

Massachusetts School Library Association
April 12, 2023 5:00-7:00 pm
Zoom
Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Jenny Arch
Trent Bordok
Liz Cammilleri
Maria D'Orsi
Barb Fecteau
Michelle Fontaine
Morgan Keohane
Emily Kristofek
Emma Kwon
Laura Luker
Claudia Palframan
Iris Santana
Tinamarie Sheckells
Amy Short
Colleen Simpson
Luke Steere
Ella Stocker
Georgina Trebbe
Jen Varney
Alix Woznick

1. Welcome, check in, call to order, approve minutes of March meeting--- Jen: approved
2. Housekeeping items --- Jen
 - i. Send web updates to webmaster@maschoolibraries.org
3. Updates (if needed)
 - o Professional Learning - Alix / Luker (WOO-HOO!!!!)
 - i. Conference financial report (Michelle & Emily): Location cited by 1/3 of responses as reason people didn't attend. Looking at venue on the Natick/Framingham line for next year. Good financial result. Maybe risk a higher cost venue for next year.
 - o Treasurer --- Michelle Fontaine: Still working on conference financials. PO's still coming in from districts as they pay after completion of the conference. Totals in process. FY23 ends in June. \$138,289.79 net worth. Plan to look at conference revenue to revise conference budget and options for next year.

- MLS liaison update --- Christi Farrar in absentia
 - i. MLS membership updates will be due soon. Keep an eye for letters/emails about updating your school's membership. This is *critical* if you are a Commonwealth eBook Collection/Sora subscriber. If you have questions about your membership, reach out to Amanda (amanda@masslibsystem.org), Tressa (tressa@masslibsystem.org), or Christi (christif@masslibsystem.org)
 - ii. Sign up for MLS member update emails. Upcoming programs: asynchronous Intellectual Freedom course and free classes from Library Juice Academy). More announced in our newsletter. You can sign up for the mailing list from our homepage: <https://masslibsystem.org/>
 - iii. As always, feel free to reach out to MLS consultants.
 - iv. Advocacy --- Georgina
 - v. To do!! Survey: Goal is to find out different variations of how librarians are organized in MA. Give feedback to Georgina. Mass Center for the Book collaboration: working on a reading incentive program for kids.
 - Outreach & Strategic Plan Update - Debbie Froggatt
 - Office --- Emily Kristofek: Thanks for your work on the conference.
 - Forum/Podcast --- Reba Tierney / Luke Steere / Ella Stocker: Before conference, looking at an eternal quandary of middle grade vs YA. In the environment of book challenges, we decided to postpone. Library jargon and intellectual freedom podcasts planned.
 - Awards - Ella / Amy / Morgan: Task force to help read nominations. New members interested in joining the committee, they will help read nominations.
 - Area Updates - Area Directors: May 20 Woo Sox Mike and Liz; May 16 Stoneham to host in partnership with Christi Farrar, opportunity to connect, see Alison's learning lab (Tinamarie); Colleen southeast appreciated tables for lunch at conference, lots of appreciation for Project Ready; Western hybrid meetings in Northampton, Claudia and Jenny; Boston: MSLA lunch on Sunday and Monday was great at the conference, Iris and Trent, in person meet in May.
 - MSLA delegate to the MTA Annual Meeting - Sue Doherty. Georgina and Claudia will be there too.
4. Vote - bonus for Emily: Not in budget, have given in previous years for successful conferences, \$500-\$1000 in past years. Georgina: motion to pay Emily \$1000 bonus, Barb seconded, Amy suggested increase the bonus. Amy proposed amending the motion to \$1200, Trent seconded. Georgina withdraws original motion. Motion carried.
 5. Next Board terms - Barb: new Board is coming along nicely with several new people joining. Jen described the election process around mid May, slate presented to the Board prior to election via email. Goal to get the new Board set up six weeks before the start date of July 1st. Question from Ella re: number for awards on Board vs committee member.
 6. Intellectual Freedom update - Jen: MA Informed Parents group has a Facebook page that targets libraries and SORA. This group is connected to the Massachusetts Family Institute, which hosted a statewide Zoom at the end of March about removing books from school libraries. There was a very contentious challenge to Westborough Public Library, thought is they will go after public schools next. District is preparing. Very contentious challenge at Reading Public Library, spill over to library trustee election. Jen working closely with MLA on these challenges. IF Task Force may become a permanent

committee of MSLA. Questions at public libraries re: drag queen story time. Focus linked to pride month coming up. Arlington notes issue re new curriculum with LGBTQ content. Ella noted her District asked good questions as to why certain books in the collection. It goes back to need to meet with School Committee so they understand our role and work in partnership.

7. Tinamarie and Emily updating document re: list of members by region - table until May
8. Venue suggestions for the last meeting on 6/14. 4/4:30pm or so.
9. Other news/topics from board members: none.

Motion to Adjourn: Alix, seconded by Jenny and Amy, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned 6:18pm.
