



MINUTES

AATG of Massachusetts Executive Board Meeting

August 27, 2005

9 am – 12 noon @ Gordon College

Members present: Cherie Baggs, Ulrike Brisson, Susanne Even, Jörg Frey, Kristen Gillett, Donna Van Handle, Colleen Martin-Moceri, Alese Ruggaber, Jennifer Sheehan, and Gregor Thuswaldner.

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Year of Languages:
 - A plan was distributed and Donna will place an announcement on the website.
 - Ulrike has sent an e-mail to the AATG list.
 - Kristen suggested that we send a postcard invitation for the event September 24. It's a cost-effective way to communicate with everyone.
 - Ulrike will contact the Swiss House about the event and Gregor will contact the Austrians in town.
 - The goal of this event is to improve communication among the teachers in Massachusetts and kick off the Year of Languages.
 - Kristen is taking care of the raffle. We discussed possible prizes.
 - A proposal was made to have small timed group discussions (5-10 min.) and have the people rotate to see each presentation. Jörg will have a table for the Goethe Institute to talk about promoting German. Kristen also has an advocacy presentation that she presented at ACTFL. Cherie offered to talk about what ACTFL is doing for the Year of Languages. Bill O'Brien can be a presenter. Gregor and Alese will have a resource table for new teachers. Jo Sanders, president of the national AATG has a great starter kit.
 - \$5 should be sent to Kristen before the event, and \$5 at the door. Lunch will be provided.
 - Participants will get certificates of participation.
3. MAFLA: Cherie asked if she could have money to do a postcard mailing of MaFLA announcements. She also mentioned the recipient of the teaching award: Susan Thorne Gagnon, a middle school teacher in Tewksbury. The money was granted.
4. Newsletter: Inge and Cherie will publish the newsletter again. They will only do one issue and it will be shorter this year.
5. Vice-President: Sean Miner has agreed to serve as the Vice President, but he has not been officially voted in yet.
6. Treasury: The treasury balance is \$2636.92. Donna said we are doing too well and we need to come up with ideas to spend the money or we will be in danger of losing grant opportunities.
7. ACTFL: Ulrike is asking for a reimbursement for the registration fees at ACTFL. We voted to give her \$275, which includes the EARLY BIRD registration fee and a \$100 travel allowance.
8. AATG Website: Donna has updated the website and added some new schools to the list. It was suggested to include information for *the Deutsche Woche in Bar Harbor* and for *Kinder lernen Deutsch*. Donna suggested to post that information on the main AATG website.
9. Trainernetzwerk: Ulrike and Susanne talked about the workshop in Montana. The workshops were "vielseitig" and they walked away with a lot of helpful materials and information.
10. GAPP Seminar: This event will be held at the Goethe Institute on November 4.

11. Karin Gündisch: She will be in town to do a reading at Lincoln Sudbury and Mount Holyoke. There will be a workshop on October 29. Jörg asked for money to put her up in a B&B in Cambridge. Many participants did not approve this and suggested she could stay with a teacher instead.
12. Manfred Schewe: He is a drama educator, who can do a workshop about teaching through drama for any age group. He will present in Boston and New York. He will arrive September 15, 2006. He will do a workshop in Boston on September 16 and a workshop at the Melrose Middle School on September 20, 2006. We have received an \$800 chapter grant, but no one knows exactly how this money will be spent. There will be an honorarium of \$700 from the Goethe Institute? Donna was wondering if we would be ineligible for our grant because of a conflict of interests. Susanne and Jörg will have to discuss this more. Cherie and Kristen made it clear the chapter cannot pay for this event.
13. Cooperation with schools: Is this still going on? Ulrike would like news and clarifications about this program.
14. Chapter Project Grants: due November 1 and should be electronically submitted. We can apply for 3 grants. There is a sample grant writing application on the AATG website.
15. November 5 will be the next meeting. The location is TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Sheehan
Chapter Secretary