

WISITALIA
Meeting Minutes
5/1/10

Present: P. Pingitore, V. Ruffolo, L. Meli, J. Stenson, R. Prigioni, G. M. Jefferies, L. Godding, P. Feira, C. Wagner, D. Cicero, M. Feira, T. Bruno, F. Alfano, R. Annina, T. Balistreri, J. Dentice, R. Daley

Treasurer's Report: Frank Alfano gave the Treasurer's Report. He stated that we have no debt and indicated the amount we will most likely receive from the Italian government. Frank reported that from our campaign to solicit donations from companies that do business with Italy, only FPZ donated. He also stressed our need to fund raise. Ways to increase fund development were discussed. Membership requirements were also briefly discussed. It was decided that membership requirements would be a goal for 2010-11.

Green Bay: Lisa Meli presented WisItalia with a plaque from the Green Bay School District in thanks of the monetary gift given to begin the Italian program. Five sections of Italian will be offered between Preble and East High Schools for the 2010-11 school year.

Racine: Efforts to introduce Italian in the public schools are on hold. The focus has now shifted to private schools such as Prairie, Lutheran High, and St. Catherine's. July 23-25 is the Festa in Racine.

Kenosha: The Italian programs have been successful. Indian Trail Academy will add Italian to its curriculum next school year. There was also mention of the possibility of Holy Rosary adding Italian to its curriculum at a later date.

Milwaukee: Rufus King has dropped its Italian and French programs. Tom Balistreri will try to obtain the Italian materials from Rufus King so that they might be used elsewhere. Attempts to add Italian to Marquette High School have been unsuccessful but Tom will keep trying.

Madison: Giovanna is now teaching the programs at Spring Harbor and Wright Middle Schools. These programs are not growing because no high schools in Madison offer Italian. Giovanna also presented the numbers of students currently enrolled in Italian programs.

Website: Rita informed us that there is on average 35-70 visitors a day to the website and the Facebook page as 239 fans.

Grant Forms: Everyone was asked to look at the revised grant forms and send their comments to Tony and Rita. They will then finalize the forms. There will also be an end of the year assessment form to be completed by grant recipients.

Teacher of the Year: Forms and money need to be turned in as soon as possible.

Elections: Elections were held. The results are:

Tony Bruno – President
Ralph Annina – Vice President
Rita Prigioni – Secretary

These people will take office on January 1, 2011.

The treasurer position is still open. If the position is not filled, then a treasurer will be appointed as needed.

2010 Meeting Dates: The next meeting will be held in Kenosha on May 22 from 3:30-5 p.m. Other scheduled meeting dates are: June 5 in Madison, July 24 in Racine, and October 23 in Milwaukee.

Notes by Joanna Stenson
WisItalia Secretary