

TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
2521 Riva Road, Suite L7
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MINUTES - Representative Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, May 12, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Russell Leone, by a Virtual Zoom meeting, at 5:02 p.m.

TAAAC's Vision and Mission were read by Samantha Schrickel.

**LAND
ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Heather Kerlavage read a Land Acknowledgment statement recognizing Indigenous Peoples.

**ADOPTION OF ORDER
OF BUSINESS**

Upon a motion by Jill Grimm, seconded by Melissa Connelly, to adopt the Order of Business with flexibility. The motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Stacy Langhirt, seconded by Jon Boughney, to move the approval of the Minutes of the April 14, 2021 meeting. The motion was approved.

LOCAL

Report on Website - President Leone reported that Clay Rutkauskas, our network specialist from MSEA, has been working with us on the website. Mr. Rutkauskas is joining us to talk about the capabilities and challenges. We will take some questions before we discuss NBI 21-03 that was tabled last month.

Clay Rutkauskas stated that he looked at the questions that the group had last time about the proposal that we asked one of our vendors to submit to TAAAC. It is a bare-boned proposal. We wanted to be able to create a member only site using Wordpress which is currently what the TAAAC site is hosted on now for the least amount of dollars. Wordpress has some built in features that can be utilized. The company that bid on it, we use at MSEA and they have done work for several other locals. It would entail creating user accounts for each one of your members which is approximately 6,400 now. It is a very simple process in getting them on boarded. It will take some manpower. Once that on boarding happens, then the

members will have access to the secure portion of the website. It would be up to the team of TAAAC to put information on the secure portion of the site. There is a lot of upkeep that must happen. There is no easy way to take folks off and allow folks to become members in automatic fashion. It is a manual process. It is something that your team would have to evaluate as to whether someone is out for an extended period of time; are they still a member? Should they still have access? Should they be suspended at that time? Who handles that and who makes those decisions? We have been bogged down in those type of situations. In the past, when we have developed this for other locals, most of the locals have abandoned it because there is no easy way to do it. At MSEA, we have worked with some of our counterparts at the National Education Association to try to make a member only site for us at the State level where we would not have any kind of manual processing involved and ultimately it ends up failing as well because of the complexity of our membership. The solution that was brought forth is the best solution we have in place right now.

President Leone stated that we have heard that it is possible. We will be looking at an NBI that centered around the website and a member only section.

NBI 21-03 Website - President Leone reviewed the procedure for debate over NBI 21-03 and turned the chair over to Vice President Kate Snyder.

It was moved by Kristina Korona, seconded by Meghan O'Donnell, to move NBI 21-03 off the table.

It was moved by Nicole Disney-Bates, seconded by Kristina Korona, to refer this motion to the committee.

It was moved by Russell Leone, seconded by Amanda Strickland, to close debate. The motion was approved.

The vote to refer NBI 21-03 to the committee was approved with 48-Yes and 13-No.

Vice President Snyder returned the chair over to President Leone.

Elections: Nominating Committee - Nancy Davidson reported that the ballot for the Sick Leave Bank Approval Committee has one name on the ballot which is Robin Murray. We can vote for one person and it is a two-year term.

Ms. Davidson asked for names from the floor and the following name was submitted: Colleen Walker Good.

It was moved by Richard Benfer, seconded by Jon Boughey, to close nominations. The motion was approved.

Ms. Davidson reported that the ballot for the Calendar Committee - Secondary position has no candidates. We can have one candidate and it is a two-year term.

Ms. Davidson asked for names from the floor and the following name was submitted: Dyana Cronin.

It was moved by Tami Thumbtzen, seconded by Jill Grimm, to close nominations for the Calendar Committee - Secondary position. The motion was approved.

It was moved by Melissa Connelly, seconded by Rob Connerton, to move the slate. The motion was approved.

Ms. Davidson reported that the ballot for the Board of Directors vacancy currently has two candidates which are Adria Watt and Jan Delph.

Ms. Davidson asked for names from the floor and no names were submitted.

It was moved by Richard Benfer, seconded by Rob Connerton, to close nominations for the Board of Directors vacancy. The motion was approved.

Adria Watt and Jan Delph addressed the group.

Negotiations - Executive Director Page reported that we have about 3/4 of the money that we thought we would need to meet our demands. He stated that the "At the Table" will be posted in the chat. A lot depends on what the Board's position is on how we can use the money available. We must find ways to give educators more time to do planning. We must find ways to moderate and control nonprofessional working duties. We are looking at ways to initialize on our presence at Board of Education meetings. We are in a good position to reach most of our goals. We don't determine how that is going to happen. As soon as we have more information, we will give you further updates.

