

# National Council Meeting Minutes

**To:** Phil Owen, President

**From:** Dionne Silver, Secretary

**CC:** Marilyn Plumlee, Past President; Tory Thorkelson, 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Jake Kimball, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; David Schaffer, Treasurer

**Date:** December 7, 2007

**Attended by:** Voting Members: Bill, Bob Capriles, Rob Dickey, Aaron Jolly, Louisa Kim, Jake Kimball, Phil Owen, Marilyn Plumlee, David Schaffer, Mary-Jane Scott, Sherry Seymore, Bill Snyder, Tory Thorkelson, Todd Vercoe, Ingrid Zwall; Others in Attendance: Jerry Foley, Deborah Tarbet, Tony Joo

## Meeting Minutes:

1:48-1:52      **Review Agenda and Official Open**

1:52-2:09      **Reading and adoption of previous meeting minutes.** Issues Arising from minutes.

Minutes from last meeting were not available at the time of the start of the meeting. Previous secretary was contacted but did not reply, nor was at meeting.

**Motion** by Marilyn Plumlee made to table the reading and adoption of the September minutes to an electronic discussion to be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January (the 15<sup>th</sup>), 2008.

**Seconded** by Tory Thorkelson

**Vote result:** unanimous with 3 abstentions

Agenda outlined by president was amended to put discussion of the audit under the Treasurer's report and the constitutional ambiguities and change of time and/or place of the ABM under Old Business at the end of the meeting

2:10-2:28      **Treasurer's Report** by David Schaffer, Treasurer

Discussion about Jejudo's use of their approved monies for starting a chapter. Only 103,000W used of 250,000W. Why? Only 103,000 was requested by the chapter. Phil assigned Tory the responsibility of meeting with the Jejudo chapter officials and finding out their needs and plans for the next year. A request was made to offer them more money to get started but not approved.

**Motion** made by Rob Dickey to accept the Treasurer's report.

**Seconded** by Allison Bill

**Vote result:** unanimous with 0 abstentions

2:29-4:20      **2008 KOTESOL Budget Proposal** by David Shaffer, Treasurer

Requests for changes to the budget by officers was requested by Phil and incorporated into this budget proposal. This proposal is based on the same membership as last year.

### Highlights/Changes from discussion:

- Estimated Opening Budget balance was set at 11,000,000 (the same as for 2007) by David to start out conservatively

- Member asked about the 400 memberships unaccounted for right now. Answer: Their membership dues went to and are currently still in the International conference account.
- 650 members currently of which 35 are lifetime members
- Don't know conference venue yet so line 181 is blank for now. Same reason for 810 being blank. A blank line was inserted here until the conference budget is proposed sometime in March/Spring 2008.
- Expense line for the KOTESOL National Conference. Enough support for this in 2008? Yes, currently N. Jeolla and Jeju are interested in being hosts for it. Need to keep this line item in just for budgeting convenience. Discussion about how much money to allocate for it. Comment was made that the host needs more money because they usually put a lot of money into it and it costs more money for a plenary speaker. A line item for this expense has been created under "311.b National Conference Exigency Support".
- Line item for Jejudo starting its chapter. A request was made to give the chapter more money (500,000W) to help them get started. However, comment was made that it would be counteractive for them to be accustomed to having a lot of money in the beginning that was just given to them and then later not having that amount of money to work with. Every chapter is given dues according to their membership so Jeju should be the same. Based on a projected membership count of 25+ members, they were given 200,000W. If they need more, they can request it.
- Put immediate Past-President's expense line item back in at 200,000W under line 331.
- Change Conference Committee to 342 from 360 where it was before
- 360.1 Blank for Conference Venue Deposit
- 345.1 change year dates (see handout)
- 347 Policy for reimbursing KOTESOL reps at other professional conferences was discussed to be: pay 80% of expenses up to the figure in the budget. A line under 347 should be added to state policy of a maximum of 80% of claimed expenses are reimbursed.
- 348 Membership cards are and will remain dormant unless we can figure out how to do them effectively.
- 349 a line item (130?) needs to be added for "Funds Received for miscellaneous items"?
- 443 Take out number 3 for this line item
- 460 Last year was 2,000,000W. This year is 2,500,000W. Maybe National Council should officially send a rep to each chapter conference this year.
- 820 22,500,000W to 20,700,000W
- Final Total Expenses changed from 124,800,00W to 127,000,000W

**Motion** made by Bill to accept budget as submitted by the Treasurer

**Seconded** by Bill Snyder

**Vote result:** unanimous w/ 1 abstention

4:30-4:25 **President's Report:** Phil Owen (also see report handed in before conference)

- All committee chairs have been asked to continue in current positions.
- Maria Lisak with volunteers. (maybe she won't be here next semester)
- It's a good time to rethink KTT. Not to criticize, but to try to make it better and less stressful for the coordinator.

