



MASL Board Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2008
Studio, Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Present: Janet Patterson, Barbara Hammond, Eileen Broderick, Donna Chale, Gretchen Asam, Teri Caouette, Peggy Becksvoort, Jeff Small, Sylvia Norton, Kelley McDaniel, Edna Comstock **Absent:** Joyce Lucas, Deb Gahm

President's Welcome

Secretary's Report: No report in Joyce's absence.

Treasurer's report was distributed and explained by Donna Chale. *Eileen Broderick made a motion to accept the report which was seconded by Janet Patterson. Motion carried.*

Annual Meeting Agenda

- Jeff appointed Janet Patterson to the **Nominations Committee**. Group discussed which nominations were needed this year. It was clarified that both the Secretary's and Treasurer's positions are open. As a first step Joyce Lucas and Donna Chale will be asked if they are willing to run again.
- **Additional items** discussed for the agenda: Constitutional Items, Elections, Treasurer's & Secretary's reports, a template focusing on the year's work (Ex: Info Lit.), committee chairs asked to send a one page blurb to Edna for editing, Edna will take copies of items for sale to the conference.
- **Intellectual Freedom (Kelley)** Kelley asked about a proposal for a distinct Intellectual Freedom committee rather than the current joint MASL/MLA committee. Kelley will bring a draft proposal to November meeting for discussion.
- Sylvia proposed **Chapter 125-27** as a focus as well. She also shared Stakeholder group piece and added note about Essential Schools. Marilyn asked about the time-line. The general population should be writing letters. Peggy suggested it be talking points. Sylvia suggested Commission might have a role in assisting MASL with this effort. Discussed how to get the State Library on board,
- Marilyn asked that we promote the **AASL niche group** she is hosting at conference.
- There was then a digression into the **New Century Grants program**. Sylvia will represent schools on audio book program. Schools are not included as recipients ostensibly because of censorship problem. The program will go through public libraries only. Barbara McDade got back to Gretchen that curriculum support is not possible because only single copies of the audiobooks will be made available.

The group noted that there is a huge YA component not being addressed. Sylvia met with District Consultants about same. Discussion followed about why seasonal libraries, towns without libraries can be included but not school libraries.

- **Consolidation?** Should it be included on the agenda and if so what should be said?
- **Other** possible items discussed: Support Committee for school issues (Teri's issue) library issues support group; MEA connection; get rule-making to say you have to have a librarian in a school; AASL Rapid Response Team. What tools are available from national level for the fight at the local level. Mentor relationships. Kelley suggested bringing AASL licensed institute to Maine specifically the Advocacy institute. Then the question was raised - When is it? And can we send a couple of people to see what it is like. The topic of working with teachers was also raised. Jeff noted mentoring requirement in new state certification plan. There was a suggestion that MASL offer a mentoring plan and that this topic be discussed at Annual Meeting. Mentoring could extend to help with buildings/ Association.

Board openings discussion

Conference Misc.

- Discussion related to the basket raffle at conference. Questions were asked about basket size and value of what was in the container?
- The discussion then digressed to conference giveaways which Peggy explained.
- It was suggested that photos of past libraries from the MASL website be used for the MASL display. The group was then asked for additional photos that might be included in a slide show of working school libraries. LMS of the Year and Administrator of the year were also given the nod for inclusion in the display.
- Teri provided an update for Board members planning to use Sue's condo for conference housing. She suggested that everyone bring their own sheets and towels. There was also a short discussion about a gift for Sue.

LMS of the Year/ Administrator of the Year

Teri is sending the announcements out this week. Teri will contact the recipients and ask what they want for tickets. Teri will present the Awards. Jeff suggested that he would go to Bangor and be part of the surprise announcement of the Administrator of the Year. Teri will inquire about this when she contacts Debbie Averill. Donna asked about who the check should be made out to. The group agreed that it should be made out to the Bangor School Department.

Meeting Schedule

- Kelly asked if the Board would consider meeting every other month with committee meetings on the off month. Kelley argued that committees need more face time to establish ownership and that the Board being more established needs less face time. Discussion followed with the Board deciding to continue the meeting schedule as planned but with the provision that Kelley should feel free to come every other month if that schedule worked better for her. Further discussion

led to consideration of some virtual sessions during the winter months. Jeff to work out a schedule and details for adding virtual meetings to the schedule.

School Librarians Handbook (Debbie)

- The group talked about putting the handbook on the web and only providing a printed copy to members. The discussion then turned to the importance of getting the handbook out to non-members.

Mentoring

- Because there are no more trips (WJT/Dot G.) could we provide a core list of highly qualified librarians available to mentor new school librarians and include principals?
- Needed : To work up a list of new people who might need mentoring. Ask at Annual Meeting. Get a list from Certification including Ed Techs. What to do when we get list? Figure out who is not a MASL member (suggestion that because Jeff is a Certification officer he could get list of 071.) Noted that list on MEDEMS is not reliable. It was suggested that Edna put list together from membership and Joyce's work. Further note about Improving Literacy through Libraries Grants - MASL should contact possible applicants and ask how we can help them.

Break at 11:00 AM

Sylvia distributed ACTEM materials, Parent Information materials and 21st Century Partnership materials. It was noted that Nancy and Eileen are on the Advisory Council for 21st Century and will be at meeting.

Other conference/workshop possibilities:

- New England Reading as opposed to Maine Reading Association which is oriented to elementary issues. Marilyn Joyce mentioned doing something with the University of Connecticut's New Literacies.
- Marilyn talked about AASL and an Advocacy through the Action Research project. It is data-driven and something we could do as a group. It was noted that stipends are given to do action research in Sue Ballard's district. Format could be a one-day workshop with a follow-up.
- Sylvia suggested that standards should be the focus for the year combined with action research. (ex. show impact of note-taking.) It might be possible to do a Spring Fling with the morning devoted to the standards and build action research around it in the afternoon.
- Jeff, Peggy, Kelly suggested sending more people to AASL, paying for them in fact. Marilyn chimed in about getting more presenters to AASL which is in Charlotte NC next year. ALA and midwinter also mentioned.
- Jeff reported on Maine Reading Association and the literacy specialists. Both are open to a joint event. Can we pursue the literacy people? They don't have a conference so the question is how to pursue them. Giving them a sense of what librarians do might be really good.

- Could we go back to Orono? Host a Literacy Conference? It was suggested that we work with Jan Cristo, Gail Garthwait and Marilyn's literacy person. Support staff to be included.

AASL, ALA What can we do? Marilyn suggested we need hands-on stuff from AASL. People need to know about the resources. The question is how to get the information out. Suggestions followed: Workshops, note MASL as an affiliate of AASL. Regional resources and meetings. Marilyn Joyce volunteered her computer lab for a show & tell.

Kelley announced that Jan Hamilton is serving on an ALSC division committee. It is the Marketing & Reading Promotion committee and she will be doing a program at Conference. It was also noted that we need to market more. There was a conversation about the "I love my librarian" campaign that has been promoted on library listservs.

Web stuff

- Gail to be asked to please continue doing the web site. It was suggested that we do a virtual meeting from 2:30 to 3pm on a date good for Gail to look at website. It was noted that we all need to stay on top of stuff
- *Moved and seconded to make Gail a life member and present her life member pin at Conference.* Flicker account? Send to Gail.

Meeting adjourned

Edna M. Comstock
Secretary Pro tem

To Do List:

- Send out list of dates to Board
- Janet to host next meeting if possible
- Other dates for virtual conversation