**Minnesota Academy of Reading**

Minutes

Meeting Date: 3/20/15 1-2:30PM

Meeting Location: Hamline University Anderson Center Room 302



**Attendees:**

* Barb Wissink
* Kate Kelly
* Bobbi Gale
* Karen Moroz
* Deb Peterson
* Chris Johnson
* Joan Sax-Bendix
* Rod Winters
* Lisa Krall

**Officers' reports:**

* President -- Chris met with Karen and Kate to discuss transferring the presidential duties. Chris is working on uploading council events on the MRA website. The Celebrate Literacy and MRA Leadership events were a great success. Bonnie Houck and Eva Boehm provided a proposal to disseminate information on legislative issues to MRA members. Julie Scullen (ILA Board Member) shared information from the ILA’s Executive Board. The ILA Executive Board is working on supplying “toolkits” for state organizations to support the new “literacy” emphasis. The website ILA URL will remain the same.
* Secretary: Minutes from 2/6/15 were approved with three corrections.
* Treasurer: MAR account balance $7623.51

**Old business:**

1. ILA Honor Council Application:
2. Kate Kelly- Nancy Gamble is still working analyzing applications. Official announcements will be made late this week or early next week (3/23/15). MAR does not have the application requirements for the 2015-16 year. In the past, applications have been due in late November with the council activities completed by June 30th. If MAR earns the Honor Council status, MAR will need to send a MAR Board member to the conference in July.
3. Highlights Article:
   1. Due April 1, 2015.
   2. Chris will write about Cuba.
4. MAR 0fficers: Elections were held in February 2014.
   1. Membership Director-Joan Sax-Bendix was appointed by the MAR Board to serve as the Membership Director for MAR. Deb will contact Stephanie Brondani (MRA Membership Director) to let her know about the new MAR role. Stephanie sends out monthly updates on membership activities. Joan will encourage us to focus on sharing the benefits of being part of MAR and the events, symposiums, and other activities. Joan will contact members with lapsed memberships. Chris also has access to current members and lapsed members.
5. MACTE Liaison-Rod Winters was appointed by the MAR Board to serve as the MACTE

Liaison. Rod will no longer be in a legislative role.

**New business:**

1. Spring Mixer Planning:
   1. April 25th 10:00-11:30AM Hamline Anderson Center room 305
   2. Chris sent an email blast invitation to 378 MAR members. Chris will make a formal announcement on the MRA website. He will send out another email blast closer to the event.
2. Anderson Center requires that all food being served in the building needs to be ordered through Hamline University. Karen will coordinate the food and drinks for the event. Hot water, coffee, and rolls will be served. The cost for the event will be less than $75. MAR members are encouraged to bring a friend or a colleague.
3. Kate provided a Poem in your Pocket handout with MAR information listed on the back. This information can be handed out at various literacy/education functions and at the Spring Mixer.

2.Summer Literacy Institute:

1. MRA’s involvement will be on Thursday, July 9th. Dr. Nell Duke will be the keynote speaker. Chris, Pam and Deb will be presenting together on what’s new in reading research. MRA is looking for volunteers to help with the event. Bobbi will let Deb know if she can assist.

3. 2016 Policy Symposium:

a. Friday, January 15th 1-4PM at Hamline University. MAR members will discuss the logistics at future Board meetings.

**Announcements/Comments/Concerns:**

* The Urban Leadership Academy with Gloria Ladson-Billings on Wednesday, May 13th 8AM-2:30PM at Continuing Education Center, St. Paul. Deb will send out an email with the information.
* Book Clubs on *Making Assessment Matter: Using Test Results to Differentiate Reading Instruction* by Lesaux and Marietta. Book Clubs will meet twice (one hour each for session).
* Chris will send the MAR agenda for the Board meeting prior to the meeting in May.
* Adjuncts and education students can participate in MAR and MRA activities. Parking is available in Anderson Center’s parking ramp.
* MAR members are encouraged to extend invitations to diverse members and educators.

**Action Steps (what, who, when):**

* Chris will update the MAR/MRA website on MAR events and symposiums.
* Chris will write an article for the MRA highlights publication.
* Deb will contact Stephanie Brondani to connect with Joan on membership information.
* Rod will gather information on MCATE to share with MAR at the next Board meeting.
* Karen will coordinate the food and beverages to be provided at the Spring Mixer.
* Chris will send out an email invitation to the Spring Mixer to all MAR members in April.
* MAR members will let Deb know if they can help out during the July 9th MRA event.

**Date of next meeting:**

May 15, 2015 at 2:30-4pm

**Save the Date**:

1. Summer Literacy Institute/MRA Day: July 9
2. IRA/ILA July 17-20
3. September 25th-Discussion of Summer Book Club: *Making Assessment Matter: Using Test Results to Differentiate Reading Instruction* by Nonie K. Lesaux and Sky H. Marietta