- Research Committee: Spice it up a little. Help others do it. Not “Why should I use SPSS?” but “How can I use this to help me” Make it more sexy/fun than bizarre. A culture change. How do we help others improve?
- Budget: We saved money but we didn’t use the money to serve the members. We need to spend the money to get it back to the members. Get good suggestions about how to spend it. Don’t be afraid to carry out these suggestions in a responsible way.
- Membership Information Project: Bill has been asked to lead this project to get all the membership information correct and up-to-date.

4:26-4:45 **1<sup>st</sup> VP Report:** Tory Thorkelson (also see report handed in before conference)

- Trying to get services back to members. We should not have as much money in our account that we do as a nonprofit. As 1<sup>st</sup> VP, I want to be proactive like the past VPs in knowing about chapters’ difficulties and helping them. Sent email with report to all members.
- Cheongju is having difficulties. Walt Foreman is not up to being chapter president because the chapter is in such disarray. He’s up for merging with another chapter.
- Phil: Too early for a merger and nothing constitutionally we can do now. Appointed Tory to coordinate addressing this issue, looking through the database and finding people to get people’s feelings.

4:45-4:55 **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report:** Jake Kimball

- Happy with all the SIG facilitators, especially seeing the Research SIG starting again. Every SIG wants to have activities but a matter of getting out there.
- Publishers think we have too many events and are overloaded. Todd will come up with a plan to deal with this issue or organize an online discussion for later.

4:55-5:09 **Conference Committee:** Rob Dickey (also see report handed in before conference)

- Will come up with a venue proposal cost, date, place before January 1<sup>st</sup>. The budget will be based on this. No firm venue bids yet. COEX is not ruled out because it is less than initially thought.

5:10-5:15 **International Affairs:** Bill (also see report handed in before conference)

- PAC 7 and 8 conference (5 panel discussions w/reps from each organization on an international tilt) rotating host discussion. Philippines will do PAC 8 in 2009 but it is KOTESOL’s turn for PAC 9. This could be helpful in getting plenary speakers for both PAC 8 and KOTESOL Conf at the same time. No history of PAC drawing more attendees, though. There is no funding available for it. KOTESOL is interested in doing it in 2009. It could give incentive for moving the conference to a bigger venue.
- Louisa volunteered to take on PAC 9 in 2010 if it is not too much work. However, if conf chair is able to do it, then can do it.
- Other Asian professional conferences coming up: Thai, TESOL in NYC, PAC 7. Some KOTESOL members already receive newsletters from these organizations: IATEFL-Phil, JALT-Marilyn, ARAK-David.
- If you are interested in representing KOTESOL at one of the other Asian professional organization conferences, send an email to Allison. Newbies are not qualified yet.

5:16-5:17 **Nomination/Elections:** Aaron Jolly (had to leave early due to an emergency)

- Wants to get around to the chapters as much as possible.

5:17-5:18

**Publications:** Bill Snyder

- David Shaffer waiting for 2 book review for Vol. 9.
- Bill Snyder working on the Journal to try to get its accreditation status back. Trying to find PhD holders to serve on the Editing Board so as to be qualified with the Korean Research Foundation. Anyone that has any references for this, please contact Bill.
- Looking for a new Editor-in-Chief for TEC and TEC editors, as well. If interested, contact Bill.

5:18-5:22

**OP Liaison:** Rob Dickey

- Macmillan rumored to not be coming back as a Donator. Cambridge definitely becoming a Donator for 2008-9.
- Talking with the OPs about the option of moving to a bigger venue and their take on it.

5:22-5:25

**Membership:** Vacant

- Chair resigned but very important to get it filled as soon as possible. David Kim said he could temporarily fill in until we find someone. Need to identify what we want the Membership Chair to do. David Kim perfect person to get a job description together for this.

