Minnesota Academy of Reading

Executive Board Meeting

May 8, 2013

1. **Welcome and overview of the meeting—Kate Kelly**
2. **Treasurer’s Report—**There was no treasurer’s report.
3. **Debriefing of the MAR Member Mixer**

* Seven participated in the 1 ½ hour mixer event that was described as a lovely, relaxing morning to gather and visit, sharing ideas with friends connecting around a common interest. Kari Ross provided updates about what’s happening at the State; participants shared textbook ideas and research articles; and several books were collected for an international school--The Children's Chance—to support reading and teaching across the world (<http://www.thechildrenschance.org/>).
* Bobbi collected registrations for the MAR Member Mixer.
* A recommendation was made to make this a yearly event and to ‘grow it’.

1. **Upcoming Opportunities**

* Several from Minnesota will be attending the IRA Leadership Institute June 27-29. MRA agreed to pay for ten participants. Membership will be a topic of discussion as well as consideration of events that may be effective in meeting people’s needs.
* The MRA Leadership Meeting will be held August 8 and the Summer Conference on August 9. Let Kate know if you are interested in attending. Ten members from our council are encouraged to attend.

1. **MRA Council Reflection**

* The Honor Council was discussed. MAR has met many of the requirements for application for Honor Council status. MAR events discussed that support Honor Council status include MAR’s policy event, the MAR Mixer, the book collection for international distribution, the MaryAnne Wolf event, summer book discussions/clubs, and formal presentations by MAR members (MACTE and Hamline Summer Literacy Institute). Events are offered to members and non-members through outreach events. There has also been an increase in membership since March of last year.
* Kate will sketch out plans for the application and bring them to our next meeting. Eva will e-mail digital artifacts to Kate.

1. **Sterns Partnership: Update and Continued Planning**

* Friday, 9/20 is the evening dinner
* Saturday 9/21 is the morning event
* The Sterns (June Stern Family Foundation) are providing financial backing to bring in MaryAnne Wolf.
* Book group discussions are being encouraged at institutes of higher education. Facilitators for the book group discussions (Proust and the Squid) will be invited. Discussions will take place over the summer (twice between now and September 21). Leaders will put together the groups of teacher educators.
* Facilitators will receive a book, dinner with MaryAnne, and will pay only $45 for the Saturday conference.
* Book discussion participants will get a free book and CEUs for participation.
* Eva will send out information to facilitators.

1. **Legislative Update**

* Eva shared that the Omnibus Bill is still in the works—perhaps through mid-May.
* Other items being discussed include bullying prevention, all-day fully funded kindergarten, early childhood funding, and higher-education tuition funding.

1. **Next MAR Executive Board Meeting Dates:**

* Monday, July 8, 2-3:30
* Tuesday, August 13, 3:30-5:00

**Members in attendance:** Eva Boehm, Terri Christenson, Kate Kelly, Deb Peterson, and Pam Solvie