AEA Elections Committee 10.25.08 Meeting Report

Purpose: Finalize Online Voting Implementation Plan

[Note: 1) Some locals are using survey tools: ability to vote multiple times and not confidential.
2) 2008: 146 locals were mailed their ballots and only 30 returned the results.]

1. Election Schedule
    a. Jan 8 – deadline for all NE-RA State/Region delegate nominations
    b. Nov 21 – *Advocate* issue mailed with NEA-RA & AEA Board Nomination Forms Online Voting Ad
    c. Feb 6 – *Advocate* issue mailed with NEA-RA Online Voting Ad
    d. Feb 9 – Big Launch! Notify local presidents that voting is open.
    e. April 10 – e-voting cut-off
    f. April 24 – DA – e-voting for NEA Director & Board of Directors and AEA PAC
2. Online Voting Update
    a. April, 2003 New business Item passed at DA – elections Committee was charged with researching online voting systems for statewide and local elections.
    b. Sept., 2008 – Elections Comm recommended purchase of web-based online voting system offered by **VoteNet Solutions**. Approved
    c. Scope: AEA will purchase VoteNet Solutions eBallot license and services for 2009
        i. 2009 Elections proposed
            1. NEA-RA statewide & regional candidate elections
            2. DA Constitutional and Bylaw amendments, Board of Directors and AEA Fund Council members
            3. Unlimited **"Vote on Demand"** elections which local assoc's can use
                a. Locals will own their own administration
        ii. Two separate websites 1) State and Regional 2) Locals
        iii. Surveying tool can be anonymous or non-anonymous (no cost)
        iv. Contract year will be 12.1.08 through 11.30.09
        v. Unlimited usage of elections or survey capabilities
        vi. Aug/Sept 2009: Full assessment of success, service and performance will proceed 2nd and 3rd yr agreements
3. Implementation Strategy
    a. Full implementation to all voters as opposed to targeted locals
    b. Training of at least one regional office person + local election chairs
        i. Elections Hotline
    c. Vote On Demand offered to all local associations (free 1st yr then a nominal fee)
    d. Marketing:
        i. We need a catchy phrase – may pilot the program voting on this
        ii. Presidents' meeting Nov and Jan (those who attend on a regular basis represent 75% of the membership) and large local Pres meeting
        iii. *Adocate* – Nov & Feb, + Press Release
        iv. Included in Weekly Updates

e. Authorization Code for voting
    i. Last Name and last 4 digits of Soc Sec #
    ii. Voter receives a confirmation report
f. Anyone requests for a paper ballot will be honored
    i. In the case of duplication the online ballot will be the official ballot
g. 1st yr candidate statements/pictures will be online and in *Advocate*
    i. Unlimited amount of text available
h. AEA will need 3 weeks to process local requests for Vote on Demand
    i. Note: VoteNet charges $500 for a rush job
i. Use of school computers should be allowable since it is governance and not political

4. Cost implications
    a. 2008: $15,300 + 91 staff hours
    b. Projected costs for 2009 $12,600 + 80 staff hours

Respectfully submitted by Linda Thieken on 11.6.08