

Minnesota Reading Association Leadership Retreat

Caribou Coffee

May 2nd, 2015

10:00 am-12:00 pm

In attendance:

Deb Peterson (President)
Sue Paasch (President-Elect)
Mary Lillestol (Vice President)
Carey Seeley (Vice President)
Linda Snowberg (Treasurer)
Stephanie Brondani (Membership Director)
Madedy Israelson (Secretary)
Cory Stai (MDE Liason)
Katy Ploehn (Grant Committee Chair)
Hannah Anderson (Social Media Coordinator)

1) **10:00-10:12 am** Deb: Welcome, Introductions (names & professional roles)

2) **10:12-10:18 am** Minutes from last meeting-Madedy

3) **10:18-10:37 am** Treasurer's Report-Linda

- Credit Card: emailed US Bank rep, she needs Sue, Mary, Carey and Deb contact information, information was collected to be sent to bank
- Looked into credit card cube, could pay \$20 per month or per transaction payment (swipe rate=2.4% of transaction, plus 25 cents per transaction), hope to have before July for registration, works with QuickBooks,
 - *Stephanie-motion to buy cube, Carey-second, unanimous passed*
- Need to approve budget for LiRN and conference as a meeting
- Reminder on W9s when paying people, Linda has to generate 1099 form for payments over \$1000
- Printed out profit & loss report, will send
- Deb: how much is left from K Snow to apply to N Lesaux?
- 8 people registered for summer-need to add tab for executive council; executive council and presenters no fee for Thursday conference attendance
- Stephanie: new council treasurers- can Linda advise them on filing taxes in July, simple process (postcard filing)
- Website host: (Apricot) price is going up, currently about \$1000,
 - Deb: before changing sites we need to find out if our name is changing, need to get Scott involved in that conversation,
 - Corey: worth doing comparison shopping, 3 month grace period before having to renew at new price, new price will cost about \$200 more per year, will go up to \$1200 per year,
 - Katy will consult her relative who works with websites, will forward info to Scott,
 - Deb will contact Scott, too, if we update-do we change name, logo,

- etc? Would need committee to research names, logos, may need to hire advertising person,
- Deb: still waiting to hear from ILA-they will provide training and toolkit for state exec. Councils,
- Carey's husband works with websites/writing/design-can work on it
- 11:31: Katy-brother in law can do family and friends discount, \$500 and \$250 year, will request proposal from him

4) 10:37-10:41 am Membership Report-Stephanie

- Distributed active membership figures
- Stephanie went through ranks and pulled out lapsed members, archived members without current emails, is someone was archived who wasn't supposed to be let Stephanie know, exec council members should also verify they are active
- Deb: LiRN members can build guest for free: some bring undergrads/young teachers, Sue: drawing for guests who aren't members of MRA?

5) 10:41-11:08 am Update on MRA Summer Conference on July 9th (Collaboration with Hamline Summer Literacy Institute planning committee)-Deb

- Passed around list of presenters, when people register they get day's agenda/info. packet, can list be distributed before day of event to interest people in coming, Deb can pull Thursday titles, grade area, topic, name., how best to get it out? Email list? Social media? Website? Something to send to teachers who aren't MRA, Deb will send list for exec council members to send to contacts
- Need to make sure we are making use of Hannah-Hamline has an advertising department, we need to do publicity, take cards and give them out to contacts
- Registration is up
- People volunteered to do tasks: need greeters outside to guide attendants from parking to registration (Stephanie, Sue & Mary volunteered)
- Map, letter, program and info sent to registered participants before event
- Scholarships for teachers of color in first 3 years of teaching-application on website, available for all 4 days
- Leadership dinner evening of July 9: every local council is invited to send 2 members, for councils from greater MN MRA pays for one hotel room per council, dinner is sponsored by publisher
- Leadership Retreat (July 10)-Hamline volunteered to give us a room, we have to use their caterer
- They print programs, stuff bags, etc.
- Corey: creating listserv of curriculum coordinators
- Deb: thank you for signing up to present

- Deb: 25th year of Hamline Summer Literacy Institute- MRA wants to recognize anniversary, celebration at 10:30, asked Hamline what would be a good gift, they responded give away 25 books to Hamline's participants on Friday (not to MRA members), we could provide 10 books (picture books, chapter books, professional resources), *Making Assessment Matter*, next year's LiRN book, etc.-double as advertising for MRA event
- LiRN members voted for Fisher & Frey text dependent questions books for next year, \$35 per book (one elementary, one secondary)
- Katy: give away children's books could be used with LiRN book
- Carey: local authors (Deborah Frazier, Kelly Barnhill), could sign books, offer article with trade book instead of professional book
- Stephanie: Geoff Herbach-writes for adolescent males
- Deb: each participant also gets Distinguished Scholar and LiRN flyers in materials
- Corey: combination of trade and professional books, get signed, Duke can sign
- Deb: how much is MRA willing to spend on gift? Linda: not to exceed \$1000
 - *Sue made a motion to approve up to \$1000 for books to give away in recognition of Hamline's 25th Anniversary, Carey second, passed unanimously*
- Katy and Carey will work on this, Deb has some copies of *Making Thinking Visible* to use for this
- We need something to go in books: Join MRA, these are the kind of events we offer...Katy & Carey will work on
- Corey: is \$ allows-flowers for table from us
- Mary will order from florist to be delivered on Tuesday

MRA Volunteer Commitments:

