

08:52:29 AM Colletti calls meeting to order, thanks Barb and Jack for hosting us here at Holy Trinity

08:53:25 AM Prayers offered

08:54:10 AM Introductions around the room

AA Stagg HS – Mike and Bernadette Colletti

Antioch Community HS – Wanda Teddy

Buffalo Grove HS – Tracey Repa

Carl Sandburg HS – Laine and Scott McGraw

Evanston Township HS – Jeff Hannan

Fenwick HS – Mary Beth Logas, John McCluskey and Libby Kincanon

Fremd HS – Martin Zacharia

Holy Trinity HS – Barb Heyrman and Jack Helbig

Marist HS – Karen Ramirez

New Trier Township HS – Aaron Vinson

Northridge Preparatory School – Tom Herman

Resurrection College Prep HS – Kathie Foszcz

Saint Ignatius College Prep – Craig Siegler

CCFL Past President – Chris Comella

08:55:10 AM Spring 2013 minutes approved

08:55:59 AM PJ Samorian now coaching in Ft. Lauderdale; Colletti reads note from PJ indicating his gratitude to the CCFL and his apologies for not being here; Cindi Schliesmann is now President (from VP spot)

08:58:16 AM Secretary report: pass along assistant coach information to Wanda or Mike to fill out the coach contact list

08:59:25 AM Carla and Mary Pat have taken on other responsibilities, and so cannot continue as treasurers; CCFL financial information was presented.

09:00:00 AM Colletti reminds everyone to fill out school information form; national CFL fees are up from \$25 to \$50, change is reflected on fee sheet; all dues and registration sheets are due by October 10th, checks payable to Chicago Catholic Forensic League, mail to P.O. Box 31785, Chicago, IL, 60631.

09:03:16 AM Colletti encourages everyone to spread the word to other schools, play up the fact that nationals are local this year

09:05:23 AM Philadelphia nationals results: some disappointment in speech, maybe related to not sending the top six in each event; octafinalists in policy (New Trier), PF (Sandburg), and LD (Sandburg), and a semifinalist in Congress (New Trier).

09:07:09 AM Elimination rounds in speech at NCFL's were vastly different (again) from local league performances; April workshop could be a great way to address this, should aim for that again this year

- 09:10:26 AM Graduation conflict with Memorial Day is also a source of weaker entrants to NCFL's; Mary Beth suggests a CCFL letter to administrations regarding Memorial Day graduation ceremonies explaining the importance of debate and the National Championship; Tracey suggests inviting administration to attend Nationals this year in Chicago to build awareness; Mary Beth will work on the letter.
- 09:13:47 AM Philly nationals reflection: bus situation was screwy, short on buses for some events; was a result of large hotel numbers, should be easier this year because clearer sense of the hotel footprint; some concerns about Conference Direct registration system and credit card authorization system
- 09:20:50 AM Bus signage and directing needs to be robust to get kids to the right place, use event labels
- 09:21:49 AM Ballot table for pickup/dropoff needs to be in an open space; also needs good signage at the event venues
- 09:25:42 AM Prelim and elim locations need to be disseminated more widely; Twitter needs to be up to date; need to find solutions to make attendance and viewing more user-friendly
- 09:29:13 AM Calendar discussion; if there are more policy teams that want to attend, they will have a discussion amongst themselves about setting up a qualifying system;
- 09:33:43 AM Marist has a conflict with hosting the IE Festival, so we need a new host; Tom Herman and Mary Beth Logas will check for availability as hosts
- 09:35:55 AM Consider reaching out to outside coaches for the National Prep (Jeff can contact Ganer Newman at Illinois State)
- 09:38:59 AM Schedule is approved (pending hosts on October 19 and November 9)
- 09:39:18 AM Trophies: need to track down PJ about duplicates and returned trophy credits; still ordering from Zip Trophies this year
- 09:43:13 AM 2014 Chicago Nationals Update
Chicago Hilton is HQ hotel – 169/night; Marriot Blackstone – 169/night
All very posh...
De La Salle HS – Extemp, using De La Salle buses, 10 min ride
St. Ignatius – Congress, reworking the rules and maybe expanding to 12 prelim chambers and 4 semifinal chambers, also using De La Salle buses for Congress run
Sandburg HS – LD and PF, First Student busing
Hilton – Policy
Jones College Prep, Roosevelt, and East/West University – Interp and Platform
Lunches will be pre-sold and available at all sites; speech students (not extemp) get

lunch wherever their round before lunch is

- 09:54:23 AM Should be some assistance for walking between the four downtown venues
- 09:57:05 AM Will need to staff Chicago coaches at each venue; no judge obligations for host district, which frees up coaches and parents for staffing; Colletti will make assignments, but will solicit input in terms of where/what people want to do
- 10:02:45 AM Will need wristbands for building entrance and security
- 10:12:13 AM Offering hired judges? Not sure if this will happen; much discussion about cost and hassle
- 10:14:27 AM Logo and art design opened to schools and art departments...
- 10:15:18 AM Host schools are responsible for food for judges and what-not
- 10:19:04 AM Some miscellaneous tasks: shuttle van on call, bus loaders, program sponsorships, tournament mass (Chris Comella), program letters from dignitaries (Kathy Foszcz)
- 10:24:16 AM Two themes nominated, "All That Jazz" and "Sweet Home Chicago", voted on, "Sweet Home Chicago" accepted as theme for nationals (9-3)
- 10:30:21 AM May need to meet again to do a list of work stuff, but will depend on the numbers of volunteers and staff available to work the tournament
- 10:31:42 AM Discussion about volunteer needs and volunteer coordinating, trying to assemble a list of what we need and how many people we might have
- 10:43:37 AM More discussion on volunteer needs and processes for staffing the tournament; some concerns over volunteer parking and commitments
- 10:45:47 AM Tracey and Wanda Teddy will chat with Colletti about logistical needs, then assemble volunteer list/database
- 10:48:03 AM Colletti has passwords for Chicago website and NCFLNationals site.
- 10:49:11 AM Congress changes seemed to work well; down to two congresses (from three); consider ICDA for more opportunities to get out
- 10:50:58 AM IE festival numbers are low, so encourage participation; IE workshop discussion, schedule for the day and logistics of coaching planning
- 10:56:02 AM League wants to make or obtain video of final rounds at NCFL
- 10:58:25 AM New IE judging guidelines were a step in the right directions, league is willing/eager to improve and adapt to national standards; discussion of ballot format, maybe moving

towards a blank ballot situation; trying to establish clear standards for nationals is tough; Wanda will assemble some ballot language/design for the IE Festival

11:10:01 AM Discussion of competition format change, proposal from the Spring (four or five league tournaments in order to qualify for the district championship, district championship to qualify to nationals)

11:14:03 AM Elections: Wanda Teddy for VP (unopposed); Bernadette Colletti for Treasurer (unopposed)

11:15:18 AM Lainee suggests that tournament invitations be emailed out to the coaches list in addition to be being placed on the website

11:16:49 AM First PF training session at Sandburg on September 21st; first LD training session at Fremd on September 28th;

11:19:09 AM IHSA will be hosted at UISpringfield this year (3/21-22);

11:21:27 AM Reminder to get ncfnationals.org placeholder up for Chicago nationals.

11:21:46 AM Spring meeting at Resurrection HS on April 12

11:21:57 AM Meeting is adjourned