

Massachusetts School Library Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Wilson Middle School, Natick  
May 13, 2015

**Attending:** Amy Bloom, Kendall Boninti, Ellen Brandt, Anita Cellucci, Nora Clooney, Cathy Collins\*, Laura Beals D'Elia, Jennifer Dimmick, Linda Friel, Laura Gardner\*, Keri Johnson, Sam Kane, Leslie Lomasson, Kathy Lowe, Sharon Lux, Suzanne Matthews\*, Meg O'Neill, Judi Paradis, Ann Perham, Jennifer Reed, Amy Short, Carrie Tucker, Jennifer Varney

\*=virtual attendance

Meeting called to order at 4:05.

**Consent agenda:** Unanimously approved.

**Professional development:** Laura Beals D'Elia updated the board as follows

- *Better together workshop with MassCUE*--Deadline for proposals is extended and presentation focus is broadened to encourage a larger pool of proposals. Pixar representative will give keynote address.
- *English Language Learners and the School Library*--Karen Sekiguchi will offer this 3-day SEI/RETELL workshop through EDCO Collaborative in Cambridge and Springfield in July. A third workshop may be planned for fall.
- *EdCamp MSLA*--Laura is considering dates in September at Westborough High School. Event will be open to all educators.
- *ALA Midwinter*---MSLA is planning a pre-ALA conference in collaboration with PBS Learning Media at WGBH studios. Sessions may focus on digital resources and feature sessions by WGBH and others
- *Author event*---MSLA is planning a spring 2016 event with Scholastic featuring Donalyn Miller
- *SPED*---Laura and Rick Atkins of EDCO are tentatively planning a special education class for school librarians

**Membership:** Anita Cellucci offered an update including

- promoting free membership for school library students
- encouraging members to recruit new members and become eligible for free Scholastic conference registration

**Twitter chat:** Amy Short reported that the joint chat, held Tuesday, May 12, between MSLA and Massachusetts Secondary Schools Administrators' Association had good participation from both organizations.

**Executive director:** Job description was updated to reflect current practice. After board discussion, it was unanimously approved.

**Legislative commission:** Judi Paradis reported.

- Judi met April 21 in Quincy with Robin Cicchetti and Carol Gordon to plan a survey to gather data on Massachusetts school libraries
- Committee met at State House with others on April 30
  - two phases: quantitative survey followed by qualitative data assessment
  - survey response below 100% can still be meaningful
  - funding possibilities from unbiased sources (probably not MSLA)
  - timetable established

**School librarian licensure programs:**

- Old Dominion University offers a fast track for licensed teachers to earn the school library license and wants MSLA to share news about the program with membership
- Judi Paradis would like to form a task force for the purpose of compiling a list of local and online programs leading to DESE school library licensure
- Judi would like MSLA to encourage teachers in other areas to pursue school library licensure

**MSLA website:** Ann Perham asked the board to consider new platforms for an upgraded and redesigned website. Weebly Pro and Google Sites were among those considered. After discussion, it was agreed that Weebly Pro is affordable (<\$1200) and allows easy collaboration. Ann asked the board to consider content. Goal is for board members to maintain their own content areas.

**MSLA Board 2015-2016:** A list of MSLA board members is [here](#).

**2015-2016 budget:** Linda Friel and Jen Varney reported on the budget and encouraged board members to submit reimbursement requests soon so the fiscal year can be closed in a timely manner.

**Lapsed members:** Kathy Lowe asked area directors to call lapsed members. Laura Gardner was exceptional in calling people in the southeast region. Laura reported that a member from Westport passed away and asked the board to make a \$25 donation to the school library of the deceased in keeping with MSLA custom.

**A final note:** At this, the last meeting for the 2014-2015 board, Judi Paradis extended her thanks.

Meeting adjourned at 6:06

*Next meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2015, at Westborough High School. This is the first meeting of the 2015-2016 board.*