

**Southeastern Association for Science Teacher Education (SASTE)  
Annual Business Meeting 2021 (Hybrid Format)**

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

**Date:** October 16, 2021

**Location:** Safety Harbor, FL

**Host Institution:** Sam Houston State College, TX

**SASTE 2021 President:** Dr. Melanie Kinskey

**Theme:** Augmenting Reality with Informal Science: The Bending, Blending and Emboldening of the Formal Classroom for the Imagination Generation

President Melanie Kinskey opened the business meeting at 8 am and welcomed the SASTE members both those attending in-person at the Safety Harbor Resort, FL and those on the virtual ZOOM platform.

**Business Meeting:**

**Item 1:** The Business Meeting got underway with a motion to approve the SASTE 2020 Minutes -shared by Google Docs. A motion to approve the SASTE 2020 Minutes was made by Dr. William Veal, and seconded by Dr. Michael Dias. The SASTE 2020 Minutes were unanimously approved.

**Item 2:** President Kinskey invited the Treasurer's Report- Dr. Sumitra Himangshu-Pennybacker presented the Secretary-Treasurer's Report for 2020-2021. The secretary/treasurer's report was shared via ZOOM platform to the attendees which included a fiscal report of conference finances to date (as of 10.15.21).

*[NOTE: As of 11.30.21 - Income from 2021 Conference Registrations = \$4,370.84; Expense for 2021 Conference = \$3,984.80. Paid Deposit for SASTE 2022 = \$2,400.00] Balance in SASTE Business Account = \$8,260.88 (balance does not include pending expense for plaques (~\$200)+ name tags (\$14)- please see attached Financial Report 2021]*

On a related item - Dr. Himangshu-Pennybacker shared that Dr. Randy Spaid in whose name and credentials the current PayPal account is set-up had requested closing of the account (Dr. Spaid has been retired since AY 2019). Dr. Kinskey and incoming president Dr. Shana Lee indicated that they were fine with setting-up a new PayPal account. Dr. William Veal asked if the PayPal account could be set-up without personal credentials. Dr. Himangshu-Pennybacker has checked into this and this is not possible because of the amount and volume of transactions annually within the SASTE account. Dr. Jennifer Stark agreed to check with ASTE to see if SASTE could have a sub-account through ASTE. Dr. Himangshu-Pennybacker explained that she would close the PayPal account by year-end once all current SASTE transactions had been

completed. Dr. Himangshu-Pennybacker indicated that the SASTE Business Checking Account could be maintained online via Robins Financial Credit Union or this account can be closed and the balance transferred to a local bank based on the location of the incoming Secretary/Treasurer.

**Item 3:** Dr. Jennifer Stark reiterated the SASTE' focus on mentoring graduate students and outreach for increasing diversity within the group. The ongoing discussion regarding building leadership capacity in the region via a science teacher education journal was discussed and Dr. Stark reiterated the importance of building momentum by at least putting out one issue annually. Dr. William Veal suggested setting-up an online blog monitored by a committee using the ASTE website (since an edited regional journal would be very time consuming and costly). Dr. Stacey Britton suggested a quarterly issue for the journal. Ms. Erin Mistry invited the group to take a look at the graduate student run journal **FATE? – Jenn, please update this acronym and let me know. Thanks, Sumi**

**Item 4:** This was followed by nominations for the Secretary/ Treasurer 2022 and President-elect for SASTE 2023. [*NOTE - Dr. Himangshu-Pennybacker and agreed in spring 2021 to serve as Secretary-Treasurer for SASTE 2021 due to Dr. Ryan Walker's voluntary withdrawal from position of Secretary-Treasurer for 2020-2021*]. Dr. Emily Dare and Dr. Josh Ellis were nominated for each of these roles, respectively. There being no other nominations for these positions, from members attending via ZOOM platform, Dr. Melanie Kinskey sent out a virtual vote via Google Forms. The voting closed with Dr. Emily Dare and Dr. Joshua Ellis accepting their nomination for SASTE Secretary-Treasurer 2022 and President -elect for SASTE 2023, respectively.

Next, incoming President Shana Lee announced that SASTE 2022 will be held at The Lodge in Gulf Shores, Alabama. Given SASTE interest in environmental education, Dr. Lee encouraged all SASTE members to register and attend SASTE 2022, promoting the possibilities for exploring Gulf State Park wherein the conference hotel is located.

**Item 5:** This was followed by announcements of Awards by Dr. Jennifer Stark.

There were three Awards presented for 2021:

- (1) The Deborah Tippins Mentor Award (\$100) to Dr. Natalie King.
- (2) The John Shrum Award (\$300) to Dr. John Pecore.
- (3) The Past President Service Award to Dr. Melanie Kinskey.

*NOTE – Dr. Michael Dias will order the award plaques and bring them to ASTE 2022.*

**Item 6:** Dr. Kinskey officially passed the gavel to incoming-President Dr. Shana Lee.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:32 am

Submitted by: Sumitra Himangshu-Pennybacker,  
Secretary/Treasurer  
SASTE Conference 2021.