

MSTA Board Retreat 2016

Minutes

August 11, 2016

Camp Fayette (L. Darling's home)

The meeting was called to order by president Pamela Thompson at 9:30am. Good news was shared. **In attendance:** Pamela Thompson, Ann Putney, Laurette Darling, Bob Kuech, Sarah Sparks, Shari Templeton, Diana Allen, Lynn Farrin and Andrea Freed.

Secretary's Report, May 2016. Ann moved to accept the minutes with two corrections. Shari seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. Bob moved to accept the report as written. Diana seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MSTA's Mission. Discussion was far-ranging but began to focus on Article II of the constitution, "The object of this Association shall be to encourage and promote the learning and teaching of science." Shari moved that we accept the mission statement, "The Maine Science Teachers Association encourages and promotes the learning and teaching of science." Diana seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Goals: Diana moved to accept the following goals for the MSTA:

- To foster communication and collaboration that promotes excellence in science education.
- To advocate locally, statewide and nationally for policies and practices that support science education.

Andrea seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Our Expertise and Capacity:

- Building capacity: volunteers from membership might be gained by circulating a survey that lists discrete tasks.
- Ideas need to be associated with action/personal commitment.
- Sarah suggested that board members assemble a list of such tasks for review at the next board meeting. Will also look at better ways for board members to communicate on-line.

DOE Update: much work on assessment over the summer, this week with teacher feedback. Assessment is informed by both sets of standards. Turnover in staff, including Anita Bernhardt (now curriculum coordinator with York schools). Survey regarding adoption of standards in different districts to come in September. Shari's hope is to plan about 10 Dine & Discuss sessions throughout the State *vis a vis* elementary science instruction and 3-dimensional instruction and learning. Watching for implications of ESSA on funding from the federal level.

MMSA and Congress Update: Math & Science Through Engineering project just had their culminating retreat for the 3-year project. "Engineering Ambassadors" project is complete: goal to give teachers across Maine to become acquainted with what Engineers do. Congress update has been shared as a Google doc. Lynn enjoyed being a delegate and recommends that we continue to send a representative.

Annual Conference:

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- 3 locations were chosen to scout: Point Lookout, Unity College and Waterville HS/Mid-Maine Tech Center.
- Lynn, Sarah, Laurette & Jen visited [Unity College](#) in June. See slideshow. A downside here is that there is no elevator for teachers to use to move equipment, etc. If meeting is held in May, student dorms would be available for an overnight stay. Other dates are available, but not including the dorms. Each building used has a cost.
- They also visited Waterville High School/Mid-Maine Tech center. (Waterville has an In-service day March 17). This would be a nice venue if our meeting was held jointly with TEEAM. The thought is that the Tech Center gives a "different" location to Gardener HS. Allows the possibility of field trips to Colby's art museum, Goodwill-Hinckley. The group agreed that Waterville is the preferred venue.
- Saturday conference is preferred. Laurette will ask Brian Laramie (principal) about possibility of Saturday meeting dates (need Friday night for exhibitor set-up, perhaps an activity for early arrivals).

Logo Review: Pamela will give the designer new directions to include

1. Provide digitized version of existing logo,
2. Provide rework of existing logo design, replacing image of the sun with a less opaque image of the silhouette of the state of Maine,

Officer Slate:

1. Diana to broadcast notice to members of new date of conference. She will also announce an Annual Meeting on Friday September 9, 2016 for the purpose of electing new officers, including a means to vote absentee on-line prior to that date will be provided.
2. Slate for 2016 - 2018
 - a. President: Diana Allen
 - b. President-elect: TBD
 - c. Secretary: Maria Palopoli
 - d. Treasurer: Jonathan Doughty

Meeting schedule & format.

- September 9, 2016: Annual Meeting officer election
- October 14, 2016
- November 18, 2016 in Waterville (same day as STEM Summit)
- December no meeting
- January 14, 2017 (Saturday, snow date January 21)
- February 10, 2017
- March 10, 2017 Hold date for meeting or: Annual Conference
- April 7, 2017: hold date for meeting or Annual Conference
- May 12, 2016
- June 9, 2017

Tabled to next meeting: Awards for conference - Philip Marcoux and Lois Lambert.

Committee:

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Conference: meeting 9/1 to firm up plans

Outreach:

- firming up Dine & Discuss with Shari
- Bob to reach out to university professors to suggest that students in Science Methods sign up for Listserve
- Ann contacts MPBN Education group to request that links to archived webinars be posted on the site.
- Pamela to post webinar links to ListServe on a regular basis

Adjourn. Lynn moved to adjourn at 3:15. Diana seconded. Motion was robustly and unanimously approved.