

Meeting Title CLTA-Texas 1st Board Meeting 2008

MINUTES

[MEETING DATE]
1/12/08

[MEETING TIME]
10:00AM-11:30PM

[MEETING LOCATION]
Via Conference Call

MEETING CALLED BY	Decided by Board members
TYPE OF MEETING	Board Meeting, CLTA-Texas
FACILITATOR	Meng Yeh (Host of Conference Call)
NOTE TAKER	Lan Graff
TIMEKEEPER	
ATTENDEES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ardon Chang, 張志榮 (Dallas) 2. Marshall McArthur, 麥查理 (Houston) 3. Meng Yeh, 葉萌 (Houston) 4. Yang Li, 李洋 (Dallas) 5. Xiaohong Wen, 温晓虹 (Houston) 6. Carl Robertson (Georgetown) 7. Yeamei Chu, 黄雅梅 (Houston) 8. Lan Graff 张岚 (Austin)
ABSENT	<p>Huafu Bao (Houston) 包华富 , Nine-ming Cheng 周乃溟 (Houston)</p> <p>Stephen Field 田笠(San Antonio)</p>

AGENDA TOPICS

ITEM 1	<p>CLTA – Texas Updates</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Meng reported that the result of the first election in October 2007: 3 officers and 8 board of directors. She also explained the election in October 2008 and 2009, based on clta-texas bylaws. b. Meng reported the success of Houston Youth Chinese Speech Contest on 11/11/2007 and suggested that Dallas and Austin organize similar speech contests. c. Meng reported that clta-texas is granted tax exemption 501(c) (3) by IRS d. Meng reported that CLTA-Texas currently has individual members 57; Institute members:Huaxia School (56), Chinese Community Center (20), Texas Northwest Chinese School (8) e. Meng reported financial record in 2007: donation (\$8226.78), membership (\$2009.92), expenses (\$4115.89), sCurrent account: \$6,596.78 f. Meng reported that clat-texas collaborated with Dallas Chinese School Association and Chinese Community Center and submitted two StarTalk proposals. Both proposals include student and teacher programs. If the proposals are funded, Meng will work with Ardon for Dallas programs, and Xiaohong, Marshall will work with Nine-min for Houston programs. KatyISD in Houston also submitted one proposal. The recipients of the grants will be announced in mid February.
ITEM 2	<p>Committees</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Meng assigned the responsibility for each Board of Director for various committee:

	<p>Annual Meeting Committee (Chair, Marshall; Ardon), Nomination Committee Chair (October 2008) Stephen and (October 2009) Xiaohong; Houston Speech Contest Committee Chair (November 2008), Crystal, Meng; Dallas Speech Contest Committee Chair, Yang Li; Austin Speech Contest Committee Chair, Lan</p> <p>b. Carl has accepted to be the chief editor for the eNewsletter in summer 2008 and spring 2009. Paul will provide assistance.</p> <p>c. Meng reported that the Fundraising Committee will be chaired by Nine-min. Nine-min was unable to be present due to sickness. Meng reported that the first task for Fundraising Committee is to raise money to establish Teacher Professional Development Fund which can provide 2-3 teachers annually travel grants to attend local/national professional meetings or workshops.</p>
ITEM 3	<p>Professional Development Workshops, 2008</p> <p>a. Meng reported that Dallas-Fort Worth will hold a Chinese Teacher conference during 1/19-20, organized by Ardon Chang, FW Chinese School. Meng will help the workshop by conducting three presentations.</p> <p>b. Meng asked if clta-texas should organize teacher workshop in Houston and Austin. There is no suggestion put forward in Houston. Ardon reported that Austin Chinese School has contacted to organize a workshop for them. Lan said she will check with the schools and teachers in Austin first.</p>
ITEM 4	<p>Financial Committee: Fundraising updates</p> <p>a. Meng reported after the fundraising letter was sent in June, CLTA-Texas has received \$2000 from individual donation in Houston, From institute, we have received \$2000 from Education Office, Consulate General of PRC in Houston, \$1000 from Asian Studies of Rice U., \$500 from Center for the Study of Language, Rice U. The funding of \$5,500 is sufficient to support the CLTA-Texas annual conference expenses.</p> <p>b. Nine-min reported her plan to give calls to the prospective donors in the list that she provided. The purpose is to increase more sponsorship. She also plans to locate one or two underwriters to establish Professional Development Fund for CLTA-Texas, we can annually offer two K-12 teachers grants to attend professional conferences or workshops.</p>
ITEM 5	<p>National Chinese Language Conference, April 17-19, Washington DC, by Asia Society and College Board (http://www.askasia.org/chinese/announcements/nclc.htm)</p> <p>Meng said that it is important that clta-texas participates in this national conference. It is good way to get to know people and be informed the progress in other States. Nine-min can receive funding from Chinese Community Center. She will attend the meeting on behalf of clta-texas.</p>
ITEM 6	<p>Future events</p> <p>a. Annual Meeting</p> <p>Meng suggested two options of holding the clta-texas annual meeting: one is with Texas Foreign Language Association (TFLA); one is to organize by ourselves. Meng explained the reason for the first option is to interact with teachers of other languages. Also, many members of TFLA are foreign language coordinators in Texas school districts. It is important to get to know them in order to promote the Chinese language education in Texas. Marshall commented that CLTA-Texas annual conference has its focus which likely benefits local Chinese teachers more than joining with TFLA. Yeamei suggested that CLTA-Texas could form a committee to join TFLA conferences for building up networks and getting close to some decision makers. All agreed with her. The Board voted for the second option and suggested that clat-texas should encourage teachers to organize panels for TFLA annual conference.</p> <p>Ardon has agreed that the 2nd CLTA-Texas annual meeting will be held in Dallas. He then proposed that 2008 conference be scheduled during the Labor Day weekend in September,</p>

