

Minnesota Reading Association Leadership Retreat

Maple Grove Community Center

March 5th, 2016

9:00 am-3:00 pm

In attendance:

Deb Peterson (Past President, MAR)

Sue Paasch (President)

Mary Lillestol (President-Elect)

Carey Seeley (Vice President)

Linda Snowberg (Treasurer)

Katie Bannon (Celebrate Literacy, Highlights)

Stephanie Brondani (SRIC, Membership
Director)

Madey Israelson (Secretary)

Megan Rogholt (CMRC, Social Media)

Kay Moon (CMRC)

Jon Roux (SWMRC)

Jill Maxe (TCARC)

Sarah Rutledge (TCARC)

9:00- 9:15 a.m.: Welcome and Continental Breakfast

9:15 a.m.: Opening Activity: Rotation get-to-know-you

Book: *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*

9:35 a.m.: Officer Reports and Announcements

I. Secretary's Report – Madey Israelson

II. Treasurer's Report – Linda Snowberg

- Distributed balance sheets dated Feb. 5, 2016
- Councils need to talk to Linda to assure they are getting their dues
- Local councils need to file taxes-Linda can help if needed
- Credit card charger worked last night at Celebrate Literacy silent auction

III. Membership Report – Stephanie Brodani

- Reporter current membership: 398
- TCARC, SWMRC and Arrowhead added most members
- LiRN: found a few LiRN participants who weren't members, added them, some not registered because they did not join a council
- Some members are entered twice; one entry is lapsed- Stephanie resolved and fixed this

IV. LiRN – Deb

- Well received-Cynthia Lewis: critical and digital literacies, 3 practioners presented

- Next session April 27th, John Guthrie: motivation, Concept-Oriented Reading Instruction: needs to be action-reading and writing for action/project/service-action and outreach through reading and writing; looking for local practitioners to talk in afternoon-anyone doing outreach or project-based learning with students (15 minute presentations, LiRN will pay for all day sub)
- LiRN membership=~70 members, ~20 discussion leaders
- On April 27 book choices will be presented and group will vote-then theme and speakers will be finalized for next year
- Individuals can attend last LiRN session for one day prorated fee

V. **Summer Conference** – Carey, Mary & Deb

- Speakers are set for Hamline
- Wednesday, July 13 is shared Hamline/MRA Day
- Looking for presenters-Deb will forward email/invite looking for presentation proposals
- Presenting is good opportunity to plug local council
- Lunchtime: present information about MRA membership
- Book give away
- 2017: July 10-13, 2017; ILA July 14-17, 2017
- Tuesday, July 12, 2016: dinner-every local council can send 2 people, dinner will be at Axel's (Radisson Roseville), sponsored by Custom Education Solutions: Denise Retka, speaker may be joining
- Publicity: Save the date went to all MRA members, will have something to distribute at April LiRN; social media, too
- Discussed raising visibility: Will have MRA blurb in program, distribute flyers about MRA-what it can offer
- Twitter:
- Email slide to all presenters to include in their presentation-
- Give away memberships each day of Hamline Institute
- Water bottles or coffee cups with MRA logos
- Buttons: "I'm a MRA Member"
- Follow up jobs/items:
 - Katie: flyer
 - Megan: logos
 - Deb: powerpoint slide
 - Sauk Rapids Rice members will research cost of water bottles, coffee mugs, etc.

VI. **Statewide Book Club** – Deb

- Steven Graham: Meta-Analysis on how writing helps struggling readers
- Book club and books are free, meet twice
- Can include teachers, teacher candidates, administrators, coaches, etc.
- Eva Boehm is coordinating; Deb will send flyer
- Steven Graham will speak Sept. 30th for Distinguished Scholar event; book club leaders invited to dinner with Graham Sept. 29

VII. Highlights: Katie

- Distributed Highlights Information-summary of due dates, possible ideas, report on submissions
- Send submissions to Katie's personal email as listed on website (not MRA email address)

VIII. Celebrate Literacy: Katie

- Distributed and reviewed budget for Celebrate Literacy event
- Possibility of councils as first round of Readers are Writers competition
- Do teachers have to be members of MRA? Any MRA member can submit students work (i.e., a literacy coach who is a member can submit student work even if they are not the classroom teacher)
- Grant deadlines extended 2 weeks-encourage people to apply

New positions - Appointed

- I. MRA Historian:** Deb described need for historian; possibility of including history component in Highlights; SWMRC has tri-fold boards about history of organization; Mary appointed Katie-she is still interested
- II. Social Media:** Megan Rogholt has agreed to take this on, local councils will send information to Megan to put on Facebook and Twitter, Deb will track down passwords
- III. Special Event Liaison:** Linda described need for this position; Carey has a possible candidate in mind, others will think of possibilities

