will host the AASG fall conference- **pending administrative permission**

-Kevin: Mat-Su School District calendar is set in stone

-Melissa: Wasilla has already done a ton of work. Deserves to host conference

-Joe B.: Wasilla should have understood that we haven't approved anything yet. Nothing is set in stone. If we can find another school with a better date, we should go with them

-Megan: Mt. Edgecumbe is just providing an option to hold AASG fall conference

- Maggie: hosting an AASG fall conference, would be good for Wasilla, Maggie supports Wasilla. By not taking swimmer student council members, you could allow other members a chance who might not otherwise get to go
- Annie: if Mt. Edgecumbe hosts fall conference, Annie worries that Juneau couldn't hold spring conference
- Maggie: it would be a shame not to try to get Wasilla the fall conference
- Matt: Mt. Edgecumbe can be a backup to Wasilla, a last resort
- Libby: we need to be respectful to Wasilla, we did support them, and we did approve them. We should ask ASAA to change the dates. We need to honor the fact that Wasilla was first. If we cannot get dates approved, we should go to Mt. Edgecumbe.
- Carol: if ASAA is given the option to keep the date, they will. But they would rather have conference on a different day than not have one at all.
- Matt: moves to reconsider the vote on made at the February 13, 2007 teleconference
- Kari: Matt cannot move, since he voted against it.
- Katrina: nothing is set in stone until AASG votes on it
- Matt moves to rescind the motion to approve Wasilla hosting fall conference, Seconded by Joe B.**

-Discussion

- Joe B.: the most populated regions, regions 6 and 4 will be affected the most if Wasilla hosts conference
- Katrina: we're "wiping the slate clean" if we vote for this
- Maggie: if we do this, we are hurting Wasilla
- Annie: what will ASAA think if we give Wasilla permission and then take it away?
- Libby: what reason do we have to rescind the motion?
- Katrina: by rescinding this, it allows more people to vote
- Annie: Mt. Edgecumbe is a just a last resort, why would we rescind our support for Wasilla?
- Kevin: Mt. Edgecumbe still needs admin support, they technically haven't even offered to host fall conference until they have their administration behind them.
- Kari: suggests Gary Matthews' opinion.
- Annie: if we go before Gary Matthew tomorrow without a decision we will look foolish.
- Mike: we don't know who is going to be in swimming next year, or student council, we have no way to tell how many students will be affected by Wasilla's dates
- Matt: moves to call to question**
Seconded by Megan
- Passes:** topic called to question

-Motion fails

Motion to table rest of agenda until tomorrow:

Moved by Annie, Seconded by Mike

Motion passes: rest of agenda tabled until February 24, 2007

Motion to recess until tomorrow:

Moved by Megan, Seconded by Mike

Motion passes: meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order: 9:34 a.m. Saturday, February 24, 2007

Fall Conference 2007... continued

- Wasilla presents, provides folders
- Wasilla has contacted Sarah Palin and Martin Buser to present
- Katie: Wasilla has great support for hosting conference, administration and other organizations. Support is definitely behind Wasilla in school district.
- Jordan: October 11-14, the set dates will affect football players, cheerleaders, and fans. Wasilla's proposed date will only affect swimming regionals. Wasilla is committed to hosting fall conference.
- Kari: AASG officers built their schedules around scheduled date, doesn't want to change date
- Joe B.: notices male-female ratio listed in provided folders
- Joe P.: male-female ratio is approximately accurate
- Wasilla asks for questions, comments, feelings
- Sandy: you have to be dedicated to host a conference; it takes a lot of work. Wasilla students have done a great job preparing for it. You must have the right group of students, and Wasilla has it.
- Matt: AASG is in full support of Wasilla...
- Joe P.: AASG is state school government; we have to have large school conferences. The most inexpensive place to hold conference is Wasilla. If we keep holding conferences in remote places, we will keep losing students. We need to think of what is best for the organization as a whole.
- Annie: wants to know if she has entire exec board behind this before presenting to AASG.
- Carol: we've been pushing rural participation and have lost some bigger schools' participation in the process. Some big schools don't see how AASG is relevant to their school. We need to watch balance of big/small school participation ratio. Small schools can't finance the same as big schools can. Need to keep a balance. Need to assess needs of small and large schools.
- Maggie: thinks there are plenty of non-swimmers that are on AASG, big councils should be big enough to provide delegates who don't swim
- Annie: if we host conference on Wasilla dates, there will still be swimmers who maybe don't participate in swim regionals. Students need to choose between student government and swimming.
- Carol: At this point not say anything about Mt. Edgecumbe being a backup for Fall Conference, since we have no application. We want to make the right decision- Wasilla has done all the work, is on the road system, and will allow a good balance of small/big schools. If we can convince ASAA to change the date, we will, as the Exec Board has stated in the passed motion.

Spring Conference 2008

- Katrina: we have one application, from Juneau
- Carol: suggests taking hosting options for fall 2008, if we get the school before the date, we won't have the swim/AASG fall conference conflict again.

Budget 2007-08 Draft: Finance Committee

- Carol: Final budget needs to be approved at Spring Conference, we need to get budget discussed here and finish it at spring conference.

