

NYSFAAA Exec Council Meeting Minutes
September 21-22, 2000
Albany, NY

Present:

William Cheetham, Warren Hoffman, Cathleen Bellomo, Anne Barton, Tom Dalton, Mary Jo Stetz, Ed Reiman, Keith Stevenson, Lisa Simpson, Mildred Brown, Johanna Kelly, Tony Thompson (for Evelyn DeStio), Laura Dominy, Tor Shekerjian, Mike Pede (incoming officer), Mike McGraw (incoming officer)

New Chair Training:

President Elect Cathy Bellomo conducted new chair training. Training manuals were distributed. She reviewed each committee and the plans for each for the coming years.

The Government Relations Committee will be joining us at our February meeting in Albany. Visits are planned to our elected officials.

Regional chairs are invited to the December meeting in Tarrytown.

NY College Savings Program:

There was a presentation on the New York College Savings Program. This is the first of several focus groups to be held to get feedback on how the program will work to disburse funds.

Secretary's Report: Barton

Motion: Move to approve the June meeting minutes.

Dalton/Thompson – Unanimous

Motion: Approve the Policy for Notification of the President as amended.

Stevenson/Simpson – Unanimous

Treasurer's Report: Bellomo

A copy of the Treasurer's report is attached for the record. Cathy raised the issue of NYSFAAA's contribution to Ready, Set, Go in light of the fact that no publications are being produced at the current time. Mike Williams and Tom Dalton will investigate this matter with Delilah and report to Council. A decision will then be made as to whether we will continue to contribute \$3000 annually to this fund.

Motion: Move to approve the Treasurer's report.

Hoffman/Brown – Unanimous

Membership Report: Hoffman

A copy of the Membership report is attached for the record. Membership is up from last year. A revision to the directory will be out soon. HESC will provide their own update to the directory. The target date for the new directory is January 2001.

A discussion was held on the form of the new directory.

Motion: Move that the directory be offered in both electronic and printed form for the upcoming year. Access to this information on the web should be password protected.

Kelly/Cooper – Unanimous

The discussion of the directory will be added to the agenda of the town meeting at the conference.

Training Report: Shekerjian

Tor reported that 88 people attended the intermediate training in Albany. That is an increase of 16 people from last year. It was felt that location and access to public transportation played an important part in the increase in attendees. Tor noted that the workshop came in under cost.

Hesc Report: Williams/Matthews

The following is a written report provided by HESC which provides a summary of their oral presentation to Exec Council.

General Update-Michael Williams

At the September Exec Council Mtg, the Council was provided with a draft copy of the topics and issues that HESC (reviewed) during the session. Based on a positive reaction after last year's NYSFAAA Conference, HESC will once again be sending out a list of Q+A's on FINAID-L on the most significant issues, questions or topics that were presented to HESC staff at this yr's conference.

-HESC has set a schedule for this fall's Administrative Workshops-the infor is posted on HESC's web site. HESC is also in the processing of sending workshop invitations including the specific date and respective location site.

-HESC's Electronic Training Workshops have been expanded, new dates are continually listed on HESC's web site. These workshops are held at HESC and cover the basic use of WinPATH and hesc.com to process TAP and loan applications. The reaction to these workshops have been very favorable.

-HESC was pleased to assist NYSFAAA with hands-on technical support at the recent NYSFAAA Intermediate Training Workshop that was held in Albany. HESC is prepared to assist NYSFAAA's new VP for Training, Mike Pede, in future training endeavors which may include NYSFAAA Regional Meetings.

-At NYSFAAA's request, HESC Exec Staff attended a NYSFAAA Regional Mtg in Region VI on Monday, September 11th. HESC Exec staff, as well as staff from USED's Region II Office in NYC, had an opportunity to meet and greet NYSFAAA members from the downstate region.

HESC appreciated the offer to participate in this regional event.

-As previously reported, HESC conducted focus groups to review anticipated NY College Saving's disbursement procedures. There was also a session held at the recent NYSFAAA Conference. HESC also appreciated the offer by Exec Council to allow HESC to conduct a brief, informal focus group discussion at the September Exec Council Mtg. HESC will forward to Exec Council a summary of the Q+A's from the focus group discussions as soon as the document is available.

