

**NHSLHA Executive Board Meeting
September 10, 2012**

Attending: Laura Darling, Heather Pattangall, Gina England, Deb Snow-Major, Christopher Boothby, Vicki Chesterley

Absent: June Adinah, Elsa Abele, Barbara Ahlgren, Katelyn Monaghan, Cathy Tsiros, Susan Granfors, Angela Dalessio

1. Macy's Shop for a Cause:
 - a. We made about \$85 this year. Unless we get more participation, we may not do this again.
2. Linda Eve Seth Conference:
 - a. October 26 at NCC. Request from Christopher to pass the word around. NCC students may attend for free if they volunteer at conference. Susan Granfors will organize volunteers.
 - i. NHSLHA should have a table at the conference.
 - b. 2a. There is a NH Brain Injury Association Conference on May 15 at which there is a specific SLP track, so we should consider having a table there as well. Gina will check on rates.
3. We did not get much of a response to recent public school survey. Results will be sent soon. We need about 600 responses to be able to draw reliable conclusions. This will be mentioned in the next update Vicki sends out.
4. The Council of State Association Presidents meets just before the ASHA convention in November. We discussed having Board members (Vicki and another) attend, but we have concerns about finances. Our lobbyist costs \$4,000 per year and we have \$6,000 in the treasury. Although we are co-sponsoring the Linda Eve Seth conference with Boothby Therapy Services, we are not running the conference and will not make as much money on this conference as we did on the Spring Conference. We did not vote on this, but the general consensus was that finances are not yet solid enough to support sending board members to meetings.
5. Vicki proposed sending the ASHA Professional Issues Statement (attached) to special ed directors. It is quite long and special ed directors are unlikely to read it. Once Board members have reviewed it, we will consider sending it, possibly in parts.
6. Legislative issues: Deb and Laura came to the meeting to talk about the legislative/licensure/certification issues. There are a variety of issues including:
 - a. Alternative 4 Route to Certification, which is a Dept of Education credential that allows people to work as speech-language specialists while completing a master's degree. The degree should be completed within three years, but the time limit is not enforced.
 - b. There have been efforts in the legislature to eliminate licenses in many areas, so this may not be the time to push for uniform credentials for speech-language professionals.
 - c. Speech-language assistants in the public schools are not required to be certified and many have no training at all. The Dept of Ed rewrites rules every five years – is there any way we can participate in that process or have input?

7. We discussed the need for additional board members. Vicki is just over half way through her term as President and expressed concerns about how NHSLHA would continue, since there is no President-Elect and several other key Board positions are unfilled. Gina offered to send a request to everyone on her personal SLP e-mail list. Vicki will also include a request in the next update. Any new Board members that come to the October meeting will be given descriptions of the various open positions (attached) and encouraged to indicate their interests.

8. Member benefits: Does speechpathology.com have group rates? Vicki will check on this.
Update: Yes, they do. Here is their response:
“We have recently instituted a great program for associations and not-for-profits that provides a financial benefit for your organization and an extra benefit for your members. For NHSLHA, we can put together a program which will include the following:
 - We will create an exclusive promo code for you to pass along to your members, who may purchase an annual subscription on speechpathology.com for just \$99
 - Based on the number of members signing up for membership utilizing that promo code, we will provide a 10% commission/rebate check back to NHSLHA on a quarterly basis, which provides direct financial support for your organization
 - By utilizing this promo code, your members will receive 13 months instead of 12 on their annual membership”

9. We discussed speech-language assistants and concerns about administrators thinking that SLAs can replace SLPs and that parents often are not aware of the qualifications of the people working with their children.

10. Next meeting: Changed from Oct 8 (Columbus Day) to Oct 15. We will meet in Concord at Granite Ledges.

11. Question for NH Board of Speech-Language Pathology: Would it be possible to put a membership application for NHSLHA in the license renewal packets?

Submitted by
Vicki Chesterley