

Minnesota Reading Association

2011 Post-Conference Leadership Meeting

Date: 9/18/2011

Location:

Attended:

Scott Voss

Jen McCarty-Plucker

Jessica Crooker

Julie Scullen

Cindy Blagg

Kari Ross

Debbie Sauer

Joletta Falknor

Kate Kelly

1. 2011 Conference De-Briefing

Jen is grateful for work everyone did for the conference

Author panel was an issue:

- self-published authors
- no audiences
- do we have this aspect for the conference in the future?
 - o if so, perhaps have criteria (published or vetted,
- lunch with an author, not competing
- is there a reason we don't connect with CLN?
 - o cost
- breakouts and workshops, instead of having keynotes compete with local people
 - o have children be a part of something in the future?

Awesome keynotes

- We were really fortunate to get Kylene Beers and Bob Probst, who did the conference waiving their fee (we just paid expenses)
- Do we know
- We picked up about 60-70 new members, pushing 500 members now (perhaps draw of keynotes)

More space in front of registration (i.e. don't have vendors too close to registration)

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Space worked well, food was great

Note-taking paper in the folders

- maybe get logo notepads for next year

Schedule? Worked well. Time in between was good (not rushing, vendors liked it)

Keynotes for next year:

- If we can get one big name for the afternoon, who do we get?
- Katie Wood Ray? (have a contract currently for \$4000 plus expenses)
 - o Concern is that she only really only appeals to elementary in her workshops (from Beers and Probst)
 - o If the other author is Heinemann, would they cut a deal?
 - o Maybe cost is too much when we have to find someone to gear more towards secondary
- Kari suggested to work with Minnesota Writing Project for a workshop to pair with Wood Ray?
- Other options:
 - o Cris Tovani?
 - o Elizabeth Moje?
 - o Tim and Cindy Shanahan?
 - o Harvey Daniels?
 - o Tom Newkirk? (Misreading Masculinity)
 - Kylene and Bob would be willing to write an endorsement for him, since he's not as well known
 - He's a Heinemann author
 - Scott asked if we can cut a deal? \$6000 package for Wood Ray and Newkirk
 - o Penny Kittle
 - o Tom Newkirk AND Chris Crutcher (Kylene and Bob are good friends with Crutcher, he could be swayed to come)
 - Joletta says it could become a boy-centered conference, but that could be ok
 - Kari says that elementary teachers know a lot more about reading than they do – more engaged with finding ways of teaching math than literacy; not drawing a large audience if we do the same thing every year. So shaking things up might help draw more people in.
- Simultaneous keynotes? (one for elementary, one for secondary)

Additional Discussion Points:

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- Jen will talk to Heinemann and gather some information about Newkirk and Crutcher as a pair, determine costs, and begin discussion based on our budget

Decision(s):

1. Jen makes a motion to use the conference center again next year
 - a. Debbie Sauer seconds the motion
 - b. Discussion? Scott – check invoice first? Condition that the invoice is close to the estimate
 - c. Vote: all vote yes
 - d. Motion passes
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2. LiRN Budget

- review of final 2010-2011 expense report
- report has been approved

General Budget

- did we do this last year (no, emergency meetings, change in leadership)
- updating book for expenses (there was quite a bit of codes that needed changing)
- last year: spent \$43,000 and brought in \$46,000;
- for this year, cost will go up a bit
 - o grants from last year are coming in this year instead of last's years
 - o website went up
 - o bookkeeping disappears
 - o newsletter costs also went up because of the timing of when payments were made
- Discussion?
 - o Debbie Sauer asked about how LiRN is marketed? (MCRR conference and database, Superintendent's Memo (looking for approval), last year's LiRN members, MRA conference, general MRA membership)
 - o Joletta asked whether it would be possible to give a school district for LiRN for a district that hasn't been involved?
 - o Kari said that we had about 50 school districts last year for LiRN; anticipate changes this year because stimulus money is gone
 - hoping for 85 again, but not sure we'll get that given the current economy and renegotiation with MDE and partners

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- Jen reminds that leadership meeting costs were down last year because of snow, so want to make sure we don't short-change those expenses
- Deb says IRA requires newsletter to be distributed to officers and members, but no more specific in bylaws

Decision(s):

1. Julie moves to accept budget as proposed by Scott Voss
 - a. Cindy Blagg seconds
 - b. All vote yes.
 - c. Motion Passes.

3. St. Cloud State doc student wondering if we can send out an email to members regarding her dissertation

- have to do it for everyone
- appear to endorsing Daily 5 and Daily Café
- can we do something else? (booth at symposium; local council)

Decision(s):

1. Will help with setting up booth at symposium or put her in touch with her local council, but not willing to send out email to entire membership to set that precedence
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4. Fall Symposium Update

- pairing with Bethel - grad students to come up with theme and plan
- What will the format be? Will probably be a keynote and then have breakouts K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, taking one of the standards and share sample lessons and assessments
- Working on securing keynote speakers
- Culinary program might bring her students in to do breakfast
- Central MN Reading Council and MAR meeting in September
- Need cost and place to send it out (trying to keep to \$60 – members \$25, every third person a district sends will be free; CEUs for teachers and admin hours too)
 - overhead is food, building, maintenance, speakers
 - proceeds will go back to Central? or split between Central/MAR?
 - not likely to have much, but that's ok

Decision(s):

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1. Scott moves for Fall Symp, Central and MAR can take profits
 - a. Jen Seconds
 - b. All in favor
 - c. Motion Passes
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5. IRA awards will all be online; Deb wants to put together an email with new info; put on webpage

- can we announce IRA awards at Celebrate Literacy? Deb says won't know yet, but we can announce last year's awards
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Reminders:

- Looking for Exemplary Reading Program Awards nominees
- Other Celebrate Literacy awards

Date for next Leadership meeting: September 17th, 12-3, Brookdale Library
Future Leadership meetings: November 12, March 31

Minutes prepared by: [Kate Kelly, 8/12/11]

Minutes Approved: [Scott Voss]