

Massachusetts School Library Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 14, 2015  
Wilson Middle School, Natick

Meeting called to order at 4:05.

**Attending:** Amy Bloom, Kendall Boninti, Ellen Brandt, Anita Cellucci, Robin Cicchetti, Nora Clooney, Kathy Dubrovsky, Julie Farrell, Laura Gardner (virtual), Sam Kane, Sandy Kelly, Kathy Lowe, Sharon Lux, Keri Martin, Suzanne Mathews (virtual), Meg O'Neill, Ann Perham, Amy Short, Kat Steiger, Judi Paradis, Jennifer Reed, Carrie Tucker

Consent Agenda (Oct and Nov minutes to be voted)

**Professional development:** Judi Paradis reported on MSLA's professional development opportunities for members. Points include

- Museum of Science wants to partner with MSLA to offer a cooperative workshop
- Moving forward, MSLA will offer multiple one-day events throughout the year versus an annual full-weekend conference. Investigation suggests this will better serve members and is more financially realistic.

**Advocacy:** Amy Bloom reports that the Advocacy committee intends to foster MSLA branding. Amy and Norah Clooney are working with CafePress to market a line of MSLA-themed promotional items. Working notes for the CafePress project are in this Google Doc: [tinyurl.com/mslacafepress](http://tinyurl.com/mslacafepress).

Board discussion yielded several ideas:

- Identify and contact Massachusetts-connected illustrators who might work with MSLA. Bring on a new illustrator each year.
- Consider producing bookmarks, and talk with Linda Coviello about this idea.
- Consider offering honorariums to participating illustrators. Decide the honorarium in February.

**MSLA annual conference:** Kathy Lowe reported an early bird surge in registration--255 as of 1/14/15. Registration goal is 400. Other points:

- All board members and conference committee members are adopting a session to promote via the listserv.
- Western Region co-directors planned a self-guided valley tour for Saturday, February 28. Conference attendees can visit sites in the area, register at checkpoints, and enter to win prizes for places visited.
- As of 1/14/15, 110 people have registered for dinner.
- Judi Paradis said non-librarians may choose to attend the unconference. Discussion followed about how this may change the content of the conference, possibly for the better.
- Discussion followed about attracting more vendors.

**Massachusetts ebook program:** In December Steve Spohn met with the board to discuss ways to reach schools with this program. Judi Paradis reported:

- *Training:* MSLA can investigate ways to roll out training in conjunction with area directors.
- *Collection development:* How do we give school librarians a voice on the collection development? School librarians Trish London (Avon) and Cathy Collins (Sharon) are on the state ebook team.
- *Awareness:* Inform all school librarians about the ebook program. Robin Cicchetti suggested a piece about the ebook program in the ASCD newsletter. Leslie Lomasson was suggested as a good person to write this, because Amherst High School library was part of the pilot program.

**Awards:** Sandy Kelly presented the slate of award winners, but mentioned the possibility that some electronically submitted awards applications and nominations may not have made it through. Sandy will send confirmation email about awards to allow time for stray submissions. Kathy Lowe proposed four Lifetime Service awards for this year. Provisional voting for awards unanimously approved.

**Administrator Advocate Award:**

Casey Handfield, Principal - Auburn HS

**PALS (Parents as Library Supporters):**

Sharon High School PTSO

Allen Avenue Parents and Teachers - N Attleboro

**MSLA Research Grant:**

Robin Cicchetti

**Lifetime Achievement:**

Carol Gordon

Shelley Glantz

Gerri Fegan

Sandy Kelly

**Service Award:**

Amy Short

Linda Coviello

**President's Award:**

Maya Bery- Carlisle

Katherine Steiger - Needham

Halley Zanconato - Dartmouth

**M.S.L.A. (Super Librarian):**

Cathy Collins - SE

Stacey Kitsis- MW

Jessica Pollack - West

Nancy Kellner - Central

Sheila Geraty - NE

Reba Tierney - Boston

**Web Seal of Excellence:**

Wachusett Regional HS - Alana Stern

Florence Sawyer School - Michael Caliguiri

Dennett Elementary School - Geraldine O'Reilly

Canton HS - Joanne Teliszewski

**School Library Advocate Award:**

Melissa DeFilippi – Swampscott  
Dedham Library Innovation Team

**Audrey Friend Award:**

Christine Smith

**Ellen Berne Pathfinder Award:**

Sharon Lux

**LibGuide discount for MSLA members:** Jennifer St. Michel librarian is working to get us a member discount based on new MSLA members registering, which will be discussed at the February meeting.

**MassCUE conference:** Carrie Tucker reported on the Massachusetts Computer Using Educators conference October 22-23, 2014, at Gillette Stadium. Highlights:

- Laura Gardner, Kathleen Porter, and Carrie Tucker staffed an MSLA table.
- Samantha Kane and Laura Gardner were presenters.
- Pam Harland, school librarian and president of the New Hampshire School Library Association, offered very well attended sessions for school librarians.
- Carolyn Jacobs of PBS Learning Media attended as a vendor and is interested in exhibiting at MSLA conference.

**Legislative committee:** Kendall Boninti and Keri Martin reported:

- Representative Sean Garballey of Arlington will chair the commission forming to study school libraries.
- A script of talking points for public hearings is available for anyone who will speak at legislative hearings and legislative breakfasts. Kathy Lowe suggested short, lively presentations will get the best reception.

**Rethinking Equity and Teaching for English Language Learners/Sheltered English**

**Immersion:** School librarians are required to earn this endorsement as part of the DESE license renewal process beginning in 2016. EDCO is offering two courses taught by Karen Sekiguchi of Danvers Public Schools. At this time, both are full. Judi Paradis has spoken with Rick Atkins of EDCO about the possibility of offering additional courses in more locations, possibly coordinated by area directors.

**Nomination committee:** Anita Cellucci will chair the committee to coordinate the election of board members for 2015-2016. Committee members include Amy Short, Ann Perham, Kat Steiger, and possibly Linda Friel.

**Retiree special interest group:** Kathy Dubrowski (kathydubro@gmail.com) seeks ideas for what retirees could do to support MSLA members who are current school librarians. Attending public hearings, attending legislative breakfasts, and mentoring were some suggestions.

Motion to adjourn unanimously approved at 6:10.