- Registration-starts at 7:30 am: Linda, Jill, Kathy, Madey
- Nell Duke Handler: Carey
- Gift Basket for Nell Duke: Chris will get real wild rice
- Breakout Sessions: Chris, Carey, Madey, Andrew, Corey, Megan
- Advertising/Facebook/Twitter: Hannah
- Greeters/Guides: Stephanie, Mary, Sue
- Table flower order: Mary

6) 11:08-11:0 am Summer Regional Book Clubs: *Making Assessment Matter* with a follow-up event on Friday, September 25: Distinguished Scholar is Dr. Nonie Lesaux-Deb

- Deb: will be sending info to Scott to get links on website and flyers
- Can go to book club in area, book is free, 2 times-one hour each, can go to book club and/or speaker
- Book club leaders will receive invitation to recruit people, will let us know

how many books they need, Eva Boehm is in charge, should be coming soon

- Need to know how much \$ is left from last year's event to be rolled forward

7) 11:08-11:15 am Update on LiRN 2015-16- Deb

- October 21st is first event
- Fisher & Frey texts (one elementary, one secondary) were selected by LiRN members
- Mary: Table discussion leaders for next year? Deb: will send out thank you to table discussion leaders with info for next year, will ask to do it again next year, want to have 2 discussion leaders (elementary, secondary)
- Carey, Madey and Stephanie-volunteer to lead discussions next year

8) 11:15-11:18 am Celebrate Literacy-March 4, 2016- Deb

- MRA Leadership Day will be March 5th
- Will need to reserve Maple Grove Community Center for Celebrate Literacy and March 5 Leadership meeting
- Grants-publicize: need more applicants/advertisements
- Katy will write short paragraph for social media about grants, stress that it is not laborious process

9) 11:18-11:24 am ILA Conference July 17-20 in St. Louis- Deb

- Julie has a room not being used, offer to MRA, Sue and daughter will be going-will use room
- MN Social: Mary: send invitation to all active members for MN social/get together, bring other colleagues-not just for MRA members, Andrew suggested that Heineman be asked to host-they already host a social and said we can invite people to that, last year Mackin hosted, Deb will send Mackin contact, Custom Ed may be another possible host, beverages and appetizers will be served

10) 11:24-11:35 am Continued discussion of Advocacy Proposal

- Interest in session on workshop/conference on how to be involved, and legislative update
- Deb: emailed Bonnie & Eva-MRA will continue to be reimbursed for parking
- Discussion:
 - Katy-interest in workshop/conference,
 - Mary: would it be separate event or part of another event? MAR always has January policy event,

- Sue: MESPA has similar event,
- Education policy vs. literacy policy,
- Would need to be evening/Saturday,
- Either we pay them, or registration fee goes to them for their time,
- Perhaps MAR would co-sponsor? Or other councils? Could have in different areas across state? Webinar or film and post?
- Deb: ask Eva & Bonnie for proposal for fee and content

11) 11:35-11:50 am Policy-Bonnie's update (Read by Madey)

- The Google Site page has been updated:
<https://sites.google.com/site/mralegislativadvocacy/home/resources-legislative-advocacy>
- Read Well Revision: Dyslexia Definition in Statute
 - SF 278 Dyslexia literacy w/definition in both omnibus bills
<http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/bills/billinf.php?ls=89&billnum=278>
 - HF 332
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/bills/billnum.asp?billnumber=332>
 - **Status:** *Currently in both Education Omnibus Bills*
- Reading income tax credit modifications
 - SF 271 Reading tax credit modified
<http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/bills/billinf.php?ls=89&billnum=271>
 - HF 359 Reading tax credit modified
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/bills/billnum.asp?billnumber=359>
 - **Status:** Reading credit not in either omnibus bill, still lobbying to get in during tax conference committee
- Required Retention Bill: Students acquire grade-level reading proficiency by end of grade 3 requirement
 - SF 1407 Pratt retention bill no go
 - HF-no companion Bill
 - **Status:** *Not moving forward*
- Family Literacy: Appropriating money to the department of education for a network for the development of children of African descent grant for family literacy services and the high school community action research program
 - SF 1501 Laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill
<http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/bills/billinf.php?ls=89&billnum=1501>

- HF 1697 Sent to Finance Committee: Family literacy services and a high school community action program funding provided, and money appropriated.

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/bills/billnum.asp?billnumber=1697>

- Teacher Tax Credit: K-12 teachers who complete master's degree in a content area directly related to their licensure field allowed tax credit, and money appropriated.
 - Not transmitted to Senate
 - HF 360 No Hearings Found
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/bill.php?b=House&f=HF360&ssn=0&y=2015>
 - **Status:** *No Hearings Found*

11) 11:50-11:57 am Upcoming events:

- July 6-8, 2015: Society for Text and Discourse Annual Meeting in Minneapolis
- November 19-22, 2015: National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting in Minneapolis
- January 15th, 2016, 1 pm-4 pm: MN Academy of Reading Annual Policy Event at Hamline
- July 8-11, 2016: ILA in Boston
- July 12-16, 2016: Hamline Summer Literacy Institute
- July 14-17, 2017: ILA in Orlando
- July 10-13, 2017: Hamline Summer Literacy Institute

11) 11:57-12:00 pm Close-Deb

- Any other outstanding business?
- Next executive council meeting at Hamline Conference/Leadership Retreat, July 10th, 2015