

GALA Minutes: 10/10/08

The following people attended: Debbie McIntyre, Ryan Hall, Billie Izard, Victoria Kingsland, and Daphne Greenberg

1. We started with a very warm welcome to Victoria Kingsland-the new executive director of Literacy Volunteers of Atlanta.
2. We decided that we would primarily rotate our meetings between GSU, TCSG (the new name for DTAE), LAI, and LVA. Debbie is going to look into free teleconference calls for those of us who cannot attend meetings. In addition, every now and then we will meet at a location outside the Atlanta area.
3. We decided that from now on, we will use the Gmail account that Ryan has set up for email purposes. She will send us a reminder from the Gmail account on how to use it (and send an invitation to Victoria to join). She will ask us all to confirm that we have received the email by replying to the gmail address. She will send Daphne a list of all the people she sent the email to, and once everyone confirms, we will start using it.
4. Ryan will explore electronic sites for us to store our minutes and anything else we want to store. This site won't be accessible to anyone except for those on our committee.
5. We decided that we should still wait before inviting new people to join our group (new people such as ESL, labor, commerce, other CLCP's state SDA chairs, etc).
6. We discussed our next set of action steps following the meeting with Stacey Abrams:
 - a. We will focus on creating a FAQ sheet/PowerPoint presentation that will focus on these key 3 issues:
 - What is the issue
 - Why it is an issue
 - Why should we care
 - b. In order to get this done, we will rely heavily on information provided by TCSG, plus anything others can add. We will do the following:

After it is confirmed that everyone is linked to Gmail, Billie/Debbie will send us information from TCSG. Emily will then add information, then it will be Debbie's turn, and then Daphne's.
 - c. We will also try to create cards-basically elevator speeches on business cards. Southwest GA CLCP will possibly help with the costs.
 - d. We hope that once we have a few final products, we can ask for funding to help us do our work. In order to do this, we will have to become a certain kind of organization (not a 503c). Emily is going to look into what it is that we should become and how we can become it.
7. Timeline to accomplish the above:

- a. By Nov. 1 a complete first draft of our talking points.
 - b. By the end of November, we will finalize and print out our FAQ/PowerPoint slides.
 - c. In January/February we will invite key people to come hear our talking points. We shall see if we can have this hosted by GA Pacific. It will be a meet and greet with a 5-10 minute presentation. Theme will be “We are no longer silent.” We may try to get Andrew Young or Casey Cagle to introduce the event. Emily and Victoria will start working on this. We will pick a date that falls AFTER our advocacy workshop meetings (see item 9 below).
8. Our next meeting will be held at TSCG on Monday November 3 from 10-12.
 9. Josephine Reed Taylor was contacted by the National Coalition of Literacy. The Coalition would like to do a series of advocacy workshops in GA. Daphne has volunteered to be the contact person for our group.
 10. We will invite a few people to a meeting on Dec. 11th from 1-3 to share with us suggestions of what we should be doing (similar to our meeting with Stacey Abrams). Suggested people are: Nan Orroke, Gayle Buckner, Ann Rosenthal, Calvin Smyre , Earl Earhart, Fran Millar, and Kathy Ash. The aim will be to have representation from the Republican Party and from the GA Senate. Emily and Victoria will work on this.