



The Coalition Of Lifelong Learning Organizations

Monday, February 23, 2009
One Dupont Circle
Washington, D. C.

Present: M. Buckner, P. Greasley, T. Kowalik, J. Poley, L. McLendon, A. Charters, M. Lakin, T. Cracovia, K. Schuhle-Williams, M. Boucouvalas.

Meeting Notes

M. Buckner opened meeting and called the group to order.

T. Kowalik presented notes from the group's last meeting for review and approval. L. McLendon suggested one correction, i.e., change "MULDEF" to "MALDEF." P. Greasley moved to approve the meeting notes with correction. J. Poley 2nd. Notes were approved.

M. Buckner explained Treasurer Kathy Peno's absence due to illness and reported that the treasurer's report was discussed and accepted at last night's Executive Committee meeting. She stated that copies of this report would be included with notes from this meeting and emailed to all. (See attached reports.)

M. Buckner reported on new publications for International Society for Comparative Adult Education (ISCAE).

M. Buckner announced the most recent issue of the *Voices Rising* publication had information about CONFINTEA VI from ICAE. T. Kowalik indicated that he would send a copy of the latest issue to all by email. Everyone present indicated that they had not heard from Department of State (DoS) representatives about selection for the delegation to attend CONFINTEA VI. J. Poley reported that all policies are under review in DoS due to election of the new administration last November. A. Charters indicated that CONFINTEA V outcomes included recommendation for more representation from and inclusion of private sector representatives. J. Poley indicated she would reach out to her contact in DoS and she and T. Kowalik would draft a concept paper everyone might use to talk with their elected representatives encouraging nongovernmental organization adult education representation on the CONFINTEA delegation.

M. Boucouvalas announced that CONFINTEA VI would be held May 19-22, 2009 in Belém, Brazil and presented a summary report from the UNESCO regional conference held in Budapest last December. M. Boucouvalas and J. Henschke attended the conference as part of Adult Education Hall of Fame inductions. They had an opportunity to listen to colleagues and attend plenary sessions. They did not represent the US since they were not officially sanctioned governmental designees. M. Boucouvalas distributed a written summary report from the conference and distributed a PowerPoint presentation on US and UN involvement in adult education (see attached presentation). Outcomes from Budapest conference included agreement on Millennium Development Goals (<http://www.unesco.org/en/confinteavi/preparatory-conferences/europe-and-north-america/> and <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/> or see attached conference summary report). There was no consensus on benchmarks on several issues. M. Boucouvalas reported that the Summit of Americas is scheduled for April and may offer more insight into preparations for CONFINTEA VI. She encouraged all COLLO members to watch for outcomes from this meeting. (<http://www.state.gov/p/wha/rt/soa/>)

M. Boucouvalas reminded those present that the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (<http://www.unesco.org/en/confinteavi/national-reports/europe-and-north-america>) has reports from all countries prepared for CONFINTEA VI. If outcomes from previous CONFINTEA's offer a guide, M. Boucouvalas indicated that that several outcomes will be put forth from the CONFINTEA VI that include final reports, declarations, and an agenda for the future.

T. Cracovia asked for clarification of UNESCO's definition of Adult Learning. M. Boucouvalas responded that currently, the United Nations defines adult learning broadly but the U.S. defines it as primarily literacy. P. Greasley and M. Boucouvalas reported the US DoS held a meeting in Ohio last October in an effort to expand the definition of adult learning. The agenda for that meeting focused on the topic of "inclusion." At the Ohio meeting, participants offered suggestions for ideas to include in the US report. P. Greasley asked for clarification regarding reasons we were seeking involvement in CONFINTEA VI. During the ensuing discussion the following reasons were highlighted:

- Our participation in the national effort to respond to CONFINTEA would increase national exposure for adult education and lifelong learning.
- Our involvement would support international exposure and leadership within the field
- We, and members of our associations, might learn from other countries adult education efforts.
- Our participation might help set up exchange programs for adult educators between countries.
- We might be able to influence the use of technology to expand networks between countries.

