

2015 IVATA Professional Improvement Committee Minutes

Chair Jaysa Fillmore

The meeting was called to order on Monday, June 15 by Jaysa Fillmore at 3:30 pm.

Members present included: Lindsey Stephens, Nathan Low, Kya Vines, Tom Clifton, Alan Willmore, Chelsie Fugate, Whitney Tuckett, Karl Dahle, Joe Brown, and Jaysa Fillmore.

The minutes from 2014 were read and approved.

The first item of business was discuss forming a formal mentoring program through the IVATA. Chelsie Fugate shared information about the program OVATA does in Oregon. Jaysa Fillmore will contact Wes Crawford via email to ask about what Oregon does for their program. Nathan Low moved that the committee recommend that a formal IVATA New Teacher Mentor program be created and implemented this fall. The motion was seconded by Karl Dahle. The motion passed unanimously. The committee suggested that the Secretary-Elect be in charge of the program and offer it for one or two years for new teacher or new-to-Idaho teachers.

Next, the committee discussed ideas on how to improve the IVATA committee structure so committees do more than just meet once per year. Karl Dahle moved that the committee recommended that committee chairs be more involved with the IVATA executive board and more involved in directing our organization. Alan Willmore seconded the motion. If committee chairs are more involved, better delegation from the officers could occur and it would encourage more people to pursue officer positions after getting comfortable with leadership as a committee chair. The motion passed unanimously.

The Professional Improvement committee has been tasked with reviewing and editing the new teacher toolbox compiled by IVATA secretary Nicole Lebsack. The committee each received a copy and completed a page-by-page review of the document. Jaysa Fillmore edited the electronic document and sent back to Nicole Lebsack. The committee recommends that the document be re-titled the IVATA Teacher Toolbox and distributed via the IVATA website. The committee would like to recognize and thank Nicole Lebsack for all her hard work on the document.

The next item of business was a discussion to change the name of the committee. Lindsey Stephens moved that the name be changed to the Professional Improvement committee. Chelsie Fugate seconded the motion and it passed.

The meeting was recessed until Tuesday, June 16 at 4:00 pm.

The committee meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, June 16.

Members present included: Karl Dahle, Nathan Low, Joe Brown, Lindsey Stephens, Kya Vines, Chelsie Fugate, and Jaysa Fillmore.

One application for Ideas Unlimited was submitted by Josette Nebecker from Highland-Craigmont. She submitted her idea of the Legal Land Description Game. Josette's application will be forwarded to the regional level next April. The committee discussed ideas on how to get more teachers to submit Ideas Unlimited applications. A ListServe email was sent out earlier this spring and Josette was the only one to reply. No prizes were sought out this year after the low number of applications last year. The committee suggested having an Idea Showcase on a certain topic- animal science, environmental science, plant science, mechanics, etc. during the SLC dinner and/or again at Moscow. People would vote with tickets on the idea that they liked most and the winner would be selected as the Ideas Unlimited winner for Idaho which would be forwarded to Region 1.

After that, the committee discussed future IVATA Summer Inservice details. Nathan Low moved that the Inservice stay the same time- one week between Moscow and Inservice. The motion was seconded by Karl Dahle and passed. The committee recommends that Madison High School host the 2016 Summer Inservice. The committee also recommends shorter "informational" workshops with lab or hands-on workshops staying at 2 hours, the Inservice should be shortened to 3 days with an optional 4th instead of 4 days with an optional 5th, and more general sessions be added each morning with committee reports, discussions, and motions occurring earlier than right before the banquet. Chelsie Fugate moved that hard plastic name tags be purchased for each ag teacher attending Inservice. Lindsey Stephens seconded and it was passed. Lindsey provided a drawing of the state of Idaho with an FFA emblem, each teacher's name, and program (optional). Chelsie will seek out information from OVATA about pricing and purchase sources. The committee recommends that hard plastic nametags be purchased with Inservice registration for teachers next year. Re-purchases for lost tags or teachers that are moving would be made at each subsequent Inservice.

Kya Vines was elected as 2016 chair of the Professional Improvement Committee.