

TSHL Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2013
Wyndham Garden Hotel, Austin
4:00 PM

The TSHL Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Speaker Walter Graham on July 14, 2013, at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Austin, TX.

The invocation was led by Arnold Oliver. The pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags were led by Barbara Aydtlett.

The roll was called by Secretary Porter with a quorum in attendance, and the agenda was adopted.

The Minutes from the April 8, 2013 meeting were presented, and upon motion made, seconded, and a vote taken, were approved as presented.

No report was heard from the TSHLF Board in the absence of Jim Hine, Chair. Chris Kyker, Treasurer of the Foundation, presented the financial report.

Acting Comptroller Walter Graham reported on the state of the TSHL Bank account, and indicated that at the conclusion of this meeting, the balance will be forwarded to the new Treasurer for deposit into the bank of his choice.

Reports from Administrative Committees:

1. Communications – Chair Roy Watson expressed thanks to Chris Kyker for her help in preparing the 29 Certificates of Appreciation for TSHL Retirees.
2. Election & Credentials – Most areas have completed their elections or appointments of TSHL members and have forwarded the Forms 110, Certificate of Election or Appointment, to Linda Parrish.
3. Finance – Chair Rudy Cantu reported that the TSHL budget is in place.
4. Operations – Acting Chair Ted Hubert reported that Chair Erwin has been ill and may not be able to attend this meeting. All Ops items are in place for this session, and we will be transported to the Capitol by Star Shuttle buses along with an Austin PD police escort. Secretary of State John Steen is expected to swear us in on Monday morning, along with a welcoming speech by Lt. Governor David Dewhurst. The group picture will be taken in the Rotunda Monday morning, and we will return to the hotel for lunch (due to the Texas Legislature still being in Session and meeting in the House Chambers Monday afternoon).
5. LAC Chair Carlos Higgins reported that a number of bills were followed in the Texas Legislature, which closed its regular session in May. Some bills of interest were the End of Life bills in the Senate about which we were asked to contribute information. Many hours of testimony have been given by Carlos and others in addition to many hours spent listening and following bills in committees

Reports from Legislative Committees:

1. Criminal Justice – Chair Liz Whiteside reported on a new issue which she is bringing to the new CJ committee for interim study concerning new “designer” drugs which are of concern to many grandparents raising grandchildren.
2. Education -- Chair A. G. “Pete” Hinojosa, Sr., thanked the committee for their good thoughts during his illness at the time of the last meeting, and filed no further report.
3. Health & Human Resources – Betty Trotter, Chair, had no report at this time.
4. Human Services -- Chair Chris Kyker continued to track and report the bills in which we have an interest and further reported that the HS Committee had 4 bills that were signed by the Governor.
5. Insurance -- Vice Chair Steve Coycault reported the resignation of Chair Juretta Marshall and reported that the insurance committee had gained new membership this term.

6. Retirement & Aging -- Chair Jim Hitt reported that there were 4 returning members of R&A and 7 new members.
7. Rural – Urban -- Chair Brigitte Rogers is in Germany attending the International Lions Club convention at which she will receive an award for 27 years perfect attendance. In her absence, Vice Chair Charlyne Elliott had no report.
8. State Affairs -- Chair Mona Bailey reported that SA affairs committee has been very busy and has followed many bills, especially the System Benefit Fund bills which were passed to release funds back to low income seniors for use on their utility bills. She expressed thanks for Carlos Higgins and Chris Kyker for their work in following all the bills.
9. No report was heard from Utilities & Natural Resources.

Reports from Special Committees:

1. Ethics Review Panel -- Chair Alan Abraham reported that he and others would present a discussion of ethics on Wednesday morning.
2. Awards -- Chair Jane Blay reported that many people will receive awards at the dinner on Wednesday night.
3. Technology -- Chair Chris Kyker reported that the Technology Committee is maintaining the website as in the past. A new poster was used for exhibition at the Aging in Texas Conference and is being exhibited in the hallway of the Wyndham. It can be furnished to any member who needs to use it at a meeting or event. Contact for it is Chris Kyker.

The OnLine Academy has developed an advisory council and its first meeting was July 11 in Abilene. Please check the website for details of this meeting, www.tshlacademy.org.

4. Nancy Byler, Editor, announced the Silver Bulletin's publication in April.

Speaker's Report:

1. Consideration of a Bylaws Amendment was the first item. After a motion was made and seconded, much discussion followed concerning this proposed amendment. The author, Pat Porter, explained that the amendment would only remove the restrictive word "Spring" currently shown and would then allow the incoming Executive Committee to establish the dates of the future Sessions. Discussion continued and a decision was postponed until tomorrow at breakfast to give the membership time to study the proposal. Copies will be made available for study tonight.
2. Speaker Pro Tem Streckfuss reported on the TSHL exhibit at the Aging in Texas Conference. New members Polo LaCoste and Steve Wilson assisted in running our booth.

Announcements:

Next TSHLF Board meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2013, at 4:30 PM here at the Wyndham.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Pat J. Porter

Pat J. Porter, TSHL Secretary

Approved as presented, July 18, 2013