

**Massachusetts School Library Association
Board Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2015
Westborough High School**

Attending in person: Ann Perham, Jennifer Varney, Anita Cellucci, Kathy Lowe, Katherine Steiger, Laura D'Elia, Patsy Divver, Meg O'Neill, Laura Gardner, Ellen Brandt, Robyn York

Virtual attendance: Laura Luker, Amy Short, Judi Paradis, Kendall Boninti, Keri Johnson, Suzanne Matthews, Leslie Lomasson, Kim Cochrane

Meeting commenced at 4:10 PM

Consent Agenda was accepted.

Old Business

Website update - Ann Perham

Board members need to let Ann know what you need to be put up, especially in regard to images on your pages because no one has access to editing the image at the top of the page – that has to be mediated.

The website needs to have handicapped accessibility: everybody needs to put an alt tag in on their photo and backup/save photos used on the website. See instructions in Ann's website report.

The Board agreed that the website needs to have one location for information, format consistency, and link backs/breadcrumbs on long posts.

Tentative rollout date will be December 2. John, the website manager, will need to have 24 hour period before then to prep the site for going live. Deadline for all edits and updates on new site will be 11/25/15.

New Business

PLC update - Laura D'Elia, Kathy Lowe

Spring Book Fest discussion: Laura said she is having some difficulty locating a venue and UMass Amherst is available. The board agreed that UMass will be the site.

Digital Learning Day is just around the corner. Kathy L. added that extra sessions have been added and members who are already registered can go in and edit their reservations to attend these added sessions.

There will be an ELL course on the cape in the summer, and a SPED course in March.

ALA Midwinter – Kathy L. said that there has been a change that now ALA is requiring people who want to attend the Friday evening exhibit hall opening to purchase a conference ticket. It has been an exhibits only pass event in the past– not a conference fee. Kathy L. will follow up with ALA to see if she can get reduced fees.

PLC Co-chair vote for acceptance - Anita Cellucci

Anita presented a short bio on Rachel Small, who is the nominee for PLC Co-chair. Laura D., current chair of the PLC Committee, expressed that she would enjoy working with Rachel and that she knows that Rachel has a lot to offer to our group.

Ellen B. made first motion, Jen V. seconded, and Rachel Small's nomination was approved by the executive board.

Anita will send Rachel an official letter for her nomination approval.

AASL takeaways - Kathy Lowe, Judi Paradis, Laura D'Elia, Anita Cellucci

Skipped over this item to go to Bookmark discussion.

Returned to this item at the end of the meeting.

Laura D. felt that she connected well with local members because she was able to attend sessions run by our members – Anita, etc.

Kathy L. emphasized that the relationships you can form at the national professional level contribute to your own professional practice and growth.

Next meeting is in Phoenix.

Amy S. agreed with Kathy L. that she was able to meet many other librarians, attended great sessions, and heard that sessions our members presented were great.

Bookmark Committee/Twitter Chat Update - Anita Cellucci, Judi Paradis, Amy Short

Nov. 30 – Amy Short will kick off a week of advocacy on the MSLA Twitter chat. Amy will post questions in the AM and give people the whole day to ponder the questions and post throughout the day. A week of people interacting with one another about various areas of advocacy for school libraries. One day will focus on the bookmark contest.

Advocacy Update: NEASC Removing Libraries from Accreditation - Cathy Collins

Anita presented on behalf of Cathy. Cathy has spoken with rep from NEASC. He said that the academic libraries are under review at this point and that school libraries will be under review beginning in January and ending in June. There is background investigative and advocacy work going on through Mass Library System, NESLA, and other agencies. Kathy read an email from Elaine Mokrzycki received from the Associate Director of NEASC who stated, "We have made no changes, nor do I know of any planned changes, to eliminate the need for a librarian/media specialist in our Standards."

December 16 Virtual Meeting: Plan 2017 Conference - Kathy Lowe

Kathy L. suggested that we start planning the 2017 conference. That will be our only agenda item that day.

MOS/STEM Library for Local Charitable Organization- Judi Paradis

Metrowest Big Brother/Big Sister wants to put together a science library, modeled after the Museum of Science Library, and is looking for funding and has asked for our help. Judi wondered if this could be a community outreach project for our group.

Laura D. asked if this was in scope of what we usually do. Is this new territory? After the Boston Marathon bombing, we donated books to Mrs. Martin's school library in remembrance of her son who was killed in the bombings, which is the only time we have done something similar.