During M. Boucouvalas' presentation and the ensuing discussion several themes became apparent:

1. UNESCO is deeply involved in adult education.
2. The US appears to be preparing for attendance at CONFINTEA VI.
3. Emily Spencer at DoS, (as a civil service employee) might provide continuity within the US State Department during the administration transition.
4. COLLO might be able to influence appointments from Nongovernmental Organizations (NGO) to the US CONFINTEA VI delegation.
5. NGO's can send their own representatives to CONFINTEA VI if they receive an invitation from UNESCO, but they would not act as official members of the US delegation.
6. COLLO members need to contact legislators, DoS policy makers, and UNESCO contacts to encourage adult education representation on the official US delegation and seek individual invitations to CONFINTEA VI.
7. ACE is currently a member of the US-UNESCO National Commission and we might want to contact the ACE representative to see if we can influence a decision to add a representative for Adult Education.
8. J. Poley and T. Kowalik will draft a single message from the COLLO that COLLO members can use to help with this initiative, i.e., asking for adult education representation on the US UNESCO National Commission and seeking the ability to attend CONFINTEA VI through letters of invitation. They will build upon themes that include (1) this is a time of change, (2) President Obama wants the US to reassert its leadership in the world and we can help reclaim our leadership in the world for lifelong learning, (3) COLLO represents National associations and millions of adult learners, and (4) building on recommendations from the Budapest regional conference for more representation from NGO's.
9. COLLO might invite the chairperson from the National Commission to speak at a meeting of our group.
10. COLLO might invite representative from ISCAE (International Society of Comparative Adult Education) to speak at one of our meetings.
11. COLLO might invite representative from ICAE (International Council for Adult Education) to speak at one of our meetings.

L. McLendon reported on the economic recovery package and its implications for Adult Education.

- The bill is out and agencies are reviewing it to determine implications.

- Everyone is awaiting publication of regulations to see more details on how money will be used.
- There is no real funding for adult education.
- Money went to Department of Labor.
- The bill includes funding for Title 1 job training.
- There is some language to support adult basic education.
- State stabilization money is primarily to support K-12 and special education.
- There is money to support AmeriCorps – health centers, tutoring, teachers and National and Community Service.

L. McLendon reported on lessons learned as a result of his experience with President Obama’s Transition Team and the final language of the bill. His efforts to include the “Transitions” concept and adult education in the bill were not rewarded. He indicated that if we want to get adult education on the national agenda, we need to get to our legislators as champions. For COLLO members interested in contacting their elected officials, legislator member profiles (interests and priorities) are on the National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium, Inc. website (<http://www.naepdc.org/>). L. McLendon recommended that we need to continue crafting issues papers and meeting with legislators to lift our issues onto their agendas. J. Poley indicated we need to identify the legislative friends for each of our associations and perhaps link them together to support our mutual agenda. During this discussion it was suggested that we might want to take a position to support technology and training for “green jobs.” It was also mentioned that we might want to revisit our ideas about the 1976 Mondale bill that we reviewed earlier to see if we might use this type of model for an agenda and action plan.

A round table discussion was held and members reported on recent issues and concerns within each of their associations. Those mentioned most frequently include:

1. economic issues - less travel, fewer face to face meetings, more video conferences (some associations were canceling meetings and using Adobe Connect with phone bridge and conference call, or experimenting with other technologies), pricing events lower to make attendance affordable, designing and offering entire virtual conferences; fewer meetings each year.
2. Immigration legislation and its implications for adult education.
3. The new GI bill.
4. Volunteer pools are shrinking – it is too expensive to volunteer.
5. Aging demographics in the US.
6. Loss of health insurance, less food affecting many people, affecting educational enrollments, and access to services.
7. Thousands of K-12 students in Florida are without homes, parents have lost jobs and homes, therefore kids not attending schools; teachers are going onto the streets to teach children in small groups.
8. Baby-boomer training may be a hot issue of mutual concern, e.g., to help elders re-career, retool, and volunteer.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Thomas F. Kowalik, Secretary