Establishing Goal for 2007-08

- Katrina: committee will brainstorm ideas for goals or projects such as building up school student councils
- Kevin: believes we need to focus on bigger school support, such as Anchorage and Mat-Su

Statewide Service Activities

- Libby: community service project? Something to get student governments excited about.

-Katrina: this subject will be put with goal planning

Election of Regional Reps 1, 3, 5, 7 at Spring Conf

-Megan: AASG executive board applications on website. Try to spread word about positions and applications

-Carol: AASG by-laws/constitution guide about regional rep selection: need to be a member school of AASG, and the school holds the rep slot, so if a person leaves a school, the position stays with the school. The regions decide on process of selection. Some elect, some rotate the position around the region.

-Robyn: doesn't think board should decide how regions select reps. It wouldn't work well with the regions. The way it is done now works well.

-Katrina: we need to make sure we have all the paperwork turned in before reps are sworn in at the conference.

-Megan: all paperwork needs to be done and handed into Megan the first day of the conference

-paperwork can be faxed to Megan, 966-2442, encourage early submission

-Jessica: spring conference in Craig will start Thursday morning rather than Thursday afternoon. Delegates come in Wednesday night; registration will be done the following morning.

-Carol: we need to talk about when executive board should be in Craig.

New Logo for AASG?

-Carol: possible new logo done by ASAA tech guy, or hold a student contest?

-Joe B.: Could the executive board review the logo prototype before it becomes a permanent logo?

-Carol: Yes.

Motion to hold spring Logo contest:

Moved by Megan, Seconded by Grant.

-Motion to amend motion to state that a possible new logo contest be held at next fall conference

Seconded by Joe H.

-Kari: suggests having students vote on 5 different entries at General Assembly

-Annie: suggests having a professional logo made

-Amendment fails

-Libby: proposes tech guy make up more than one logo to vote on

-Motion fails

Megan moves to table logo issue until summer business meeting

Seconded by Matt

-Motion passes: new logo table until Summer Business Meeting

-Carol will talk to tech guy about logo ideas and come with some ideas to either Spring/Summer meeting, depends upon how busy tech guy is.

National Assoc of Student Councils Conference, Kansas City, June 23-27.

-Carol: new cost is \$355, up \$10 from last year. Money needs to be turned in by 1st or 2nd of April. Included in packet are helpful ideas for fundraising

-Matt: Our state's advisor of the year did not win regional award. Region 7 is looking for a new principal/advisor for NASC- it is a large commitment.

Motion to recess for first session of committee work- Katrina

Moved by Lance, Seconded by Maggie

Motion passed: meeting recessed for committee work

Meeting called back to order: 11:24

Committee Reports (first session):

-Finance/Budget

- Katrina, Chris, Lance, Libby, Mr. Wall, Mrs. Atkins
 - changed budgeted expense for fall conference from \$15,000 to \$20,000, and the spring conference from \$18,000 to \$20,000
 - changed budgeted NASC registration expenses from \$345 to \$355
 - discussed NASC registration
 - temporarily merged with scholarship committee and discussed scholarship percent limit

-Poster Contest

- Megan, Melissa, Celia, Annie, Jessica Lee
 - poster entries are due Thursday night at 9 p.m. April 12
 - voting will take place at second region meeting
 - winner announced at banquet/closing ceremonies
 - awards are taken care of at banquet/closing ceremonies

-AK Student Forum

- Joe H., Lindsay, Mike, Grant
 - came up with idea for a set spring to fall conference contest. Award: a medal for each person, maybe a trophy (the golden mouse). Will set a committee during spring conference to judge post adequacy and numbers.
 - will do a workshop on AKStudentForum at spring conference
 - during the conference, post resolutions on the forum so students can discuss.
 - prize will be for an initial 'spark' to get the forum going better
 - use the glow sticks as reinforcement

-Scholarships

- Matt, Kevin, Kari, Mrs. Anderson
 - changed future scholarships to award scholarship amount to be over 50%
 - Application part A, check box for Bristol Bay region
 - discussed essay portion of application- 250-500 word essay
 - created a 200-point rubric for awarding scholarships
 - Carol thinks we will lose applications if we require an essay; with the questions we asked, we often got a sentence rather than an essay.
 - Ms. Atkins believes that by doing community service the students are expressing their interest in AASG, agrees with Carol, and doesn't see need for an essay
 - Melissa: we should try harder to let kids whose second language is English receive scholarships by not requiring an essay.

-Everybody Loves Everybody

- Maggie, Joe B.
 - committee was originally formed to work on membership and AKStudentForum, since then, the point of the committee has been annihilated, leaving the committee with nothing but its awesome name
 - Maggie loves everybody
 - Megan: this committee would be a good way to connect rural and urban schools
 - Lindsay: use committee as a 'next level' Flat Stanley pen pal program
 - if we want to keep this committee, we need to merge it with another committee, it currently serves no important purpose
 - Libby: merge Everybody Loves Everybody committee with membership?
 - Megan: Everybody Loves Everybody committee to focus on keeping membership?

