

Austin ATPE  
General Membership Meeting  
11/09

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM at the Marie Calendar restaurant. President Marcy McNeil welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.

Marcy told us how campus reps can get membership lists for their campus from the ATPE website. Go to ATPE.org. Go to leader central. Enter your membership number. The default for your password is the last 4 digits of your social security number. Go to membership tools, then to membership list.

A program was presented by Josh Sanderson, a lobbyist who works for the state ATPE office. Marcy asked Josh to tell us what ATPE lobbyist do when the legislature is not in session. Many rules and decisions are made between legislative sessions by TEA, TRS, and the State Board of Education here in Texas. They also follow what the federal government is doing. The Elementary & Secondary Education Act is something that they are watching closely. They follow elections to provide information to members. We have 6 lobbyist working for us. We have the smallest dollar contribution compared to other Teacher groups in the state.

Minutes of the Spring 2009 general meeting were read. Dolly Simeroth motioned to accept the minutes. Kay Plattis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Balance \$31,898.52.

The state convention will be held March 25 – 27. LaVar Burton is going to be the keynote speaker on Friday. CPE credits can be earned by attending. Registration fees will be paid by our local unit.

Jackie Totten reported on the Charitable Fund.

Marcy reported on the calendar committee. The committee is continuing to meet to plan through 2013. The superintendent would like 2 more student days and 10 professional development days in future calendars.

Marcy reported on the Insurance committee. It is likely that the district will go with self insuring next year which means that the district rather than Blue Cross will assume risk.

Marcy attended Superintendent Carstarphen's speech. Dr. Carstarphen recommended that employees pay part of their insurance premiums. Other items addressed were attendance, transportation issues, closing schools & having less teacher turnover and addressing salaries.

Kay Plattis volunteered to be our Teacher of the Year reader.

New Business:

Our by-laws need to be changed to match our year with a change in State by-laws. The new year runs from Aug. 1 – July 31. Lizel Molina motioned that we change our by-laws to match the change in State by-laws. Dolly Simeroth seconded the motion. The motion passed. Officers signed a copy of the new by-laws.

2010 is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ATPE.

In 2011 the ATPE convention and Leader U will be combined.

This spring will be a local officer election year. A nominating committee will be needed.

Upcoming dates announced – Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> School district budget meeting. Sign up to attend. General meeting of the school district board are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Mon. of each month.

Door prizes were awarded.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Langan  
Secretary  
Austin ATPE