

**MSLA Executive Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 14, 2007**  
**Virtual Meeting: [www.chatzy.com/678675115174](http://www.chatzy.com/678675115174)**

This meeting was called to order shortly after 4:00 pm when a quorum was reached. Kathy Lowe presided over the meeting substituting for Sandy Kelly who was at the MassCue conference. The following members attended: Barbara Andrews, Katie Baxter, Bruce Cramer, Valerie Diggs, Patsy Divver, Gerri Fegan, Pat Fontes, Linda Friel, Bob Helmer, Kahla Jourdan, Mary Kelleher, Pat Keogh, Carol Klatt, Diane Libbey, Kathy Lowe, Heather MacPherson, Judi Paradis, Ann Perham, Char Sidell, Amy Sprung, Sue Ellen Szymanski, Lynn Weeks, and Elizabeth Zimmer.

<b>October Action Items</b>	
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Status</b>
All Board Members should review the information about the Governor's Working Group on Property Tax Over Reliance at <a href="http://devalpatrick.com/mpa.php">http://devalpatrick.com/mpa.php</a> and bring their opinion to the next meeting.	Tabled until January meeting.
All committee who haven't done so will submit their Action Plans for 2007-08.	Some are complete. All others are encouraged to finish their Action Plans before Thanksgiving!
All committees who haven't done so yet will submit their annual reports from 2006.	Done.
Area Directors will email Sandy a list of their area meeting dates and description of the events.	In progress.
Award Committee will select the 2007 award recipients.	Done.
Barbara Andrews will add a line item for the SLJ Summit to the budget in the amount of \$2000 annually.	Done.
Barbara Andrews will update the 07-08 Budget Report with the revised figures and put it on the board only page for a November vote.	Done.
Bob Roth and Judi Paradis will nominate Frank Smyzik for the Legislator Advocate Award.	
Bob Roth will write to Senators Kerry and Kennedy about NCLB when the activity is in the senate not the house.	
Conference Committee will investigate a way to honor veterans during the conference -- maybe Boy Scouts or ROTC for Monday, Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup> @ 9:45 am at Keynote at Sturbridge Host Hotel.	
Conference Committee will investigate the feasibility of using <a href="http://www.regonline.com/">http://www.regonline.com/</a> for Conference registrations.	
Kathy Dubrovsky will forward the email sent to Bob Kelly concerning the status of MassOne to Connie Louie at the DOE asking for confirmation of his email address in hopes of receiving a response.	
Kathy Lowe will research credit cards with frequent flier miles.	In progress.
Sandy Kelly and Ann Perham will convert the MSLA/MassCUE Joint Statement to PDF and put it up on the web page.	Done.
Sandy Kelly and Carrie Tucker will review the Award Chairs' job description and update it.	
Sandy Kelly will submit the revised 07-08 budget figures to Barbara Andrews.	Done.
Valerie Diggs will check our Information Fluency Standards for alignment with the new AASL Standards released in October 2007 and decide if any changes are needed.	Done. See committee reports.

### **Secretary's Report – Klatt**

October minutes were approved as written.

### **Treasurer's Report – Andrews**

Barbara Andrews reminded the board that the Net Worth figures are higher at the moment because not all of the conference expenses have been paid yet. There were no additional comments on the Treasurer's Report. See discussion under Old Business.

### **President's Report – Kelly**

No report posted.

### **Executive Director – Lowe**

Conference Update. It was reported that we had anticipated a lower member turnout at the conference this year but we are still expecting to make a small profit because vendor attendance was high and we negotiated a large portion off of the facility bill for the poor functioning of the Internet connections. The committee was applauded for doing a great job luring members into the vendor hall by offering drawings, passports, food, and additional browsing time. However, some members felt that there was too much vendor hall only time on Sunday that could be better spent in an additional session. We were responding to a specific request from the vendors to increase browsing time but the committee will look at the Sunday schedule again. The Author Fest and Exploratorium received lukewarm reviews and many feel that Sunday's sessions are too long and Monday's too short. It was suggested that we look at having the conference on 2 week days. We also got 59 new members. It was suggested that we perform a market analysis on the conference attendees to understand their reasons for attending and subgroups, i.e. long-time loyalty, required by job or other organizations, etc. Next years' conference is tentatively schedule for November 2 & 3 but will not be at the Sturbridge Host Hotel unless the wifi problems and on site technical support are provided. Any plans for a joint conference with MassCue will not be under consideration until 2009 at the earliest. A full report will be made at the January board meeting.

### **Reports & Announcements**

#### **Standards – Diggs**

Valerie Diggs reported the standards need updating to the new AASL standards. A new committee will be set up to work on this project as soon as possible.

#### **Conference Update – Lowe**

See Executive Director's report.

#### **Legislation – Paradis/Roth**

We are going ahead with a joint Legislation Day with MLA on April 2, 2008. Once again, we will be presenting our annual Bookmark Award Contest winners on this day. We are hoping to do some targeted lobbying of the Education Committee members as well as pushing for our bill H564. The Legislation Committee will be reporting via the listserv about supporting an adequacy study that would include the importance of school libraries in a child's education. Most importantly on our list at this moment is having the library teachers and supporting parents calling their state representatives to push H564.

#### **Bookmark Contest – Fegan**

The contest is on for April 2, 2008 and the theme this year is "School Libraries: the Heart of Your School." The tentative deadline for entries is February 25<sup>th</sup> and judging will begin the 1<sup>st</sup> week of March. The bookmarks were on display at the conference. They attracted a lot of attention, even from other hotel guests. It was suggested that we try to promote to a larger audience beyond the MSLA such as PTOs selling them for us, book stores, vendors in the vendor hall, public libraries or book fair vendors.

#### **Area Directors**

There have been a wide variety of activities, workshops, and meetings for the different areas. There were questions about how to provide PDP's for workshop attendees. Kathy Lowe reminded the AD's

that to get PDPs you need at least 10 hours on a topic and must produce a product. It must be approved by your principal and be in your Professional Development plan. There is more information about PDPs on the MSLA website.

### **Old Business**

**2007-08 Budget.** Barbara Andrews reminded the board that the budget is greater than our net worth. Historically, we have never spent our budget but feel it is important to include any possible expenses so we have a clear picture of what could be spent. Preparing a balanced budget in the future would be a good goal but would need us to project revenues.

A motion was made and approved to "Approve the budget for the coming year with the recommendation that MSLA work to generate a balanced budget." The words "coming year" refer to FY 6/2007 – 5/2008. There was some concern that requiring a balanced budget would lessen the services offered to our constituents but it was noted that a balanced budget was not required but just recommended.

**MSLA Credit Card.** Kathy Lowe will be researching this before the January meeting.

### **New Business**

**Governor's Working Group on Property Tax Over Reliance.** This topic was tabled until the January meeting.

**Conference Bags and Binders.** After much discussion, it was decided that Kathy Lowe send out a message on the listserv offering leftover conference bags with binders to our members for \$25 a set to see if she can sell them.

**Standards Committee.** Valerie Diggs asked for volunteers to be on the Standards Committee. The following people offered to help: Gerri Fegan, Kahla Jourdan, Linda Friel, and Lynn Weeks.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next meeting will be a virtual meeting on Chatzy on January 16, 2008.

*Respectfully submitted by,  
Carol Klatt  
MSLA Executive Secretary*