New positions - Elected:

- I. Membership:** Jennifer Malecha
- II. Vice-President:** need more possible candidates; Kate? Carey will follow up with a few possibilities
- III.** Sue will create ballot this month and Scott will distribute

11:00 a.m.: Local Council Updates and Announcements

I. TCARC: Jill

- Event in fall-scholar from Teachers College
- Upcoming technology in spring, Andrew Rummel
- Bring Lucy Calkins-Jill had contact with her, ~few thousand dollars, Calkins wants 400-500 attendees, add to list to discuss about
- Jill will follow up with email to Calkins

II. CMRC:

- EdCamp Literacy end of January: well attended ~60 people
- Jan Richardson: The Next Steps in Guided Reading-scheduled for Sept. 17, Saturday, K-2 teachers in morning on best practices in guided reading and afternoon 3-5 best practices, tie in to assessment, Scholastic paying for speaker fee, CMRC responsible for flight and hotel, need people to attend, reading recovery people-contact Reading Recovery Council, interventionists, Title 1 teachers and literacy specialists, book club this summer in preparation: put together a flyer Deb will print and distribute at LiRN, and Hamline, Katie will put in highlights, Madey will do technology workshop, too
- Possibility of student fee-should membership be included?

III. SRIC: Stephanie

- Struggle to get members and new leaders
- 3 remaining members considering merging council with TCARC
- By laws say \$ goes to MRA
- Can make motion/vote to have \$ go to TCARC
- Have had year of inactivity, but filed taxes
- Ask members where they want their membership council transferred to-TCARC will be the default, \$ follows the members

IV. SWMRC: Jon

- Bob Kann presented-Balanced Literacy approach
- John Coy coming March 29
- Some turnover in board, challenging to find replacement leadership

V. MAR: Deb

- Policy event Jan. 15
- Honored Rick Beach: skyped in

- UMD and Winona Teacher candidates demonstrated apps they have been using in their teaching
- Spring mixer-free: April 30 9:30-11:30, coffee, rolls, bring journal articles, books, children’s books, etc., anything used for professional learning and teaching bring and share, location TBD

VI. Misc: Sue

- Donalyn Miller: February 21, 2017 in Anoka-does MRA want to tack on a day and do something?

12:00 p.m.: Lunch and “what you are reading” share out

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| • Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis | • Questioning for Classroom Discussion |
| • We Hear the Dead | • Reading Reconsidered |
| • The Invention of Wings | • Units of Study |
| • Word Study | • How Children Succeed |
| • The Man Named Ove | • Alayna Aguilar, Greater Good (UC Berkley) |
| • My Grandmother Asked me to Tell you She’s Sorry | • The Art of Coaching Teams |
| • Blogs: Blog Loving, Vicki Davis-Every Classroom Matters | • Finding in Joy in Teaching Students of Diverse Backgrounds (Nieto) |
| • The Martian | • All the Light You Cannot See |
| • I Funny | • Prayers for the Stolen |
| • Edutopia, Classroom management | • The Red Pencil |
| • Education Week, Educational Leadership | • So You’ve Been Publically Shamed |
| • Culturally & Linguistically Responsive | • The Water is Wide |
| • Red Queen | • The Goldfinch |
| • Lost at School | • The Girl on the Train |
| • Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain | • Where’d You Go Bernadette? |
| • Courageous Conversations | • Orphan Train |
| • Continuum of Literacy Learning | • Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks |
| • Text Dependent Questions | • Wolfie the Bunny |
| • The Leader in Me | • Last Stop on Market Street |
| • Malcolm Ed McKnight | • CS Harris mysteries |
| | • The Aeronaut’s Windlass-Steampunk-Jim Butcher |
| | • Deborah Harkness: The Discovery of Witches |

1:00 p.m.: Research – Deb Peterson

- “A Path to Better Writing” Graham & Harris
- Groups of 3-5: discussion copies by Deb

1:45 p.m.: Leadership Retreat-Summer Leadership Meeting Sue

- Possibly middle of the week in August, earlier-some districts start mid-August, MCRR Summer Workshop is Monday, August 8

- Tentatively planned for August 10-11 (all day Aug. 10, 9:00-3:30 and half day Aug. 11, 9:00-12:00)
- Ideas for location: Maple Grove Community Center
- Topics for local councils: event ideas, how to get more members, task completion time: website update, questions and answer around the website, marketing, ILA rep, state calendar

2:30 p.m.: ILA – Boston

- Drawing: Jill won, Sarah back-up

2:45 p.m.: Closing

Next Executive Council Meeting

May 7, 2016

10 am-12 pm

Caribou Coffee in Monticello