

Massachusetts School Library Association
Board Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2014
Wilson Middle School, Natick

Meeting called to order at 4:10.

Attending: Chani Craig (virtual) Judi Paradis, Anita Cellucci, Carrie Tucker, Keri Martin, Amy Bloom, Nora Clooney, Sandy Kelly, Jennifer Dimmick, Ellen Brandt, Kathleen Porter, Jennifer Reed, Cindy Erle, Julie Farrell, Leslie Lomasson, Amy Short, Suzanne Mathews, Ann Perham Sharon Lux, Kathy Lowe

Consent agenda: Approved unanimously

MassCUE conference: Oct 22-23, 2014. Samantha Kane, Kathleen Porter, Carrie Tucker, and Laura Gardner will staff a table in the nonprofit exhibit area. In addition, Samantha Kane, along with Susan Cheever will lead a session on Collaboration and Decision-making. Discussion followed about handouts for the MSLAs table: bookmarks, better together materials, DESE MSLA teacher rubric document. Judi Paradis will mail Kathleen materials for table. Next year, at MassCUE's request, we will offer a session about MSLA membership.

Setting priorities: Judi Paradis summarized the results of the board's September priority-setting exercise as follows:

- professional development
- membership
- outreach
- legislation

Legislation committee: Judi Paradis, Kendall Boninti, and Rep. Sean Garballey met to discuss passage of the bill. Rep Garballey was very positive and suggested we plan meetings in regions about state of things and advocacy.

DESE evaluation rubric: Springfield Public Schools will not use the implementation support document developed by MSLA, Judi Paradis reports, because the document does not address the 'exemplary' and 'needs improvement' categories. Discussion followed, and a working group of four was proposed to expand the scope of the document.

Chelmsford Public Schools: In September Chelmsford eliminated its district Head of Libraries position, held by Valerie Diggs. During her tenure, Valerie served as president of MSLA, developed a nationally recognized library program at Chelmsford High School, represented school libraries on a national level, and consistently modeled excellence and offered support to new

professionals. Discussion followed about the dearth of qualified librarians and districts eliminating positions.

Membership: Board discussed possible ways to improve outreach. Judi Paradis proposes area directors get in touch with members at the local levels and have discussions about ways MSLA can enhance librarian lives.

Budget: Linda Friel has concerns about membership, according to Judi Paradis. Judi suggested we investigate a series of one-day conferences as a replacement to our traditional weekend conference. Judi proposed working groups for membership and budget. Linda Friel, Anita Cellucci, and Judi will meet on budget. All board members welcome.

Professional development: Judi believes we should form groups to pursue ways to offer professional development opportunities in conjunction with other groups. Ellen Brandt expressed interest in such a group.

Boston book festival: MSLA, Massachusetts Library Association, and Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners will have booth as part of the October 25 book fair.

Motion to adjourn unanimously approved.