

**Massachusetts School Library Association
Board Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2016
Westborough High School**

In-person attendees: Anita Cellucci, Laura D'Elia, Kathy Lowe, Ellen Brandt, Jen Varney, Patsy Divver, Judi Paradis, Carrie Tucker, Mary Millette and Robyn York

Virtual attendees:

Keri Johnson, Laura Gardner, Amy Short, Jennifer Reed, Kim Cochrane, Ann Perham, Laura Luker, Meg O'Neill, Reba Tierney, Cathy Collins

Skype link (for virtual attendees): <https://join.skype.com/AYUxzohEITho>

Consent Agenda

Kathy L. made point of clarification about April minutes. Consent agenda was approved.

Old Business:

Kathy Lowe Review - Update - Anita Cellucci

The reviews were positive for Kathy, and she received a bonus.

Better Together Update - Laura D'Elia and Kathy Lowe

Bookfest wrapup: Kathy L. shared that we made a \$2300 (?) profit. Laura D. said that the reviews were overwhelmingly positive.

Better Together: Laura got in 21 proposals and needed 18, so there will be a few rejection letters sent out this year. Registration will open on June 1 so that teachers can get reimbursed for the registration fee from their school before summer break. Hoping to get 6 sponsors for this event.

Summer Retreat Update - Anita Cellucci

There has been a change. The summer retreat on June 29 will be at Leslie Lomasson's summer home on Lake Mattawa in Orange, MA from 10am-3pm.

Overview of next year's schedule:

June 29 - Retreat

September 14 - Virtual

October 1 - Retreat

November 16 - Virtual

February 15 - Virtual

March 4 - Retreat

May 17 - Virtual

Retreats will be one at a members house and one at a for-fee location.

New Business:

Annual Budget - Jen Varney and All

Area directors and awards have come in under budget. Jen V. mentioned that the fees have increased for the Legislative Day and we need to increase the line item Legislative Day Expenses to \$2500. Ann P. asked that the \$500 allotted for the Berne Pathfinder Award be removed.

Delete AASL Conference line item for next year.

Under Professional Development, take out winter and spring for next year.

Board decided to move the MSLA Conference under Professional Development rather than having standalone category.

Total income \$65,000, and we spent about \$12,000 more than that.

Kathy L. suggested that we add \$2,000 to Bookfest budget for appetizers since UMass Amherst comped the apps this year and next facility may not.

Eliminated postage budget on several items.

Web conversion fee was eliminated for next year.

Mileage cost is .54/mile, based on federal rate.

Adding Board Expenses category to budget where we can allot money for retreat-style board meetings at locations that will cost money. Garden in the Woods was \$300, but put in \$500 to have some extra in case fees increase.

Put in \$500 for Conference Committee. Conference Coordinator budget will be set around \$6,000.

Board voted in favor of giving Melissa Lynch Conference Coordinator a bonus of \$600.

Conference AV fees increased to \$48,000.

Printing budget set at \$3,000.

Speakers budget set at \$10,000 & their travel at \$3,000.

Mileage for conference set at \$400.

Conference refunds set at \$1,000.

Conference supplies set at \$1,000.
CVent and CC fees set at \$3,900.

Tips for staff at conference set at \$150.

Accounting and Tax Prep - there is an \$85 fee in MA for registering as a nonprofit, so can leave fee at \$200 and tax prep left at \$1,500.

Operating Costs: reduce mileage to \$1,000, left other budget totals the same.

Website Updates - Ann Perham and All

Reminder to update your website. Set a time each month to check in with the site and update your page.

Ann P. would like an OK to change the menu items.

Board discussed allotting time at a future meeting to discuss the website. Ahead of time, Board members would study exemplary pages and prepare their content ahead of time. During the meeting, members would update their pages and get immediate feedback and coaching from fellow members.

MTA Update - Anita Cellucci

Elena Schuck, West Yarmouth, attended the meeting and reported back. Not much legislation was put forth and voted on. Sue Doherty did not get re-elected, which is disappointing since she is a strong library advocate.

New tax on wealthiest MA residents to fund roads and education so that may be a boost to funding.

Library Survey Update - Judi Paradis

*764 people responded to the school library survey according to the Dept of Ed.

Board members and survey takers wondered if the IP address authentication used by

DESE to categorize responses by town/district would be skewed if the librarian took the survey at home as opposed to the town/district in which they work.

New Board Members - Anita Cellucci

Rachel Bouhanda and Liz Soeiro will be co-chairs for Legislative Committee. Jen Thomas will be a Co-AD in Southeast. Amy Bloom will step for Metrowest Co-AD. Jen Reed will be Children's Literacy Liaison, which may evolve into a Board position. This position would involve outreach to Boston Book, Mass Reading Assoc., summer reading, and other literacy concerns.

The Board approved the board appointments listed above.

MSLA Twitter

There are some larger issues that warrant discussion at a later date.

SPED/EDCO Course - Laura D'Elia

Rick Atkins and Barb Fecteau from EDCO are ready to provide additional coursework through the summer and fall. Mary M. suggested that EDCO might prioritize waiting list and/or enrollment based on when certification is due for renewal.

Thank you to those who have served and are moving on.

6:10 Adjourn