- Maggie: if we have too many committees with chairs that never agree, they will cease to function. Loving everybody is a PR quality, if it went along with PR and another board member, they could work together.
- Everybody Loves Everybody committee created a thank you card for Melody- a “super duper loopity looper” thank you to be exact
- Also made a card for Barbara Brown thanking her for her presentation
- Megan: is Everybody Loves Everybody committee a retention committee or is it merging with membership? Megan supports retention over merging
- Maggie: we’ll need more than Joe and Maggie to help the Everybody Loves Everybody committee as a retention committee. As long as the committee gets the job done, the name doesn’t matter.
- Megan: believes there has been too much discussion on this topic, membership already writes thank you letters. We need two separate committees for separate projects that we’re working on. Megan’s still for retention and against merging with Everybody Loves Everybody committee.
- Maggie: shares her drawing of sharing of power on a board (power structure). Complete with arrows, etc.
- Joe B.: suggests saving this topic until next meeting

Motion to recess for second session of committee work:

Moved by Matt, Seconded by Annie

Motion passed: meeting recessed for committee work

Meeting called back to order: 12:41

Schedule for Craig:

- Katrina: we need to determine when executive board should arrive in Craig
- Tuesday- 1 ferry, Wednesday- 2 ferries.
- Carol: fly into Ketchikan on Tuesday, have executive board in Ketchikan on Tuesday, then continue meeting on ferry on Wednesday morning
- Arriving early into Craig will allow us to set up, hang posters to inform delegates re poster contest, resolutions, region rep selection, nominations for awards
- Katrina: we will discuss this more on our teleconference
- Carol: we should have all travel info to Carol by March 5th: Try to arrive into Ketchikan by 2 on Tuesday, April 9; take ferry on Wed. April 10, delegates arrive late Wednesday night; conference registration, resolution writing on Thursday morning
- Discussion of changing next t-c to March 6th. Currently set to March 13, t-c date conflicts with executive board members’ vacation schedules
- Craig will send report via email, they cannot make March 6th t-c, they will be on a ferry.
- Motion to move teleconference to March 6th:**

Moved by Grant, Seconded by Megan

Motion passes: March teleconference date changed to March 6th

Committee Reports (second session):

-Goals for 07-08

-Mr. Heckman, Katrina, Melissa, Megan

- Megan: committee wanted to do another service project by encouraging regions to hold competitions to reduce global warming related to pollution
- Joe B.: wonders what message would be sent if AASG supports a program to decrease global warming?
- Kari: this could be a way to protect Alaska’s wildlife
- Mr. Heckman: there are people out there that believe the notion of global warming is total nonsense.

- Annie: thinks this would be a great way to connect with other leadership groups
- Maggie: thinks this is an important issue for the whole state of Alaska. This topic has been brought to AASG at General Assembly.
- Kevin: it's a great idea, but it's not really focused, by trying to solve a global issue in one year, it would be hard to get all the regions to act.
- Megan: We are the leaders of tomorrow and we need to step out of our boundaries and try to solve some of these issues. We want to start getting peers involved as well
- Melissa: we already have a way to help the world solve the issue of global warming by getting individuals do simple things like using less fuel, etc.
- Libby: quick note: We set a precedent by refusing to do a troop drive for troops because it was a controversial issue. This is the same kind of thing; we need to be careful in how we are perceived.
- Megan: reads unanimously passed Wasilla resolution for global climate change
- Joe B.: agrees with Libby, it's too much of a politically charged subject
- Joe P.: agrees with Joe B and Libby, but GA already unanimously passed resolution to help prevent global warming
- Melissa: agrees with Joe P, this is what our schools in this state want us to do, we should do it
- Maggie: we need to stand by the students' beliefs and wants
- Megan: we (again) need to step out of our comfort zone
- Joe B.: wants GA approval of decision to do this project

Maggie motions to start global warming reduction project in the spring

Moved, Seconded

- Joe B.: thinks we should wait for GA's opinion
- continued, repetitive discussion/debate
- Melissa reminds us that government is political, and we are a government
- Megan Moves to amend motion to state that the project is to be introduced to GA at spring 2007 AASG conference**

Seconded by Libby

Amendment passes

- Joe B. moves to amend motion to have GA vote on carrying through on project**

Seconded by Lance

- Libby thinks we don't need to, resolution already passed by GA
- Joe B.: wants to make sure with GA
- Megan: wouldn't push this if GA hadn't voiced opinions
- Joe H.: this plan can't do anything bad, no downside
- Maggie moves to call to question**
- passed:** called to question
- amendment fails**

-Motion passes: "The Global Warming Reduction Project will be started and brought to the General Assembly's attention at the next Spring Conference."

-Carol suggests to table rest of agenda until March 5th teleconference, because many board members need to leave to get flight.

Motion to table rest of agenda until March 5th teleconference

Moved by Maggie, Seconded by Kari

Motion passes: remaining agenda items tabled until March 5th teleconference

Motion to adjourn

Moved by Maggie, Seconded by Lance

Motion passes

Meeting adjourned: 1:21 p.m. Saturday, February 24, 2007

Submitted February 25, 2007 by Chris VanWyhe, Secretary-Treasurer