

**NYSFAAA Executive Council Conference Call
January 5th, 2011 at 3:00 pm
Official Minutes**

3:00 pm **Call to Order** – D. Tramuta

Present:

- ✓ Dan Tramuta
- ✓ Curt Gaume
- ✓ Clair Jacobi
- ✓ Steve Dwire
- ✓ Wayne Harewood
- ✓ Gina Soliz
- ✓ Rachel Barker
- ✓ Rick Cole
- ✓ Bryan Kelly Austin
- ✓ Dan Robinson
- ✓ Maria DeInnocentiis
- ✓ Ray Villalona
- ✓ Shalena Duprey
- ✓ Lisa Simpson
- ✓ Howard Leslie

Absent:

Jackie Darquea

Reading & Approval of the 10/18/10 Minutes – G. Soliz

MOTION: A motion to waive the reading of the minutes was made by Rachel Barker

Second: Wayne Harewood.

Motion approved.

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rick Cole.

Second: Steve Dwire.

10/18/10 Minutes approved unanimously.

AG Student Empowerment Grant – Notice of Conditional Awards to NYPIRG & HESC (Dan T.)
Based on an RFP that was done in 2009, it was just recently announced that two agencies have been selected to receive some of the settlement funds. The Settlement has not been finalized, but 2.5 million was set aside for a Loan Call Center and another \$ for a Public service announcement campaign. The Call Center will be granted to HESC, the PSA campaign was granted to NYPIRG.

John Austin and Lisa Simpson from HESC are looking for help on web based platform for extensive financial literacy, financial aid application (grants). A call center would support the website. The website would take students to their home state's grant program/agency. They are considering making a rating system to help students select the best loan programs once grant funding has been exhausted. If they have supplemental questions the call center is available to contact. They could partner with other state agencies to direct calls specific to those state grant programs. HESC would like an Advisory Group made up of NYSFAAA members.

NOVICE Update(Lisa Simpson)

Summarize the (5) site visits that were done

Every three years they go out for new bids. The five schools that gave bids this year are SUNY Brockport, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Cobleskill, Paul Smiths, and Alfred State. The Novice Committee hopes to make a decision (primarily based on cost) in mid-January. The Committee is completely out of supplies (some binders were purchased from CAG funds). Lisa is concerned that we won't be in a break even situation if we keep the fee the same. They keep their budget very frugal. If they base the estimated cost on 60 or 70 participants, they can find out a cost per person. The fee has not been increased in 8 or 9 years. It was \$520 + \$60 membership = \$580.

NYSFAAA/HESC Update on the "2010 HESC College Access and Financial Aid Training for School Counselors" outreach programs scheduled this fall and into 2011 (Lisa Simpson)

A workshop was held in each of the NYSFAAA regions. They were half day events. There were over 600 participants statewide. The evaluations were great. NYSFAAA members were the presenters. A full day workshop will be held in March 2011 the format will be similar to the NYSFAAA conference format. There will be a financial aid presentation as part of the day long workshop. There will be 5 statewide: in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Albany, and Long Island. The day will include two general sessions, a lunch speaker, and afternoon break-out sessions.

Financial Aid Awareness Month (Lisa Simpson) January 25th through February 25th.

Wall charts and a small brochure (specific on how to pay for college, not about HESC or TAP). HESC will pay for mailing the wall charts to school counselors. Colleges will be given a chart per school (given to the regions).

FAAM – working with different venues (BOCES, NYC schools) to do FAFSA workshops. They will solicit help from NYSFAAA members. It doesn't conflict with College Goal Sunday. Some will be general presentations on financial aid. HESC will reach out if they get media requests (to speak on radio or on camera).

"Start Here Get There" website is up and running. They would like to post all high school workshops on the startheregetthere.org website.

Ray received a schedule from Health and Welfare Council of Long Island. This new NYSFAAA member is requesting help from NYSFAAA members to present. Most presentations are during the day, so HESC is willing to help out, too. The HWCLI group is looking to get IRS people to help their constituents file tax returns. They will attend the College Goal Sunday days to help people file taxes and then shift them over to get help in completing the FAFSA.

NYS Gear Up Pending Grant Proposal (Dan T/Lisa Simpson)

Dan, Curt, Cathy Patella, Mike Williams had a conference call to discuss hiring/paying a person to manage the new Gear Up Grant, should we decide to move forward. Mike is willing to volunteer (not get paid, only get reimbursed for travel expenses). Mike and Cathy have begun a proposal template. Once a proposal is submitted, a core group, or a foundation of people, would be established and they would be charged with oversight of the grant. Then, each of the core/foundation people would get a group of people to help in each of the regions.

College Goal Sunday Structural Changes (Dan T.)

Linda Bridgewater (based on COPI ruling) no longer allowed to oversee NYSFAAA fiscal piece

Linda had been tracking expenditures, but she can no longer do this. Adrienne Day will be working with Steve Dwire to take over this piece. Steve will manage the money and cut checks when needed. It is important to track this for the audit. At the present time this will be managed by Steve. He'll let us know if he needs help in the future.

CACG Grant Mid-Year and Final Report Status

Conference Planning Update (Rachel Barker, Rick Cole)

Conference 42 Re-Cap

2011 Conference Planning (Rick Cole)

Plans are being made for the upcoming conference at the Turning Stone. The conference chairs will work with the Turning Stone about altering/updating the contract (we don't plan on having a dinner banquet the first night).

Conference 2012 – we need to set-up a committee for selecting a site, etc.

Bryan talked about who would be the Conference Committee leaders from Region 4.

Treasurer's Update – S. Dwire

Treasurer Transition/Signing Authority – Steve finally has signing authority! Regional Checking Account Migration Timeline – Steve will try to migrate before June 2011. The treasury had \$109,064 at the end of June 2010 and \$189,782 at end of December 2010.

2009 Outstanding Audit Issues – Steve hasn't received everything from regional treasurers for 08-09. He needs this immediately! Not all regions have been filling out quarterly reports.

2nd Vice President's Update – (H. Leslie) – Professional Development – Statewide and regional training update

Howard spoke with Jim Briggs to do one session of tax training to be broadcasted statewide at a cost of \$3,150 plus travel expenses. The proposed dates are 2/21/11 (President's Day) or 3/3/11. A PDF workbook would be distributed to registrants.

MOTION: Steve Dwire made a motion to contract Jim Briggs to do a Tax Workshop on March 3, 2011, using the profit from the 2010 conference to help fund the training. Clair Jacobi seconded that motion.

Opposed: Wayne Harewood

Motion passed.

Conference Call Adjourned 4:19 pm.

Dan will send Doodle search to schedule the next Conference Call in January to include the following agenda items:

1st Vice President's Update – (C. Jacobi)

Secretary's Update – (G. Soliz) – Web Redesign Project