

**Massachusetts School Library Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2017
Virtual Meeting**

Attending Virtually: Anita Cellucci, Kathy Lowe, Amy Bloom, Ann Perham, Jen Varney, Kelly McManus, Rachel Bouhanda, Rebekah Tierney, Laura D'Elia, Amy Short, Laura Luker, Kim Cochrane, Laura Gardner, Jennifer Dimmick, Laura Harrington, Suzanne Matthews, Chani Craig, Kelly McManus, Robyn York, Carrie Tucker

**Old Business
Consent Agenda**

Motion to accept by Amy Short, Reba Tierney has seconded, consent agenda approved.

Awards Update/Action Items - Ann Perham and Amy Short

The Awards Committee is looking at making changes to awards in Super Librarian's and President's Award to allow candidates to be chosen regardless of region and make it more state-based. These awards would be decided through a subcommittee. In addition, Ann and Amy propose having a third member of the Awards Committee. Every year a new member rotates in, for a two-year term; that way there will be two experienced members and only one who is learning.

There was discussion that some people said that the awards ceremony was too long. Exec Board members thought it went well and was not too long.

Kathy Lowe reminded us that we made changes to policy and language that allows the chairs to make some changes without a vote. Ann and Amy wanted to make sure there was a discussion before they made final decisions.

Suzanne Matthews suggested that the language on the website needs to be clarified. The President's Award specifically states that candidate must have been a librarian for at least one year, while The Super Librarian Award has vague language in regard to years of service.

Amy Short shared that there are 5 slots left for presenting awards at school committee meetings, so please sign up for one.

Budget Vote - Jen Varney, Kathy Lowe, Anita Cellucci

The conference was lucrative and even though bills are coming in, Jen expects a healthy profit. Suzanne Matthews wondered if we could offer more, like hotel and travel expense reimbursement, to authors rather than just a dinner ticket. Kathy Lowe explained that the conference gives authors free marketing and exposure to people likely to buy their books and that is why we have not offered additional compensation.

Laura Luker motioned to approve next year's budget, Kelly McManus seconded, and budget was approved.

New Business

Nominee Committee Updates and the Slate- Carrie Tucker

Carrie said that she has no changes to the slate and we can wait until the June meeting to update.

Action Plans/Annual Reports due June 14 - Anita Cellucci

Annual report for this year's action plan is due by June 14 and should be put in the Google folder.

Action Plans will be created in the fall. If you have moved to a new role, you will work on the action plan for that new role.

[MLS Database update](#) - Anita Cellucci

Librarians may want to wait to purchase individual subscriptions. MLS and some librarians are working on a potential deal for some of the databases that were lost. Wait until next school year to see if there are any better options before that time.

[SLJ Innovator Basecamp](#) - Anita Cellucci & Kathy Lowe

We have 2 candidates for free/complimentary tickets to this event: Carrie Tucker and Kelly McManus, and it looks like they will be able to attend. SLJ is looking to partner with us for this event, and make it an annual event.

Annual Members' Meeting - Decide on Format & Date - Anita Cellucci

- [2016 Annual report](#)

Anita asked for feedback on how to present the information on the website. We like the infographic format, and it was retweeted frequently. Anita used Smore to present last year's (2015-16) Annual Report.

Discussion - Conference update and going forward - Anita, Kathy, Carrie, All

Conference - Anita Cellucci

We need to decide if we want to go back to yearly conferences, and whether we want to have a 2-day conference. Laura D'Elia is stepping away from PLC Co-Chair, and Laura Luker, who was co-chairing, will take over as chair and work with a conference subcommittee.

Exec board members liked the 2-hour workshop format and beginning the day with Ignite sessions. Others suggested that there be a session with winners of the Web Seal of Excellence so librarians can get tips and ideas for their own website. Attendance on both days at the conference was about equal, and allows for members to choose a weekend or week day, whatever will work for their schedule.

Jennifer Dimmick suggested that we hold an annual 2-day conference every year so that librarians can build it into their yearly budget and make regular plans for any library closures that happen as a result. Having many one day events doesn't bring in as many participants, or the same range of participants that the annual conference brings in.

Laura D'Elia said that planning 4 smaller events was much more labor intensive than planning the conference. Planning the conference was more efficient and fiscally wise use because the

conference draws more participants. Laura Luker suggested that smaller, shorter events occur within regions rather than being larger MSLA events so that there are other, closer regional options for librarians.

Hosting an event at WGBH was labor intensive and expensive, but they are offering us a free webinar option, so MSLA should take advantage of that offer. We will continue to partner with MassCUE, and URI has expressed interest in partnering.

Some members suggested that the Cape was too far for members from Western Mass. Kathy Lowe said that we are exploring the DCU Center in Worcester, and she suggested the Beechwood Hotel as an alternative. The DCU Center is expensive, but would have the accommodations for the size of our conference.

Carrie suggested that we might be limited by what dates are available for the next conference if it were to happen in the fall. Laura D'Elia said that it would be too late to plan a fall conference anyway, and the Executive Board was in agreement that the spring date was better.

Laura D'Elia said that the PLC has decided not to host Better Together or EdCamp. EdCamp was a great event, but poorly attended. Better Together is on hold for this year as we explore our relationship with MassCUE. Better Together will be held next year.

Thank you Laura D'Elia for your hard work.

Anita Cellucci said goodbye as president and welcomed Carrie Tucker as new president. Thank you as well to Anita for your tireless service as president.

The next meeting is planned for June 14 and will be held at Westborough High School from 4-6 pm. All incoming and outgoing members are welcome to attend to say hello and goodbye. There is an optional dinner afterwards.

Chani Craig announced she is moving to Whitefish, MT and shared her email chanimcraig@gmail.com. More thank you's to Chani - and best wishes for your future endeavors.

Jennifer Dimmick moved to end meeting and Laura Gardner seconded. Meeting ended at 5:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Robyn York