NMLSTA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 04, 2024
1:00 – 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)

I. Call to Order
Motion to accept meeting agenda.
Moved by: Suzanne Cunningham
Second by: Alison Seymour
Action: Accepted

II. Roll Call

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board Member</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Board Member</th>
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<th>Board Member</th>
<th>Present</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loris (Lori) Chen</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>David Amidon</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Mary Lou Lipscomb</td>
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<td>Alison Seymour</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Kathy Biernat</td>
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<td>Corinne (Cori) Nelson</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>Anne Farley Schoeffler</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>David Curry</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Vicky Burn Shea</td>
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<td>Suzanne Cunningham</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sharyon Holness</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Kristin Slota Shea</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>Jodie Harnden</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Carrie Jones</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Weismann</td>
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<td>Peter Kelly</td>
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<td>Kathy Brooks (NSTA)</td>
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<td>Michelle Laborn</td>
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III. Review/Approval of Minutes from January 07, 2024, meeting.
Moved by: David Curry
Seconded by: Sharyon Holness
Action: Accepted

IV. Old Business
A. Nominations for 2024-2025 Elections (Alison)
Report of Nominating Committee with slate of members running for Board of Directors, Secretary, and President-Elect positions normally goes out February 1st and ends February 14th. This should go out in the next few days for a two-week period.
According to our bylaws, we have an executive committee (six officials) and a board of 12 members. Currently two positions are open, and five names have been submitted for the board. The bylaws state up to 25 members may serve on the board and the president may appoint members to the board. The board decided to leave the open board positions at two for 2024. We could get an email to members announcing open positions with a request for nominations, and the election could be held from February 27 to March 7. Alison will send this out via an e-mail. Announcements would be made at the annual meeting at NSTA.
Committee suggestions for management.
Action needed: Motion to accept nominations, set election schedule, and distribute ballots to active members.
Motion:
Moved by:
Seconded by:
Action:
B. Bylaws (Anne)
Review of Bylaws revisions and review of next steps. Board discussed altering the obligations for the immediate past-president and the president-elect. Discussion took place and these changes were accepted. Mary Lou will post these amended bylaws and the committee will review comments from members. The board may approve the changes once membership has made comments via an e-ballot. The amended bylaws will be posted at the annual meeting.
Action: A motion was made whereby the President-Elect chairs the committee overseeing upcoming elections while the Past-President will chair the review of the budget.
Moved by: Alison Seymour
Seconded: Kristen Slota
Action: Approved by board

C. Hurd Award (Anne)
Report on Hurd Award applications and committee recommendations. Four very strong applications were submitted, and the committee did not come to a decisive winner.
Action: Depends on Committee recommendations. The committee will be meeting immediately after the board meeting to select the winner. The president will announce the winner in our newsletter.

V. Standing Committee Reports (alphabetical order)

AOA (Kristin) Nothing to report.

Awards (Anne): See above for Hurd Award. Notices about spring scholarship opportunities will be going out later this spring.

Conferences & Webinars (May Lou)
Program Coordinator Report—2/4/2024
Webinars:
Advertising for the February 23 webinar featuring Katy Garvey and Jesse Nolan, Enhance Your Middle School Science Lessons with MySciLife, is on the website, and the first email to the membership has been sent. I’ll be sending April 11 presenters the information I need to develop their advertising soon.

Meet Me in the Middle Share-a-Thon and other NMLSTA Presentations in Denver:
Share-a-Thons:
We currently have 26 presentations that have been submitted to NSTA, for which I've received confirmation, either from the presenter or from NSTA. I have contacted people who have previously presented and indicated that they wanted to participate again this year several times. Recently I asked them to supply information and requested that they fill out the NSTA form but have heard nothing back. The deadline for submission to NSTA is February 15.
Other Presentations/Meetings:
The NMLSTA Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 5:30-6:30pm and the Meet Me in the Middle Meet and Greet is scheduled for Friday, March 22, 6:00-7:00pm. So far, I have heard nothing from our potential sponsor Source for Learning/MySciLife. I've contacted her twice. I'll follow up by contacting the employee that will be doing our webinar.