Big Brother/Big Sister organization pairs students with adult mentors. Judi thinks that we could use our knowledge base and skills to contribute to this organization.

Patsy D. and Laura D. asked for clarification about what this organization would need and how would we contribute. Laura D. suggested that we discuss this issue a little further before we decide to commit to helping because we need to figure out how we could contribute. Judi P. had thought of First Book (?) to help fund this project. Also, she suggested a raffle basket that might benefit this project (at Digital Learning Day/ALA Midwinter??).

Patsy D. seconded Laura D.'s suggestion that we talk about the implications and restrictions that this service project would present. Judi P. suggested that we put a call out to MSLA listserv for book list and fundraising ideas. Maybe we can hold a scholarship social or similar event to provide funding.

CVENT Funding - Kathy Lowe

We contracted for 500 registrations and we are at 65% of that amount. Cvent sent a

proposal for adding more spots so that we don't get penalized after-the-fact for going over. Asking the board to approve the \$2,0048 to add more registration spots.

Vote to add this money to the budget was approved.

MBLC Budget - Kathy Lowe

Kathy L. represents MSLA on the MLA Legislative Committee. Big cuts were made in this year's and next year's MBLC budget. School libraries do benefit from the funding of the MBLC budget. Advocacy should be all-year – not just legislative day. By legislative day most budget decisions have already been made. Kathy L. shared blank post cards with the executive board to fill out with a quote about how school libraries benefit from MBLs funding. She will mail any she receives. John Palfrey has been nominated by the Mass. Library Association (MLA) for their Library Advocate award. Kathy L. has proposed that Palfrey also be approved as MSLA's winner for School Library Advocate award.

Motion to approve joint award with MLA for School Library Advocate was approved. The award will be presented at the Legislative Day, March 8 at the State House.

MRA Grants - Kim Cochrane

Mass Reading Association Conference is April 8 in Quincy. Speaker Doug Fisher from San Diego State. The Sylvia Brown Research Award - recipients can get up to \$1,000 grant for librarian working with reading teacher or specialist, but at least one of the people applying must be a member of MRA. Can find out about it on the MRA page. Sherry Alleman oversees that award.

ALA Midwinter: MSLA Booth (w/NESLA) - Anita Cellucci & Kathy Lowe

MSLA will share a booth in the vendor hall with NESLA and we will be sharing costs, involving wifi and electric. Kathy L. was able to get other fees waived. Kathy L. said that she will help with some setup at the vendor hall, but someone else needs to organize the display. We can call out to other MSLA members for staffing this booth. Admission is free for booth staff. We are showing off as an organization. Last time ALA Midwinter was in Boston, 2008, the enlarged bookmarks were a big draw – so perhaps we need to come up with some striking visuals.

Awards: Change Berne Pathfinder Award - Ann Perham & Amy Short

Two proposals for language change. Berne award used to come with monetary award, but Amy proposes we drop the money for this award and give a plaque instead. There is no obvious reason for the funding. Also, the Peggy Hallisey Lifetime Achievement Award has been officially renamed, but the name change has not been changed on other documents. The change on the Hallisey award was already approved, but didn't get

implemented – therefore, doesn't need a vote.

Jan. 8 is the deadline for nominations for the Presidents and Newbie Awards, regions to submit Super Librarian Awards. Lifetime Achievement, Advocate award winners will speak at the Ignite Sessions at Spring Bookfest.

Board approved language change for Berne award.

Awards Timeline & Area Director Responsibilities - Ann Perham & Amy Short

January 8 is the deadline for nominations.

MassCUE Update: Speaker/Traveling Table Show - Laura Gardner & Cathy Collins

Laura G. reported that the MSLA table was a success. Both Laura and Cathy presented library presentations at MassCUE, which were also a success. Laura presented about a grant-funded project and about the green screen she uses with students.

Laura G. reported about the special interest group for Makerspaces, which grew out of MassCUE as well as other events in the past. Ellen B. spoke about a recent field trip to the Peabody Institute's Makerspace. This site has some open equipment that doesn't require training and areas that require that training. The Peabody Institute runs workshops and partners with the community on programs and projects. They started this makerspace by gathering volunteers from the community.

Agency by Design and Systems Design contribute to makerspace design, implementation, and standards.

6:00 Adjourn