-Ready-Set-Go: As requested by Exec Council at the June mtg, I followed up on a request for clarification on the status of HESC's Ready-Set-Go program, particularly if HESC would continue to support this initiative. The initial inquiry was made so that NYSFAAA, as it has done in the past, could properly allocate appropriate expenditures. Although it was understood that HESC followed up on this matter, it was recently noted that Exec Council needs cleared guidance on this issue. As a result, I confirmed with Richard Solomon, VP Of Policy Analysis and Information Services, that HESC will soon have another early awareness product that NYSFAAA will have an opportunity to provide input on and/or subsidize.

-TAP/Grants and Scholarships: At the June Exec Council Mtg, there was an inquiry raised during Pierre Alric's HESC Update re: an IVP-TAP related issue. The issue was associated with a question about IVP flags and whether all applications go thru 100% IVP to prevent incorrect, inflated awards. Grants and Scholarships Director Brian Matthews reviewed the issue and gave an informal update at the September Exec. Council Mtg. There was also a discussion about school codes defaulting to CUNY's school code and how HESC could assist schools with expediting a change from CUNY's code to the correct (selected school) code.

Based on Exec Council's request for a written summary of these issues, Brian Matthews and Grants and Scholarship VP Geoffrey Flynn have coordinated a response for Exec Council. This will be sent under separate cover/e-mail so that Exec Council has an opportunity to review and discuss the issue prior to sharing the information at the regional level.

-Loans Division Update-Tom Dalton: Tom provided an update on 2 EFAN Bulletins:

*EFAN Alert (August 2000) outlined enhanced WinPATH 4.1 reports ASM421 and SCS065. The bulletin also announced that HESCWEB File Transfer has increased from 2 megabytes to 4 megabytes.

*EFAN Bulletin 41 described enhancements to CommonLine 4 transactions. The bulletin also provided detailed guidance on a school's ability to report cancellations, reinstatements, rescheduled disbursement dates, reissues, and Hold and release transactions online using specific EFAN screens.

- Tom also reminded the Council that Common Manual Bulletin (2000-04) was released and contains info on several modifications to the Common Manual.

CAAN Mailing: Based on an initial discussion at the June Exec Council Mtg, I confirmed that HESC will be delivering an early awareness-financial management brochure titled "Managing College on a Tight Budget" to all NYS high school seniors. The mailing will take place between December-January. A supply of brochures will be sent to all NYS high schools, attention Guidance Department, for distribution to all high school seniors. If NYSFAAA would like to include in HESC's mailing a reminder about the January/Feb CAAN campaign, please coordinate your request with HESC's CAAN representative, Linda Bridgewater.

Attached to the minutes is a written response to questions raised by Exec Council members. This is an attachment because it was received after the meeting. The Council requested Mike Williams to obtain this information.

Web Report: Scalise

Vince provided a detailed report on website activity. A copy is attached for the record. He needs information on Guidance Counselor workshops from each region as soon as possible so it can be posted on the website.

There is a new bulletin board feature added to the website. Vince would appreciate comments on this feature.

President's Report: Cheetham

Motion: Motion to purchase NASFAA success video for each region.

Dalton/Kelly – Unanimous

The Vice President of Training was charged with purchasing these videos.

Past President's Report: Dalton

Tom will be in charge of purchasing shirts for Exec Council to wear at the upcoming conference.

Regional Reports:

Written reports were submitted by all regions, except Region 2 who has not had a meeting yet. Copies are attached for

the record.

Conference Reports:

2000 – Syracuse Everything is ready. We look forward to seeing everyone in Syracuse

2001 – Nevele Vince Scalise and Heather McDonnell are co-chairs.

2002 – Buffalo Nothing to report at this time

A call for proposals for the 2003 conference is issued. Region 4 has expressed an interest in hosting this conference.

Old Business:

The issue of NYSFAAA reimbursement of mileage was raised again. It was felt that in light of the significant increase in gasoline prices, we should re-evaluate the amount we reimburse members for mileage. Everyone is asked to think about this and it will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

New Business:

The NYSFAAA wrapper will be available for distribution at the Guidance Counselor Workshops this year. To date there are 10 sponsors for this publication.

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting.

Shekerjian/Dalton