Support Staff Committee Meeting Minutes

2015 Professional Development Seminar
Raleigh, N.C.
Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015

Call to Order
The meeting of the Support Staff Committee was called to order by Norma Chastain (Ariz.), Support Staff Committee Chairman.

Attendance
The following members of the committee were present: Norma Chastain (Ariz.), Chair, Jeanine Wittenberg (Nev.), Vice Chair, Ron Smith (La.), Vice Chair, Mary Andrus (Utah), Martha Hopson (Alaska), Shereen Baker (Calif.), Kathy Jackson (Utah), Sarah Bannister (Wash.), Mary Ann Krol (Ky.), Cindy Benjamin (Nev.), Anne Landgrebe (W.Va.), Julie Bochat (Mo.), Jay Pearson (Va.), Scott Caffey (Texas), Gena Plummer (Nev.), Sarah Curry (Ore.), Gina Spartz (Alaska), Lucy Daris (Mo.), Sara Thomas (Utah), Nancy Ellison (Utah), Dianne Whitaker (Va.), Nathan Hatfield (Va.), Kathy White (Miss.), Daniel Hicks (Tenn.), Alan Whittington (Tenn.), Susan Hoffman (Nev.).

Other members/guests in attendance included: Jackie Bell (Miss.), Stephanie Hall (Alaska), Cathy Hooe (Va.), Merrill LaPlante (La.), Elaine Logan (Mo.), Connie McMillen (Mo.), Jeanne Mejeur (NCSL).

Approval of Minutes
Upon a motion by Alan Whittington (Tenn.), seconded by Julie Bochat (Mo.), the minutes of the last meeting held Monday, Aug. 3, 2015 at the NCSL Legislative Summit in Seattle, Wash., were approved.

Old Business
Discussion was held on what worked and did not work at the Professional Development Seminar this week. Having two concurrent sessions at a scheduled time seemed to be a better idea than having three to choose from. Staff Breakouts groups would benefit attendees more being held early in the week. Also, the topic of the “Legislative Expo” and ideas surrounding it, possibly giving the Expo a theme.

The Associate Exchange program was also promoted by the committee. Chairman Chastain stated that anyone who has an interest should apply. Being a host state is very rewarding and the experience you gain from being an Exchange participant is invaluable.

Chairman Chastain encouraged all members of the committee to complete the evaluation surveys from the Professional Development Seminar, so that the new program committee would be able to have the resources necessary for planning the 2016 Seminar in Boise.
New Business
Incoming President Susan Furlong addressed the committee, stating that she appreciated all the work of the committee and was confident that committee would be successful again this year.

Discussion was held on ideas for concurrent session sponsored by the Support Staff committee at the Professional Development Seminar in Boise for 2016. Topics included “Off the Record,” Mason’s and “Blank Page.”

The Principals vs. the Associates volleyball game was also brought up in discussions. Many Associate members would like to see the volleyball game return. Chairman Chastain asked the members of the Committee to send her via email suggestions for the concurrent sessions for Boise.

Adjournment
Upon a motion by Mary Andrus (Utah), seconded by Stephanie Hall (Alaska), the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Norma Chastain, Chairman, Support Staff Committee