THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES
November 10, 2004

Present: Philip Cordella, Vicky Pittman, Nickolas Karnavezos, Patricia Van Duser, Mary Anne Corbett, Dennis D’Alessandro, John Eitel, Philip Gertler, Peter Gonzalez, Patricia Hunter, Donna Liebman.

Meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM

Approval of minutes from October 13, 2004 passes unanimously

President’s Report
1. Magnet Theme Review Committee
2. APPR Initial Meetings
3. ¼ sick days will be converted up to ½ days
4. Leadership Conference
5. Ed Planning Committee Meetings
6. President will meet teachers in the schools.
7. Teaching Assistants Vote 11/23
8. Larkin Member Item Received
9. Report on Membership Privacy Concerns
10. Defribulator Purchase
11. Fraud Workshop
12. Joint United Way Campaign
13. Election Follow Up
14. Special Ed Objective Framing
15. Handicapped Accessibility Committee
16. Webmaster Interviews
17. Office Manager Retirement Fund Review

Vice-President’s Report:
   Orange-Ulster Presidents Meeting
Treasurer’s Report:
Treasurer provided report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Whereas. The NTA has grown to represent nearly two thousand members and;

Whereas. The role and duties of the Office Manager has expanded greatly due to the increase of service opportunities; be it therefore;

Resolved: That the NTA Board of Board of Directors authorize the NTA President to amend the NTA budget to allow him to hire part-time office help at an hourly rate of sixteen dollars an hour for a maximum of seven hours a day, three days a week.
(Submitted by the NTA President)
Moved by: P. Van Duser
Seconded by: N. Karnavez Noah Motion passes unanimously

Amended Motion
Whereas. The NTA has grown to represent nearly two thousand members and;

Whereas. The role and duties of the Office Manager has expanded greatly due to the increase of service opportunities; be it therefore;

Resolved: That the NTA Board of Board of Directors authorize the NTA President to amend the NTA budget to allow him to hire part-time office help at an hourly rate of twelve dollars an hour for a maximum of seven hours a day, three days a week.
(Submitted by the NTA President)
Moved by: D. Liebman
Seconded by: V. Pittman Motion passes 6-4

New Business:

MOTION #1:

Whereas. Article VIII, Section 5, h, authorizes the NTA’s Board of Directors to “interpret the constitution and bylaws,” and;

Whereas. Article V, Section 4, states that, “Only in-service members shall be eligible for elected office,” and;

Whereas. All elected positions for office (NTA President, NTA Vice-President, NTA Secretary, NTA Treasurer, NYSUT Delegate, NYSUT Alternate, AFT Delegate, or AFT Alternate) are always listed on one NTA nomination form, be it therefore;

Resolved: That the NTA’s Board of Directors interpret Article V Section 4 of the NTA Constitution to mean that only in-service members may hold the elected positions of: NTA President, NTA Vice-President, NTA Secretary, NTA Treasurer, NYSUT Delegate, NYSUT Alternate, AFT Delegate, or AFT Alternate.
(Submitted by the NTA President)
Moved by:  P. Van Duser
Seconded by:  V. Pittman  
Motion passes 5-4

MOTION #2:

Whereas, the NTA is in the process of adding the teaching assistants as a bargaining unit within the NTA, and;

Whereas, the NTA is also in the process of establishing the Teaching Assistants’ Chapter of the NTA, be it therefore;

Resolved: That the Board of Directors authorize the creation of a budget line item for the Teaching Assistants’ Chapter as follows:
  1. The line item be equal to the dues generated by the Chapter;
  2. The chairperson of the Chapter is authorized to submit vouchers with respect to appropriation from the line item.

(Submitted by Frank Colone, Executive Counsel on behalf of the Teaching Assistant’s Chapter of the NTA)
Moved by:  P. Gertler
Seconded by:  D. D’Alessandro  
Motion passes unanimously

MOTION #3:

Whereas, the membership in the NTA’s Retired Teachers’ Chapter currently stands at 506, and;

Whereas, the NTA’s Constitution provides for one delegate and one alternate for each 100 members or major fraction thereof;

Whereas, the Retired Teachers’ Chapter has designated Bette Coughlin (currently an elected alternate) to the position of delegate, and;

Whereas, the Retired Teachers’ Chapter has designated Judith Richards and Dennis Morano as new alternates, be it therefore;

Resolved: That the NTA’s Board of Directors properly install Bette Coughlin, Judith Richards and Dennis Morano to the respective positions identified above.

