

**MSLA Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 12, 2008
John Glenn Middle School
Bedford, MA**

Judi Paradis graciously took minutes for this meeting since Carol Klatt arrived late. The following members attended: Karen Deyo, Valerie Diggs, Kathy Dubrovsky, Gerri Fegan, Linda Friel, Kahla Jourdan, Carol Klatt, Kathy Lowe, Judi Paradis, Ann Perham, Bob Roth, Char Sidell, Jeannette Sisco, Amy Sprung, Sue Ellen Szymanski, Lynn Weeks, and Elizabeth Zimmer.

Consent Agenda Vote

Ann Perham made motion to accept consent agenda and seconded by Kahla Jourdan. We voted unanimously to accept:

- Minutes of February 15, 2008 meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- Executive Director's Report
- MBLC Update
- Membership Update
- Conference Committee Update

February Action Items – Questions/Discussion

Action Item	Status
Barbara Andrews and Bob Helmer will write a policy for the use of the MSLA credit card to present to the board at the next meeting.	Unable to attend meeting.
Kathy Lowe will set up conference and membership registrations on RegOnline.	See Executive Director report.
An online forum to discuss membership dues increases will be set-up on Chatzy.com from midnight 3/24 through midnight 4/4.	See Executive Director report.
An email vote for the membership dues increase and President-Elect nomination will be held online from midnight 4/7 until midnight 4/11.	See Executive Director report.
The New Membership Category Committee will prepare details about possible new membership categories and their associated costs for the next board meeting.	The board took this up at the meeting (see below).

New Business

Credit Card Policy Draft (Helmer/Andrews)

Bob Helmer and Barbara Andrews were unable to attend.

Conference Planner (2-year contract) Vote

The board considered the proposed contract submitted by Melissa Lynch, Conference Coordinator. The board suggested that the Conference Coordinator be offered a \$600 increase in 2008 and 2009 above her current \$3600 fee, bringing the total to \$4200 in 2008 and \$4800 in 2009. Kathy Lowe and Sandy Kelly will discuss this offer with Melissa Lynch and report back to the board

Potential Joint Conference with CASL

Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL) proposed hosting a joint conference with MSLA. We would rotate site of conference and take turns planning conference. No joint planning or funding—just go to an every other year plan. MSLA Conference Committee was not sure this would be well received by our membership and was concerned about revenue loss if we did not host conference. We discussed whether there was any potential benefit to this—perhaps better speakers or more vendors? We could have a larger venue, and of course, less work for our conference committee if we didn't have to plan entire conference every year. We think it might be a

hard sell to our members. We could put question on our ballot this spring asking membership for their input (nonbinding). There was some speculation that they may want to use Massachusetts as a model. Consensus is that we should poll our members this spring and base decision on what they report out.

MLA Conference Falmouth (Lowe/Kelly)

The board agreed to pay for registration, hotel and meals for Kathy Lowe to attend the MLA conference on May 8-9 and provide an MSLA display in the exhibit hall.

Graphic Novel Symposium

Joint project with MLA to sponsor a Saturday program during the 2009 MLA conference focused on graphic novels. Public (especially students) would be invited. Opportunity for school librarians to find out more about this, and Ann Perham believes there are many reasons for us to be invested in this. We are planning toward May 9, 2009 as part of the MLA conference in Springfield (Mass Municipal Center). This could also help us extend our reach to other professionals, such as reading teachers, literacy coaches, SPED teachers, etc. We need some people to serve on planning committee (Char Sidell and Jeannette Sisco are interested in joining). Kathy Lowe will serve as liaison between planning committee and MSLA board. Graphic novel expert Robin Brenner will also be a member of the planning committee.

Thinkfinity Training (Dubrovsky)

Kathy Dubrovsky was accepted to training by DOE for this site, which replaces Marco Polo. Part of her training will be to train others—and she would like to offer training to MSLA members this summer. Ann Perham recommended that she contact Framingham State College to be able to offer this for credit. Kathy will provide more details to the board as they become available.

Old Business

Friends of MSLA Membership Proposal (Fegan/Friel/Paradis/Lowe)

There was some discussion about the possible category names for membership and their associated monetary contributions. The board decided to create a separate category for vendors with the same dues and privileges as professional members. Vendor members can be listed on the MSLA web site that could link directly to the company's site. School library supporters will be invited to join the Friends of MSLA for a donation. There will be three tiers of donations: \$25, \$50, and \$100. Various names for these tiers were considered, but none were decided on. Board members were asked to keep thinking about what the three levels of Friends could be called. The board felt there was no need to create a separate category for academic librarians, as they can join under the existing professional category.

Update on Cost and Information on MSLA/MLA Book Award (Szymanski)

Sue Ellen Szymanski from MLA YSS came to present information about **Teen Book Award**. She is the liaison from MLA Youth Services Section. We have agreed to work on this joint venture, based on what is being done currently in Rhode Island. Sue Ellen is going to contact the MSLA listserv to look for members for a committee to work on this. Most of the work on this will be done electronically. It is unlikely that expenses for the award will be more than \$100. Kahla Jourdan proposed contacting the people at Salem State who work on the Mass. Children's Book Award for information about logistics etc. There was agreement that they might be a good resource and it would make sense to work with them (perhaps under their auspices).

Legislation Day Final Details (Paradis)

Legislation Day will be April 2nd in conjunction with MLA. Judi Paradis reported that there would not be any school library exhibits this year and to date, not many MSLA members have confirmed that they will be attending. Judi reviewed the agenda for the day and asked if anyone could bring a student who could tell a positive story about why their school library is important during the MSLA Legislative Awards. Jeannette Sisco said that she could bring a student from her school. Gerri Fegan also asked for more people to send her slides for the ongoing presentation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol S. Klatt