

## **Georgia Advocacy Meeting Notes**

### **April 22, 2008**

#### **Attendees:**

Mo Burke  
Emily Ellison  
Ryan Hall  
Laura Hauser  
Harriet Hollis  
Billie Izard  
Sherry Perry  
Paige Pushkin

#### **Meeting Summary:**

1. Unresolved issues/concerns people have about our group.  
None expressed by email to Daphne before the meeting, and none brought up during the meeting.

2. Name of group.

The group decided to be called Georgia Adult Literacy Advocates (GALA).

3. Discussion/revision/vote on draft of mission statement.

Drafted Mission Statement (from Billie, Debbie, and Emily):

The mission of the Georgia Literacy Coalition is to advocate for adult education, community literacy, family literacy and English language acquisition thereby increasing public awareness, public policy support and funding for literacy efforts in Georgia.

The group revised the drafted mission statement, including a definition of the types of adult literacy needs and efforts to be included within the mission of the group, and then drafted a vision statement. The group focused on the content of the mission statement and vision statement and decided to wordsmith them later.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of the Georgia Adult Literacy Advocates is to increase awareness, support, and funding for adult literacy needs and efforts in Georgia.

The definition (we did not decide whether this definition should be included with the mission statement, or if it is just for internal use):

Adult literacy includes reading, writing, and speaking in English; numeracy skills; other life skills up through preparation for post-secondary education.

#### **VISION STATEMENT:**

A literate Georgia with accessible learning opportunities for all adults.

3. Discussion of goals to go with mission. Vote on goals.

We did not get very far discussing the goals. Because of time, we decided to wait and discuss specific goals at a later meeting.

4. A discussion of leadership roles within the group. The appropriate leadership roles should be determined and individuals should volunteer and/or be elected to serve in these roles.

The group decided to wait and discuss leadership roles either by brainstorming by email or at the next meeting.

5. Decision about next meeting date/time/location.

The next GALA meeting will be on Tuesday, June 10, from 11 – 1. Sherry Perry and Laura Hauser both volunteered to host the next meeting. As it stands, Sherry will host the meeting at Lanier Tech if she is able to secure teleconferencing. If not, Laura will host the meeting at the Dekalb Library.

6. Items to address before or during next meeting:

1. Wordsmith mission statement and vision statement.
2. List and vote on goals to go along with the mission.
3. Decide which leadership roles are needed for the group at this time, the length of time a person should fill the roles, and then fill the leadership roles by vote or volunteer.
4. Decide how often to have face-to-face meetings and figure out how to use technology to include people who can't attend meetings (conference calls, go-to meeting, etc.).
5. Set up an online discussion group or blog area for ongoing discussions about the group. Decide how much and what can be accomplished by email/discussion group.