	<p>a weekend that most Chinese teachers are able to attend. Xiaohong said that Labor Day was not chosen for the first annual meeting, because many teachers were not in town yet. But she said that the 2008 conference date should cater to the teachers in Dallas. The Board agreed to hold the second annual meeting in Dallas in September, 2008. The exact day(s) and format will be decided by Ardon and Marshall.</p> <p>b. Local Chinese Speech Contest Meng asked if Dallas and Austin can hold Chinese Speech Contest. Meng emphasized the importance of encouraging students in K-12 to participate. Ardon shared with everyone that Dallas has organized speech contest for over 10 years and will hold one this year, but is mainly for Chinese school students. So there is no students from K-12. Yang stated that in order to attract K-12 students, the speech contest has to have the prestige and can offer students credentials and honor. Yang then added up that her concern about the fact that there are already several contests held every year. Lan said that she will talk to Chinese schools in Austin first, then might make a plan from there. Meng said that she will check with CLASS/Hanban regarding the US High School National Speech Bridge Contest. The Board will continue to discuss possibility/necessity/feasibility.</p> <p>c. Meng suggested that if we can have speech contest in Houston, Dallas and Austin, we can organiz a final Texas Speech Contest (spring, 2009). The winners in Houston, Dallas and Austin compete in an all-State contest.</p> <p>d. One-Day symposium Meng suggested a one-day symposium, Teaching and Learning Chinese in Texas, to advance the Chinese language education in Texas. The audience includes school principals, LOTE coordinator, superintendents, members of school boards. The symposium will provide Texas school districts with a rich array of organizations and resources available to support Chinese language instruction, as well as the experience of existing Chinese language programs in the state. Meng has asked Maine State that organized a similar symposium. It costed them \$10K.</p> <p>Yeamei said that CLTA-Texas should concern both time and financial consumption for doing so, if it turns a burden of several members we should double think about it. Yang commented that public schools are facing many obstacles for establishing Chinese programs, CLTA-Texas should weigh how much influence we could make to each independent school district. Marshall said it worth a try to talk to some small school district first. Meng added that Texas Education Agency needs to play an important role in the symposium. She will find ways to communicate TEA see if we can gain their support regarding the symposium.</p>
ITEM 9	<p>Check Signature Meng reported that we need add the name Lan Graff, our new Secretary-Treasurer, in our Compass Bank account, so Lan can sign checks. We need to take Qin's off. The Board all agreed.</p>
AGENDA	<p>Chinese Language Teachers Association of Texas 1st Board Meeting (call conference), Agenda10-11:30, January 12, 2008</p> <p>1. Updates</p> <p>a. Election in 2007 3 officers Meng Yeh, president, 2007-2008 (immediate past president, 2008-2009) Marshall McArthur, president-elect, 2007-2008 (president, 2008-2009) Lan Graff, secretary-treasurer, 2007-2009</p> <p>8 Board of directors, 2007-2009 Huafu Bao, Ardon Chang, Nine-min Cheng, Yeamei Chu, Stephen Field, Yang Li, Carl Robertson, Xiaohong Wen</p> <p>October 2008 Election President-Elect (candidate, a seating member of the board of directors, section 5.02)</p>

One Board of Director

October 2009 Election

President-Elect (candidate, a seating member of the board of directors)
4 Board of Directors (section 4.05)

Section 4.05. Election

Directors shall serve for two years, and the terms of Directors shall be staggered so that half of the seats of Board of Directors fall vacant and are filled by election.

