

**MSLA Executive Committee Minutes—Executive Summary**  
**Chelmsford High School**  
**February 15, 2012**

**Attending:** Hugh Ahearn, Leigh Barnes, Christine Brown, Kim Chochrane, Linda Cov iello, Michael Deschenes, Valerie Diggs, Cindy Erle, Julie Farrell, Gerri Fegan, Sharon Hamer, Cecily Houston, Sandy Kelly, Kathy Lowe, Judi Paradis, Ann Perham, Eleanor Rogers, Christine Steinhauser, Maureen Tanetta, Lynne Weeks

**Conference:** Kathy Lowe reports that our annual conference is in good shape. She expects attendance to easily top 400 attendees. There are 46 exhibitors, which is comparable to last year, and some are new. Sunday attendance is way up this year. Valerie Diggs has NEASC visit to Chelmsford High School on March 4-5 and must be present that weekend. She will join us Sunday night, and will create a DVD greeting for the conference on Monday. She expressed regret about missing the conference.

**MRA Conference:** Christine Brown put out an invitation to the Mass. Reading Association annual conference, April 12-13 in Sturbridge. She said several children's authors coming, and many workshops are available. The conference is open to librarians and teacher and the information can be found here: <http://www.massreading.org/conference/index.html>

**Nominating Committee for MSLA Officers:** Judi Paradis was nominated for MSLA president for the coming term. Ann Perham is putting a ballot together for an election to be completed on April 1.

**NESLA:** New England School Library Association Leadership Summit is on March 24 at SERESC in Bedford NH with Patrick Larkin, principal of Burlington HS and Shannon Miller, 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expert in un-conferencing, are presenting in an "un-conference" format. Gerri recommended that area directors and others who work with groups consider attending. A link to conference information is here: <http://www.neslaonline.org/>

**Library Legislation Day:** MSLA and MLA are sending representatives to this national lobbying day in May. Julie Farrell is going to try to attend on behalf of MSLA.

**WGEE:** Sandy shared a [document](#) with the board from WGEE, supporting bill H1054 and said we have permission to share it with administrators etc. Sandy asked us to review it to support the bill as amended. Sandy said we are being asked to submit a letter of support and she will contact Valerie to work on this.

**National School Board Association Conference** is in Boston on April 21-22 and AASL asked if MSLA would staff an AASL booth at this event. Several members expressed interest in staffing this booth and Kathy is going to let AASL know we are interested in helping with this.

**Updating standards and rubrics:** We are exploring the idea of creating a set of regional library standards and rubrics with the other New England School Library Associations, most likely through NESLA. This idea stemmed from a discussion with the Region I (New England) delegates to the AASL midwinter conference in Dallas last month. We see some advantages to this approach, but also had some concerns. We thought it was important to have all states in New England on board if we go forward with this. Gerri Fegan agreed to start a conversation about this at the next NESLA meeting.

We are certain that our standards do need updating, whether at the state or regional level to reflect new realities in technology, collection development, etc.

**MA PTA Conference:** The annual PTA conference is coming up on March 16-17 and they've asked if we would like to participate in some way. We determined that we have not found this association to be as productive as we'd hoped, and decided not to participate in this event.

**California Advocacy Campaign:** Valerie and Judi talked about what the California School Library Association was doing to advocate for school libraries in their state. There were lots of good ideas for PR and we suggested looking at their presentation in-depth at another meeting.

**Support of Choose Privacy Week and Banned Website Day:** Valerie suggested we talk at greater length about how we might promote this.

**ACRL:** Laura Hibbler and Valerie have been in touch about crafting a joint statement from MSLA and ACRL. There is a conference coming up for the New England Library Instruction Group's Annual Program. It's going to be on June 1 at Mount Wachusett Community College. Andrew Asher from the ERIAL Project is the keynote speaker. The theme is "Connecting to Research through People and Process." The group is soliciting proposals from high school librarians from who might be interested in presenting on the research process of high school students: [http://nelig.acrlnec.org/call\\_for\\_proposals\\_2012](http://nelig.acrlnec.org/call_for_proposals_2012)

**MBLC:** Kim Cochrane met with with Shelly Casada about the Science is Everywhere Grant for \$7500 for school/public librarians if the librarian partners with a science teacher to offer an after school program.

