

**Minnesota Reading Association**  
Executive Board Meeting  
October 24, 2015 10:00-12:00  
Caribou Coffee – Monticello

**In attendance:**

Deb Peterson (Past President)  
Sue Paasch (President)  
Mary Lillestol (President-Elect)  
Linda Snowberg (Treasurer)  
Stephanie Brondani (Membership Director, SRIC)  
Madedy Israelson (Secretary)  
Cory Stai (MDE Liason)  
Scott Voss (Web Manager)  
Andrew Rummel (ILA Liason)

1. **Welcome:** Members shared exciting literacy moments from their work in the previous months
2. **Secretary's Report:** Madey reviewed minutes from 7/10/15 meeting
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Linda Snowberg
  - LiRN is \$ generator-balance is high because of this at present
  - Linda has \$ to distribute to councils
  - Need to get cards, checks from US Bank
4. **Membership Report:** Stephanie Brondani
  - Stephanie distributed membership count by councils
  - Central and TC have highest #s
  - Concern from CMRC:
  - Need new membership director-Andrew will ask Prof. from St. Kate's
  - **Executive Positions to Fill this Feb Election:**
    - Need candidates for **VP, Membership, social media**
    - **Historian position:** add to ballot in Feb, if not voting member of executive board can be appointed by committee, create digital records, Andrew can take records and store at St. Kate's until position is filled, more than artifact manager-maybe also write column for newsletter, bios of past presidents, Andrew will talk to Bobbi and report at next meeting
    - **LiRN planning committee rep** on executive board add to ballot in Feb., Deb will talk to Ryan about possibility
  - **Highlights:** older members disconnected with MRA since newsletter went digital, Can members pay extra to get paper copy? Discussion of logistics of this, Scott will change registration to

allow choice of paper newsletter-Scott's father owns direct mailing business-will look into possibility of using that, will get bid,  
***Motion: explore possibility of print option of newsletter Sue made motion, Linda seconded, unanimously passed***

**5. LiRN: Deb**

- Collaboration with Lakeville (81 people)
- 65 LiRN members, 22 discussion leaders
- Fisher & Frey (2 discussion leaders in every group)
- Feb. 10 Cynthia Lewis next time (secondary, digital), April 27 John Guthrie session (Project Based learning-move to action)
- McGraw Hill bought lunch-very positive feedback-interested in collaborating in the future
- Participant feedback: energized, but need depth and scholarship

**6. Summer Conference: Deb**

- Starting to plan for next year: Wednesday or Thursday, will depend on speaker, Tuesday-Friday
- Meeting in November with Hamline: will email with speaker choice
- Cory: as state organization ask ILA to consider conference in MN?  
Deb: 2 years ago wrote application, was turned down, could look at suggesting again, Sue will check with Julie Scullen about process, UMN would help with it

**7. Statewide Book Club: Deb**

- Gave away 200+ books, growing in popularity
- How to encourage people to join MRA and a local council if they participate and get the free book
- Bookmark with QR code to website page

**8. Grant Submissions:**

- Sue will email entire membership about grants
- Scott: New grant for Berneeta Campbell: innovative classroom
- Deadline is Feb. 1, announced later in Feb, awarded at Celebrate Literacy

**9. Exemplary Reading Program:**

- One of the grants-see above

**10. Writers are Readers:**

- Overwhelmed with submissions-how to reduce: ask teachers, councils hold similar events before, limit submissions 3 per member?
- For councils in greater MN: winner can skype in? or record?

## **11. Celebrate Literacy:**

- March 4, 2016
- Maple Grove Community Center is reserved, also reserved for Leadership Meeting March 5
- Give award at Summer Institute instead of Writers are Readers ceremony? Limitations of time to recognize literacy leaders-maybe replay video honoring literacy leader

## **12. Local Councils**

### **a. Visits –Before Feb so can come back with ideas for helping**

#### **i. \$50 for gifts**

#### **ii. Traveling Expenses**

#### **iii. Assignments**

1. Central: Sue, Linda and Madey
2. Jan. 15 MAR @ Hamline: Mary, Deb
3. North (Mary Jacobson): Andrew
4. Arrowhead: Sue
5. SRIC:
6. Southeast: Stephanie
7. Southwest: Deb
8. Twin Cities: Mary

### **b. Future of SRIC – Stephanie**

- Difficult time getting interest, only TC teachers
- 1 event in Oct.-poor attendance, same 4-5 people (officers)
- Disband SRIC and combine with TCARC and have elementary and secondary group working together
- Andrew: possible to partner with districts?
- SRIC becomes part of each council?
- Special interest councils & regional councils (secondary by definition)
- \$ to secondary reading statewide? Grant, etc? Secondary support account
- Email current SRIC: reselect council-if no response will fold into TCARC, Stephanie and Scott will work together-contact Julie and Eva
- Emails: need to use personal emails other than Scott-will keep [s.voss@mnreading.org](mailto:s.voss@mnreading.org)

### **c. Advertising Materials for MRA:**

- Cards to give out at events
- Benefits of memberships
- Post card/book marks-have marketing person draft something-wait for new logo
- Change name of organization? ILA does not want states to change yet-there will be a process
- Carey's husband will work on logos

**d. Donation of registration for Summer Reading Institute – Jill Maxe TCARC**

- Willing to donate 1 day registration of Summer Institute for raffle
- Deb: each council gets 2 free MRA memberships to donate, Summer is \$150 cost

**e. CMRC request to co sponsor Ed Camp:** Jan. 23 at Sauk Rapids High School, pay for breakfast? Try Mackin, Teacher-Created Materials? Deb: support for set amount of money, MRA help with advertising, executive council will attend,

**13.ILA – Boston**

**14.Next Meeting-Feb. 6 (or Jan. 23 if roads aren't bad to go to Sauk Rapids)**

Planning Ahead:

Celebrate Literacy – March 4, 2016  
Leadership Meeting-March 5, 2016  
ILA 2016 – Boston July 8-11, 2016  
ILA 2017 – Orlando July 14-17