BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MINUTES  
November 12, 2008  
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Meeting was called to order: 4:45 PM

President’s Report
1. NTA Board Forum set for December 8 – location to be determined
2. Met with the superintendent today regarding Nursing shortage
3. NTA President, Vice President and NFA Delegate Beverly Browne will be attending the NYSUT peer review workshop December 5. AFT Vice President will be there to talk about the national picture
4. The officers are invited on Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 8:00 am Renwick Street Pre-K
5. The new NTA Building street sign will be installed shortly
6. The Triborough Bridge will be renamed the Robert F. Kennedy Bridge. NYSUT has put together grade 4, 8, & 11 lesson plans and study guides for our teachers
7. The LAP Project is continuing. April 25 is coming.

Correspondence
1. Letter to the Board of Directors’ from Chair of the Retiree’s Chapter
2. Response by Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction to request for Walk Through forms to teachers in a timely fashion
3. Response from Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction to NTA President’s inquiry regarding inclusion workshops by Joan Miller.

Vice - President’s Report
1. NTA Vice President Vicky Pittman, Ed Issues Chair G. Pinheiro, Marlayna Wiley, and Gary Byrnes attended the Community Relations Workshop at the Kingston Regional Office Monday, November 10, 2008
2. Performance Condition meetings will take place on December 15, 2008 for all tenure areas and departments that did not get the opportunity to meet last year.
3. Vice President Vicky Pittman attended the Orange-Ulster Presidents meeting. Vote/COPE was discussed and how money is being used more for keeping benefits we have.

Treasurer’s Report
Report given at meeting.

Unfinished Business
NEW Business

MOTION #1
Whereas, active members (teachers and teaching assistants), retirees, and substitutes are eligible to vote in NTA elections; and

Whereas, the Bylaws of the NTA Constitution require that members be present in their school to vote; and

Whereas, it is impossible for some members to be present in their schools to vote; therefore, be it

Resolved, that in the interest of fairness, inclusion and equity for all members, the NTA Bylaws 1.g. be amended to read as follows: Proxy ballots will not be permitted. All eligible voters must personally sign the membership list prior to voting at the polling place. All in-service members must vote in their home base school, except in cases where a bona-fide absentee ballot has been received. Special members will vote at the NTA office except in cases where a bona-fide absentee ballot has been received.

(Submitted by the NTA Nominations and Elections Chair, Karen Roberts)

Moved: K. Roberts
Seconded: D. Liebman
Passed Unanimously

MOTION #2
Whereas, when situations arise whereby Delegates and/or Head Delegates, and their corresponding alternates, represent buildings where there may not be students, be it

Resolved, the Delegate and/or Head Delegate, and their corresponding alternates, in buildings where there are not students, for the purposes of Board of Director election vote on the level according to the last school worked in.

(Submitted by the NTA Nominations and Elections Committee Chair, Karen Roberts)

Moved: K. Roberts
Seconded: N. Sparaccio
Passed Unanimously

MOTION #3
Whereas, the NTA sign needs to reflect the NTA logo, and

Whereas, the original sign maker has come in with the best bid, be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors award the job of installing the NTA office sign to Vinnie Farina Signs at a cost of $785.00 plus tax.

(Submitted by NTA Treasurer Angela Sartori)

Moved: D. Liebman
Seconded: J. Nee
Passed Unanimously
MOTION # 4
Whereas, the actions of humankind are significantly increasing the level of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere, thereby exacerbating global warming; and

Whereas, the nation and the world acknowledge that carbon dioxide emissions are growing at a much faster rate than scientists had previously projected; and

Whereas, the NTA, NYSUT, and AFT have had a long history of advocating for the health and safety of its constituents and the larger world community; and

Whereas, NYSUT and AFT have passed motions to actively lobby elected officials to support federal and state legislation to limit and reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted, as well as, to move our nation in a direction that encourages the use of clean, renewable energy; and

Whereas, everyone can do simple things to limit his or her carbon footprint, be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA begin to implement those simple things that can easily be done and study and search for ways to continue to reduce carbon emissions within our building and within our schools; and

Resolved, that the NTA periodically remind and encourage our members to limit their own carbon emissions to sufficiently reduce greenhouse gases to begin to consciously eliminate our carbon footprints in preparation for the generations to come.

(Submitted by NTA Vice President Vicky Pittman)

Moved: V. Pittman
Seconded: S. Minard
Passed Unanimously

MOTION # 5
Whereas, an additional writing position for the Pendulum is needed to be filled with a qualified member; be it therefore

Resolved, that Darrell Kuhn be appointed to the staff of The Pendulum and the stipend be distributed on a per issue basis to be determined.

(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)

Moved: V. Pittman
Seconded: A. Sartori
Passed Unanimously

MOTION # 6
Whereas, the concept and ideals of Fair Trade have been applauded and encouraged by NYSUT through its Labor Religion Coalition and many NYSUT, as well as, NTA members have participated in buying, using, and educating others regarding the environmental and economical advantages of Fair Trade; be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA purchase and serve Fair Trade coffee at our meetings and functions.

(Submitted by NTA member Marlayna Wiley)

Moved: K. Roberts
Seconded: S. Minard
Passed Unanimously
MOTION #7
Whereas, it has been brought to our attention that current NTA’s UBS investment account requires formal
action of the NTA Board of Directors for tax purposes as well as continued involvement, be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors vote to continue our affiliation with UBS and approve their attached
corporate resolution indicating such (see attached).
(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)

Moved: A. Sartori
Seconded: N. Sparacio
Passed Unanimously

ADDITIONAL MOTION
MOTION #8
Whereas, the new member initiative serves to inform members of the working of our union, and

Whereas, Vails Gate has submitted a new member initiative which has been reviewed and approved by the new
member initiative chair and committee as well as the NTA President, be it therefore

Resolved, that the NTA Board of Directors approve the Vails Gate new member initiative proposal.
(Submitted by NTA President Phil Cordella)

Moved: W. Lastowski
Seconded: V. Pittman
Passed Unanimously

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Congratulations to Director William Lastowski on his recent marriage to Jennifer Coloni.

Suggestions were made by Directors for The Pendulum. Writers could attend Head Delegate Meetings for
sources of articles.

Discussion about spot visits at Horizons took place. This information will be brought up at the next
Labor/Management Meeting on December 4, 2008.

NTA President Phil Cordella congratulated the Board members on being re-elected.

Board of Directors discussed and reviewed revision to election procedures including a revised timeline.

NTA Treasurer Angela Sartori met with TA Chapter Chair Sheila Manning, and Executive Committee member
Berenda Johnson to discuss the TA Budget.

Motion to adjourn: 6:55 PM
Moved: P. Hunter
Seconded: D. Brown

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Roberts
NTA Secretary