(Submitted by Frank Colone, Chairperson on behalf of the Retired Teachers’ Chapter).
Moved by:  J. Eitel
Seconded by:  D. D’Alessandro  
Motion passes unanimously

MOTION #4:

Whereas, the NTA is in the process of establishing the Teaching Assistants’ Chapter of the NTA, and;

Whereas, the Teaching Assistants have unanimously voted to ratify the attached Interim
Constitution, and;

Whereas, the NTA has asked that the District continue to withhold dues from the teaching assistants and place those dues monies in escrow, and;

Resolved: That the NTA acknowledge receipt and acceptance of the Interim Constitution, and be it further;

Resolved: That the NTA confirm the establishment of the following dues structure for the teaching assistants:

1. NYSUT Code 7 -- 187.50
2. AFT Code 7 -- 77.10
3. NTA (3/4) -- 216.45
Total 481.05

and be it further;

Resolved: That the NTA be authorized to adjust the dues as needed to reflect the transfers of funds from the District to the NTA, and from the NTA to NYSUT and AFT.
(Submitted by Frank Colone, Executive Counsel, on behalf of the Teaching Assistants' Chapter of the NTA).
Moved by: D. D’Alessandro
Seconded by: J. Eitel

Motion passes unanimously

MOTION #5:

Whereas, eligible voting members of the delegate assembly need to make informed decisions regarding the election of delegates to serve on the Board of Directors from the junior highs and elementary schools;

Whereas, no formal plan exists at this time, be it therefore;

Resolved, that the NTA, under the auspices of the NTA president and the chairperson for "Nominations and Elections" designate the Tuesday prior to said elections as a "Candidacy Forum", and that the NTA president and chairperson for "Nominations and Elections" establish the format for this forum, to be approved by the Board of Directors.

(Submitted by the UTA Caucus)
Moved by: D. D’Alessandro
Seconded by: P. Gertler

Amended
Whereas, eligible voting members of the delegate assembly need to make informed decisions regarding the election of delegates to serve on the Board of Directors;
Whereas, no formal plan exists at this time, be it therefore;
Resolved, that the NTA, under the auspices of the NTA president and the chairperson for "Nominations and Elections" designate the Tuesday prior to said elections as a "Candidacy Forum", and that the NTA president and chairperson for "Nominations and Elections" establish the format for this forum, to be approved by the Board of Directors.
Moved by: D. D’Alessandro
Seconded by: P. Gertler

Motion passes unanimously

MOTION #6:

Move that the NTA Board of Directors endorse the NYSUT candidate for NYS Teachers’ Retirement System.

Moved by: P. Gertler
Seconded by: D. D’Alessandro

Out of order

(Submitted by the UTA Caucus)

MOTION #7:

Move that the NTA Board of Directors award the William G. Reilly Profile In Unionism Award to Dennis Morano and Jackie Borgia.

(Submitted by the UTA Caucus)

Moved by: D. Liebman
Seconded by: J. Eitel

Motion passes with one abstention

MOTION: 7B

WHEREAS, the Reilly Award is a prestigious recognition of union service and;

WHEREAS, Bill Reilly represented the unionist for which we should all aspire and;

WHEREAS, the William G. Reilly award remains a significant accommodation in response to activities by union members, be it therefore;

RESOLVED: That Pat Hunter be awarded the 2004 William G. Reilly Profile in Unionism Award for her tenure and unparalleled commitment to the NTA as a unionist and a long-time NTA Board of Director.

(Submitted by William J. Lastowski, South Junior High School)

Moved by: P. Van Duser
Seconded by: D. Liebman

Motion passes unanimously

MOTION: 7C

WHEREAS, Yvette Lewis has advanced professionalism in the Newburgh Enlarged City School District, and;

WHEREAS, her many activities as a union leader and teacher advocate have complimented and supported our union’s goals; be it therefore;
RESOLVED: That Yvette Lewis receives the William G. Reilly Profile in Unionism Award in honor of her years of dedicated service.

(Submitted by NTA Vice-President, Vicky Pittman)
Moved by: V. Pittman
Seconded by: J. Eitel
Motion passes unanimously

MOTION: 7D

WHEREAS, Patricia Van Duser's tireless effort and selfless dedication to union causes is a model of unionism, and;

WHEREAS, her willingness to take leadership roles has provided countless union benefits, be it therefore;

RESOLVED: That Patricia Van Duser receives the William G. Reilly Profile in Unionism Award for her endless fortitude and energy benefiting our members.

(Submitted by NTA Vice-President, Vicky Pittman)
Moved by: V. Pittman
Seconded by: N. Karnavezcos
Motion passes

MOTION: 8

WHEREAS, The NTA’s website has been “under construction” since September due to the resignation of its previous Webmaster, and

WHEREAS, The NTA advertised in its official in-house publication, The Pendulum, for a successor Webmaster, and

WHEREAS, Thomas Sheppard, a member at Vails Gate School has exceptional credentials for this position, be it therefore

RESOLVED: That the NTA’ Board of Director accept the President’s appointment of Vails Gate teacher, Thomas Sheppard, as Website Committee Chair, (Webmaster), and be it further

RESOLVED: That Mr. Sheppard sign the attached Non Discloser Agreement.

(Submitted by NTA President, Phil Cordella)
Moved by: P. Van Duser
Seconded by: N. Karnavezcos
Motion passes unanimously

Motion to table:
Moved by: D. Liebman
Seconded by: P. Gertler
Motion passes
MOTION: 9

Resignation of Nickolas Karnavezos

Moved by: P. Van Duser
Seconded by: V. Pittman

Motion passes 8-1

GOOD & WELFARE:

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Van Duser
Secretary