Section 5.02. Duties of Elected Officers

b. The President-Elect shall be elected by the members in a mail ballot simultaneously with the election of the Directors being elected in that year.

Presidential-Elect candidates shall be seating Members of the Board of Directors.

- b. Houston Speech Contest 2007
CLTA-Texas organized a 5-person committee to plan and carry out the speech contest in Nov. 11, 2007. The Committee includes: Dong Siqi (founder), Meng Yeh (clta-tx), Cindy Lai (CCC), Guan Lihua (Huaxia), Yeamei Chu (clta-tx)
- c. 501(c)(3), tax exemption status from IRS
- d. Members: individual members (57), institute members: Huaxia School (56), Chinese Community Center (20), Texas Northwest Chinese School (8)
- e. Financial report: donation (\$8226.78), membership (\$2009.92) (see attached the financial report 2007)
- f. StarTalk proposals both collaborating with CLTA-Texas
Chinese Community Center: Chinese in Action (Nine-min, Xiaohong, Marshall)
Dallas Chinese School Association: Ice Breaking Program (Ardon, David Wu, Meng)

2. Committees

- a. Annual Meeting Committee (Chair, Marshall; Ardon)
- b. Nomination Committee Chair (October 2008) Stephen; (October 2009) Xiaohong
- c. Houston Speech Contest Committee Chair (November 2008), Crystal, Meng
Dallas Speech Contest Committee Chair, Yang Li
Austin Speech Contest Committee Chair, Lan
- d. eNewsletter: editor (Summer 2008, Spring 2009), Paul, Carl
- e. Fundraising Committee, Nine-min, Meng
 - Establish Professional Development Grant, sponsoring K-12 and Chinese school teachers to attend regional/national language teaching conferences or workshops
 - Annual conference, one-day symposium (see item 4.b)

3. Professional Development Workshops, 2008

Dallas-Fort Worth: 1/19-20 (details see www.clta-texas.org)
Houston? Dallas

4. National Chinese Language Conference, April 17-19, Washington DC, by Asia Society and College Board

(<http://www.askasia.org/chinese/announcements/nclc.htm>)

Nine-min Chou will represent CLTA-Texas to attend the meeting and bring back valuable information for all members. She will receive some travel funding from Chinese Community Center.

5. Future events

- a. CLTA-TX Annual Conference
- i. Option 1: held in different city every year, Dallas in 2008?
 - ii. Option 2: joint conference with Texas Foreign Language Association (TFLA <http://www.tfla.info/>)
I inquired the possibility of this option with Bille Hulk (Baylor Univ.), president of TFLA. She will let me know after TFLA Board Meeting on 1/15.

b. One-day symposium: **Teaching and Learning Chinese in Texas**

In order to advance the Chinese language education in Texas, which is the mission of clta-tx, we need to promote more K-12 public schools to offer the Chinese language courses. The proposed symposium may be considered an initiative to jumpstart the effort.

Teaching and Learning Chinese in Texas symposium will provide Texas school districts with a rich array of organizations and resources available to support Chinese language instruction, as well as the experience of existing Chinese language programs in the state.

Sessions will include forums on the "nuts and bolts" of teaching Chinese, finding qualified instructors, non-profit supports, and building community support.

The symposium may include the presentations by:

National-level

2. Shuhan Wang, Director Executive of Chinese Language Initiative, Asia Society
3. College Board: Chinese Language and Culture Initiative (Chinese Bridge Delegation to China, Host a Chinese Guest Teacher, <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/chinese>)
4. CLTA and CLASS (Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools)
5. Hanban: The Office of Chinese Language Council International
6. Grant Institutions: StarTalk, FLAP

State-Level

7. Texas Education Agency, Commissioner of Education, Robert Scott
 8. Representatives of K-12 schools/teachers, Chinese language program models: Plano, Katy, FortBend, AustinISD, San AntonioISD
 9. Local community support: CLTA-TX, Asia Society Texas Center, Chinese Community Center, Texas Chinese School Association
 10. Education Office, PRC, in Houston
 11. Representatives from universities, such as Confucius Institutes (A&M, UT-Dallas), Rice University (Chao Center of Asian Studies, Institute for Chinese Language Teaching), U of Houston (Chinese Studies Program)
- c. Texas Final Speech Contest (spring, 2009)
The winners in Houston, Dallas and Austin compete in an all-State contest.

5. Check Signature

Currently there are two persons who can sign clta-texas checks, Meng Yeh and Qin Riley. We need to take Qin Riley's (the former Secretary-Treasurer) name off and add Lan Graff, the new Secretary-Treasurer.