

Japanese Teachers Association of Texas
2010 JTAT Annual Meeting
Texas Foreign Language Association Conference
Omni Colonnade Hotel, San Antonio, Texas
Saturday, October 9, 2010
Governor's Suite 2:00 – 3:15 PM
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members in Attendance:

A total of 14 members.

Chad Park, Reiko Oddonnel, Hiroko Sato, Masumi Reade, Junko Stanley, Noriko Baxter, Yuka Kato, Yuki Waugh, Mimi Yu, Yoshiko Fujii, Yuko Prefume, Nana Suzumura, Mariko Jinbo, Yayoi Takeuchi

Guests: Yuka Matsushashi and Yoshie Kadowaki – University of Nevada

Recording of Minutes:

By Masumi Reade in absence of JTAT secretary, Yoshie Sweigart.

Opening:

JTAT Vice President Yayoi Takeuchi sensei opened the annual meeting at 1:50 p.m. The agenda for this Meeting was passed around while attending members introduced themselves.

1. Review/Approval of 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes.

The 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved.

2. New Business

a. Financial Report and Membership Report

(1) Former Treasurer, Mariko Jinbo sensei, gave financial report for the period 1/1/2010 to 9/18/2010. The balance from 2009 was \$2651.91. Income was \$810 and expenditure was \$724.40. The balance as of 9/18/2010 was \$2737.51.

(2) On September 18, Wellls Fargo Bank account was closed due to the geographical location of the new treasurer (in Houston). The new account is to be opened with another bank (possibly Compass Bank).

(3) Masumi Reade reported that there are 34 current paid members for 2010-11.

(4) Masumi Reade mentioned regarding opening the new bank account with Compass Bank, which would generate \$50 per account for JTAT whenever a member opens an account with the bank. The membership approved that when deciding on a new JTAT account, Masumi Reade may make a decision.

b. President Issue: Sato sensei reported on current status of JTAT president. Currently, there is no president of JTAT. For next year, the Nominating Committee decided that Ms. Takeuchi act as an interim president for a year from now, until the next election to be

held in summer, 2011. Sato sensei also talked about the qualification of president. JTAT should be looking for someone who can respect and work with other organizations as well as the members of JTAT.

c. Non profit status: Sato sensei reported that the Texas state does not recognize JTAT as a non-profit organization yet. We need the notification, which might have been provided by the State. When she submitted the by-law changes, this became known, and since then Sato sensei and Jinbo sensei made financial reports as of 1993. The State requested that JTAT submit a current copy of IRS Determination Letter, or within the last 4 years of the Determination letter submitted to the State in order to complete the re-instatement. Since 1993 JTAT has not paid franchise tax to the State. Reporting as a group requires submitting the address, name of the person in charge of the organization, etc. The address needs to be changed every time new president assumes his/her role. When the State admits that JTAT is clear on IRS issues, JTAT should be reinstated.

When the new treasurer was to take over, the bank requested the results of the election and the minutes of the meeting. Up to \$50,000, tax is exempt in the state. If IRS requests JTAT to contact IRS Exempt Organization for JTAT's exempt status with IRS again, we may have to re-instate it with IRS again. Sato sensei currently asks a CPA to give advice on this situation on a voluntary basis.

Future officers must make report to IRS and State every two years, when new officers are elected. It is important that JTAT keeps record such as financial report and meeting minutes.

d. Takeuchi sensei reported on speech contest poetry selection. So far 13 poems for division 1, 8 poems for division 2 have been submitted. By Monday, October 11, survey monkey will be set up and JTAT members will make final decision by October 15. Masumi Reade and Sato sensei suggested that we select a few poems for each division before everyone votes.

The following 6 poems were selected for general voting.

Division 1: Kotobano torini, Hon, and Te

Division 2: Toku, Ootosan, and Okuru Kotoba

e. Park sensei reported on Nengajo contest. The deadline will be Dec 20th. All the regulations will be the same as last year.

f. Suzumura sensei reported on ATJ/NCJLT reorganization status. The name will be AATJ (American Association of Teachers of Japanese) which is in line with other foreign language associations. She explained the proposed membership status. Basically whoever wishes to become a member of AATJ would pay \$40 and automatically become a member of the local affiliate, depending on his/her location. AATJ will pay \$15 per member back to the local affiliate. The new membership system would create more income for the affiliates, which would enable them to do more activities. Annual meetings will be held as they have been; ATJ meeting will be in the spring and NCJLT general meeting will be held in conjunction with ACTFL. Affiliate members will be able to voice their opinion and will be able to vote for officer positions and important issues.

JTAT needs to resolve current issues of non-profit status in order to receive \$15 per membership by 2012, when officially this reorganization is scheduled to be completed.

g. Suzumura sensei reported on CEU credit to be given by JTAT. There will be a workshop on October 16th in Houston and JTAT board approved issuing CEC to the participants. This workshop needs to be approved as JTAT fall workshop. Sato sensei mentioned that fall workshop is to be held for the first time, and that JTAT members should be encouraged to attend for professional development purposes rather than just obtaining CEU credit. Takeuchi sensei mentioned if the workshop content can be reported to JTAT members, so people who unable to participate may have a chance to see it.

h. March 5 will be the date for Texas speech contest.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Masumi Reade