COLLO
Treasurer's Report
Delivered 2/23/09
As of 12/31/08

This report is based on financial information contained in bank statements from Bank of America and Excel spread sheets prepared by former treasurer, Michele Shinn. The information has not been confirmed by CPA audit and is based solely on information contained in the aforementioned documents.

At the end of calendar year 2008, COLLO maintained 2 accounts with Bank of America; an investment account and a checking account. The balance of the investment account at 12/31/08 was \$13,954.82. The balance in the checking account for the same date was \$354.40. Since that date, I asked Michele to transfer \$600.00 from savings to checking to cover the initial costs of the 2/23/09 meeting in the event we did not receive payment in advance from participants. Therefore, currently, the savings account balance is \$13,354.82 and the checking account balance is \$954.40. Once payment is received from meeting participants, the \$600.00 will be transferred back to savings.

I have attached the Excel spreadsheet for the calendar year ending 12/31/08. The information represents income and expense information for the period.

In the *income* section, please note that the only income came from one payment of dues-CEANY – for \$100.00. All other income came from transfers in from savings (\$944.00).

In the *expense* section, the majority was comprised of expenses related to website development and maintenance (\$1,074.00) and meeting related expenses (food and conference calling - \$625.00).

In the absence of tax return information, the Treasurer can only conclude that the organization maintains a very liquid position (no known outstanding debt to offset the current available assets). The only concern is that dues collection needs to be enhanced. The former Treasurer, Michelle Shinn, did a wonderful job maintaining records of every transaction; both deposit and withdrawal, as well as expense allocation. This practice will continue along with enhanced oversight by Board members. I will also recommend oversight by a CPA firm of the Board's choice.

Respectfully submitted on 2/23/09
Kathy Penno, Ph.D., Treasurer, COLLO

COLLO Checking 2008

COLLO Income and Expenses 2008

INCOME					
Column1	Description	Dues	Miscellaneous	Meetings	Income
12/31/2007	Previous Balance				\$928.97
8/13/2008	Membership	\$100 CEANY			
9/9/2008	Transfer from Savings		\$ 400.00		
9/29/2008	Transfer from Savings		\$ 500.00		
9/29/2008	Deposit			\$ 140.00	
9/29/2008	Void Check #2008		\$ 44.00		
10/15/2008	Deposit			\$ 40.00	
11/14/2008	Deposit			\$ 25.00	
	Total Income	\$100.00	\$ 944.00	\$ 205.00	\$ 2,177.97
2/3/2009	Transfer from Savings		\$600		

EXPENSES					
	Description	Ck Number	Miscellaneous	Meetings	Expenses
1/16/2008	John Garmely - website	2011	\$ 274.80		
5/9/2008	TBG Conferencing	2012		\$ 26.77	
5/27/2008	ACHE - Reimburse for conference call	2013		\$ 39.57	
6/26/2008	M Shinn - reimburse fd	2014		\$ 11.39	
6/26/2008	Karen Greasley - website	2015	\$ 300.00		
7/14/2008	TBG Conferencing	2016		\$ 52.81	
9/17/2008	CF Folks Catering	Check Card		\$ 323.25	
9/17/2008	CF Folks Catering	Check Card		\$ 250.98	
9/28/2008	James Scott - website	2017	\$ 500.00		
9/29/2008	Phil Greasley - reimburse for URL	2018	\$44.00		
	Total Expenses		\$ 1,118.80	\$ 704.77	\$1,823.57
	Balance 12/31/08				\$354.40
	Transfer in from savings				\$1,554.60
2/3/2009	Balance 2/03/09				954.6