County Budget - President Leone reported that we had a couple to testify the other night at a virtual town hall hearing. There is more opportunity for us to continue to advocate. Email your County Council members and express how important it is that they fund the request of the budget proposal from the County Executive on Thursday, May 20. There will be an in-person Budget Hearing at North County High School. Submissions are being taken from people that want to testify. June 14, the County Council has their meeting slated for their approval of the budget. The next step is once they approve it, it goes back to the Board of Education. The Board of Education has a meeting scheduled for June 16.

Executive Director Page stated that we don't want them to move any of the money that has been allocated along the instructional salary lines. We want flexibility consistent on how we use the 1% cola. We asked that any surplus in FY'21 and FY'22 along the instructional salary lines go back to who it is earmarked.

10-Minute Meeting - President Leone stated that Representatives have received a script and a Power Point to hold a 10-Minute Meeting. Jill Grimm and Dyana Cronin demonstrated the power point presentation for the 10-Minute Meeting.

Nancy Davidson reported that Robin Murray was nominated for the Sick Leave Bank Approval Committee.

Nancy Davidson reported that Adria Watt was nominated for the Board of Directors.

Nancy Davidson reported that the Negotiations Committee election will take place at the June Representative Assembly. As of right now, the only name on the Preliminary Ballot is Jan Delph. It is a one-year term and there are 5 positions.

TAAAC Budget - Secretary-Treasurer Tami Thumbtzen stated that the FY'22 Proposed Budget and the Summary of the Finance Committee were sent out. Tuesday, May 18, at 5:00 p.m., is our second Budget Hearing. If you have any questions, please email Tami Thumbtzen or Debbie Lanham.

Bylaw Amendments - Leona Puglia reported that the Bylaws Committee met on Monday, May 10, to review proposals that were submitted by the Board of Directors. Ms. Puglia reviewed the Bylaw Amendments and stated it will be voted on at the June Representative Assembly.

TAAAC Mills/King Award - President Leone reported that as of right now, we do not have any nominees for the Mills/King Award. If you know of anyone that is doing some good work in the community, fill out the application that can be found on the TAAAC Website. The deadline is Friday, May 14, 2021.

UniServ Update - Mark Mench gave an update on the Special Education situation that includes all the related Service Providers.

STATE

MSEA Summer Leadership Conference - President Leone reported that MSEA Summer Leadership Conference registration is now open. This is a great opportunity for people to network with people around the state.

President Leone stated that right now there is not a decision on whether the MSEA Convention will be in-person or virtual. The Board of Directors will meet on May 21, 2021 and that is when the decision will be made

NEW BUSINESS

Nicole Disney-Bates stated that she submitted a New Business Item.

Richard Benfer stated that Standing Rules have been passed that override Roberts' Rules and there is a time line for New Business Items.

President Leone ruled Ms. Disney-Bates' motion out of order.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Credentials - Robin Murray reported that for Representatives we had 35% and the Units 43%.

Government Relations - Allison Heintz reported the Government Relations Committee needs a Chairperson.

Special Education - Nicole Disney-Bates reported that the updates to the Recovery Services have been a big change. We have received commitment from the heads of Special Education to meet with the committee on a quarterly basis starting next year. We are working on continuing to collaborate with AACPS to make the experience better for all special educators.

Membership Organizing - Kristina Korona reported that the Member Organizing Team has been supporting the efforts of the Negotiating Team. The next meeting will be on the first Thursday of June.

IPD - No report

Special Events - Richard Benfer reported that the next meeting is May 27, 2021, to discuss any ideas people have for moving forward.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Leone reported the next Representative Assembly will be virtual on June 9, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

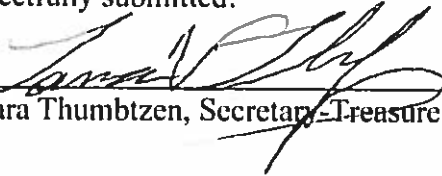
President Leone reminded Representatives to read the proposed Bylaw Amendments and look at the FY'22 Budget Proposal.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Kate Snyder, seconded by Jon Boughey, to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted:



Tamara Thumbtzen, Secretary-Treasurer

Approved:



Russell Leone, President

Minutes approved at ARC meeting June 9, 2021

(Date)