I will be contacting those who have submitted presentations for NMLSTA to find out when their presentations are taking place and start a page on the website listing all presentations by NMLSTA members as I have done in the past.

Discussion: Mary Lou stated there had been a mass exodus of staff personnel from NSTA after the Houston meetings. Currently the 2024 committee folks have been answering questions quickly and working hard. The committee is overloaded, and this is their first time working the NSTA annual event. There has been much improvement since Atlanta. Lori will highlight professional development opportunities for teachers at our Meet And Greet. The NMLSTA poster will highlight early career teaching network opportunities.

**Early Career Teacher Network (Kristin):** Kristin will be meeting with Kathy Brooks Monday evening.

**Next Meeting:** to be determined.

Membership (Elizabeth): Loris stated we have 232 active members. We will need to work to increase our membership during the NSTA annual meetings. Elizabeth is finally getting names from Wild Apricot to check off. Lori stated the tasks must be done manually pending verification of payment. NSTA has been forwarding these new memberships, or membership renewals late.

**Middle Level Teaching (Kathy Brooks)**

**State Affiliates Networking (Alison):** Alison stated she has received and forwarded various state logos. Lori must build a web page to highlight our affiliates. Possible affiliation with Earth Science group which is increasing its curriculum for middle level students. Besides this group Alison will contact NASA, NOAA, and AGI.

**Treasurer (Jodie)**

See Treasurer’s report in the NMLSTA drive. More money was brought in this past month from interest than from memberships. Our bills have been paid. The bills for our lawyer are coming up in March. We have $2,060 in our checking account.

Mary Lou made the comment that we usually get gift cards for presenters ($500 estimated). Jodie made the comment that we have not made $500 in memberships to justify purchasing such gift cards. David Curry recommended having a raffle and giving away gift basket(s) and/or free gifts from vendors. In the past flash drives and small items with the NMLSTA logo have been given out.

One comment was made that contact information should be requested as we hand out tickets and run raffles. Michelle stated she would get the basket and tickets. Kristen said she would sit at the table. We should have an Excel spreadsheet listing current/past members with us at our Meet and Greet and Share-a-Thon events.
Scope Advisory Committee: There is no NSTA committee. Articles may be submitted online. If you are interested in being a reviewer, a form is available to fill out. Reviews of articles must be completed within two weeks. Patty McGinnis, editor of Scope will be at the Share-a-Thon.

Technology and Communication (Lori/Peter)
Website maintenance is ongoing.
Idea of the Month: David Curry’s idea for January is yet to be posted. He thought he had sent the link. Anne is signed up for the February write up. Lori commented that we should open this to our membership, and maybe they will submit some ideas.

VI. New Business
A. President’s Report (Lori)
A form will be sent to the Board to collect information for the President’s report. The President’s report will be presented at the NSTA Denver 2024 NMLSTA meeting. Committee chairs are responsible for submitting a report of committee activities. Via the form, committee chairs will submit their annual committee reports and budget requests for 2024-2025. All board members will have the opportunity to evaluate current NMLSTA activities and provide suggestions for continued organizational development and growth.

For the good of the order/Announcements
Lori introduced Michelle Laborne, our newest board member. Michelle is pursuing her doctorate at Loyola. Michelle is our third board member residing in Illinois (Cori, Winfield; Mary Lou, Naperville, and Michelle, Villa Park).
Anne distributed NMLSTA brochures at Science Education Council of Ohio (SECO).
Suzanne will be presenting a middle school workshop at the upcoming HASTI meetings February 19 in Indianapolis.

Adjournment
Motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting. Next meeting March 03, 2024, 1:00 PM Eastern.
Moved by: Anne Schoefler
Second by: Alison Seymour
Action: Accepted