**(National Council Committees that did not report because no representative was present:** Domestic Relations, Publicity, Technologies, Membership)

5:26-5:39

**Chapter Reports:** (also see report handed in before conference)

- Busan-Gyeongnam: Elections in a few weeks but no volunteers. Most officers will leave Korea next year. Might be a little quiet for awhile
- Cheongju: No rep
- Daegu-Gyeongbuk: No issues, lots of people, lots of presenters.
- Daejeon-Chungnam: started 2007 with controversy but overcame it with new executive. May connect with other chapter (Cheongju); 125 at Cheonan event
- Gangwon: Turn over in leadership
- Gwangju—Jeonnam: No rep; see report sent
- Jeju: No rep; see report sent
- North Jeolla: had elections yesterday, no president nominated in advance but eventually found one: Henri Johnson. Average of 5-10 people in workshops. Conference was in May last year. Need to send new officer information to Jake for TEC.
- Seoul: Will have conference in March and need to print out labels. Rob will send you a MS file to do the labels if you email him. We have many schools and thousands of teachers but we can't reach out to them. We have an outreach program. Want to reach out to Hagwon Owner's Assoc. but don't know how to make a connection. Herri Lee and Hwa Kyung Lee have developed networks. Can talk with them.
- Suwon-Gyeonggi: sent report to chapters

5:40-5:54

**Old Business:**

- Conf Survey: Ask David Kim for more of a demographic breakdown for people who did survey.
- ABM:

- When should we have it? Options given were Friday night (difficult because of conf. setup), Saturday afternoon around 3pm-6pm (finish in time for featured speaker), Saturday evening (not good because people want to go out in Seoul that night), keep Sunday evening. Can we have elections end on Saturday? No because constitutionally it should be done at the end of the conference.
- Publicizing: agenda should be out a lot sooner with action plan ideas. Promote it; market it earlier. Do a raffle at the end of the ABM meeting to get them to stay.
- Awards should be done during the Conference banquet not during the ABM.
- Don't need to discuss now. Need to make a decision no later than April, though. Rob will get more detailed report back to Council about survey later. Can decide after discussing this through email.

5:55-6:18

**Constitutional Issues:**

- “majority of members” wording in bylaws. What do we want to do? Majority of organization or those that vote? Do we have someone right now who wants to rewrite this sentence? Get a proposal together and submit it to the council for next meeting? Need to make a Constitution Committee to decide on wording? Louisa tried before. We can't sit on this until next October meeting. We need to get at least 5 members together to come up with language and email to Secretary or Elections Chair.
- Reviewed the Constitutional Amendments as voted on during the International Conference. All amendments passed. Amendments included:
  - Item 1: Proposal to eliminate the position of General Manager
  - Item 2: Proposal to enable dissolution of a chapter due to inactivity or lack of membership
  - Item 3: Proposal specifying representation of chapters at National Council meetings
  - Item 4: Proposal to provide a framework for chapter leadership and chapter elections.
  - Item 5: Proposal to require a minimum number of votes cast for successful election.
  - Item 6: Proposal to provide direct election of the president for a two-year term. (This will take effect in the October 2009 election)

6:18-6:19

**National Conference:** Need to open a call for proposals to host National Conference.

6:20-6:21

**Bounce Back to Old Business:**

- Audit: Prepare and have 2006 Audit by the end of the year (2007)
- Dave contacted business college and they recommended a person to him. He wrote to him but got no reply yet.
- Need to get started on it because we need to have a contract by the end of the year. Date and person need to be decided by then.

6:22-6:29

**New Business:**

- National Conference: have had it for 2 years and there is an interest for a third year. Two chapters are interested in hosting it. What do we want to be most important for National Conference venue criteria? National Council needs to take some leadership in knowing what is going on with this but not running it. So, do we need to open a proposal or bid? An announcement should go out soon. They need time to prepare. The president should appoint someone to

handle it. Deborah Tarbet was a suggestion. Phil didn't make a decision at this point. However, Deborah said she is willing to sit on a committee or help out but not do it all.

- Should KOTESOL, as a body, make statements about issues in ELT to journalists? A reporter did an interview about racism in hagwons. Can we make a statement about this to the reporter? Education Minister said he could only do something about it if it was already a documented issue.
  - If we do we could offend our own members by our statements. We could also be identified even more than we are now as a labor union for foreigners. It could do more harm than good.
  - E-2 visa holders not allowed to get involved in political issues
  - Would like to say we are an affiliate of TESOL, Inc. and this is the way the world is moving without saying they have to change. Society looks to us for these moral/educational issues.
  - Marilyn could do it as past president with the weight of KOTESOL but not as president.
  - President could speak on a moral high ground but not as KOTESOL policy. Koreans won't make this distinction, though.
  - Final decision from Phil: We won't do anything now. We'll wait and see when/if it happens that a reporter wants to speak with KOTESOL about a statement.

6:35      **Next meeting:** Late March, maybe in Gwangju, Seoul or Daejeon (keeping in mind that Seoul chapter has a conference March 29<sup>th</sup> and Gwangju/Jeonnam on March 15<sup>th</sup>)

Thanks for all your hard work!!

6:45      **Motion** to adjourn by Rob Dickey  
**Seconded** by Bob Capriles  
**Voting results:** unanimous, no abstentions.

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