



ASSOCIATION MONTESSORI INTERNATIONALE

ELEMENTARY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

AMI-EAA, a member run professional association of AMI elementary teachers and trainers, provides a supportive community for the exchange of ideas and promotes the principles of Montessori education.

AMI-EAA Board Meeting Minutes Monday, May 3, 2021—Online Meeting

Attending: Amanda Cade (Membership Coordinator/Secretary), Nicole Fedorow (Conference Coordinator), Yvonne Froehlich (Publications Coordinator), Rachel Kimboko (Treasurer/Vice Chair), Melinda Nielsen (Chair), Regina Sokolowski (Outreach Coordinator)

Minutes and Officer Reports

January 2021 Minutes

January 2021 Minutes were received and approved.

Agenda

The May 3, 2021 agenda was amended and approved.

Officer Reports

Officer reports were amended and approved after sharing and questions.

Organizational

Refresher Course 2021

Evaluations

Tabled for a later meeting.

Refresher Course 2022

Update Status

There is another meeting on Wednesday, May 5. Melinda, Rachel, and Nicole met with AMI/USA to discuss the RC 2022. Melinda spoke with Samantha Levine about the people who responded to the questionnaire for the RC 2022. There were a couple of themes discussed.

It's unclear how to move forward. Rachel suggested that EAA asks AMI if we could get a trainer representative from each level because they don't have representation. This was something that was discussed, suggested, and offered by Lynne. The discussion with Lynne was around asking trainers for how they would like their graduates to have professional development and continuing education work done.

The committee that met with AMI/USA didn't have trainers and it would be great to get trainers on it.



We don't want people to have to choose between the diploma-holder content and some of the other material that is presented at a RC. If we are ever not in a hybrid format again people might have to choose between different tracts.

Summer Conference 2021

Updates

So far, there are 9-10 confirmed and paid attendees. There was discussion on how to make the registration payments show up as SC payments in QuickBooks. Nicole's goal is to get 100+ signed up for it. It was great to see so many registrations so early. Nicole will post updates on who will be there and will add some additional pieces that will be promoted. It's helpful to keep a couple of elements to add surprise and draw people in.

Each day will start at 10:00 am, go though 5:00 pm. The SC runs from Friday through Sunday. Nicole would like board members to take on hosting different portions and introducing different workshops. There should be a host and tech person for each workshop.

The Elohee Center should be sending money from the deposit. This hasn't been received as of the weekend of May 1, 2021. The original check was cashed, but there hasn't been a refund check yet. Nicole will check on this.

Nicole will send Amanda the list of people to credit a membership for presenting at the SC. There was general discussion on how to connect Rachel, Nicole, and Amanda for registrations, memberships, etc. for the SC. Nicole will work to integrate the Formstack into Google Sheets.

Theme, Structure, Partnerships

Tabled for a later meeting.

Virtual Events

Tabled for a later meeting.

Committees

Development of Events Committee

Tabled for a later meeting.

ABAR, Communications, SEED

Nicole will reach out to Dakota Prosch and Marcela Gomez Sixto about the scheduling and planning. If they need or want the deposit for their preparation, we can get them that.

ABM

Tabled for a later meeting.

AMI Global

Update on AMICUS (from Rachel)

Tabled for a later meeting.

UNESCO Future of Education

Tabled for a later meeting.

Schedule 2021-2022

Summer 2021 Board Meeting Dates

We will be working to meet monthly to have shorter and more efficient meetings about specific topics. Rachel suggested that we use the calendar and events to plan topics and regular discussion points for planning.

Tuesday, June 15, 7:00 CST

Monday, July 12 7:00 PM CST

July SC July 16-19

Monday, August 9 7:00 PM CST (pick dates for SEEDS)

Set dates for September, October, and November at the July or August meeting.

Schedule a PA Meeting in June

RC 2021 PA Rotation: Allyn Travis, Carol Hicks, Anne Dunne, Jamie Rue, Phyllis Pottish-Lewis; the next rotation is Anne Dunne leaving RC 2022

RC 2022 Board Transitions—none

Financial

Financial Updates/Investment Accounts

With the pandemic, we have had limited spending and have still maintained our membership.

RC Financials

There haven't been any financials shared from AMI/USA yet.

Publications

Website Status

There was discussion on what to next with the website. We reviewed that we asked Suzy Giles, AMI Strategic Communications Director, for suggestions and ideas on how to use it well. Prior to changing the website, the discussion on responsibilities would be helpful before changing it.

In Morgan's original proposal, there was a list of technical pieces that could be updated prior to a full redesign of the website. Yvonne will check with Morgan.

Prior to a full redesign, Suzy suggested that we reach out to users about how they use the website. There was a suggestion to have a focus group to help with the website. Nicole suggested that we have a focus group to give suggestions on the website.

Newsletter Format

Tabled for a later meeting.

Review Position Expectations and Responsibilities

The flyers, text, print promotion of events, tag lines, and other resources that are created for events could be a responsibility of publications. Regina shared that the publications role could cross promote the events, materials, etc. that are shared from the trainers and training centers. Nicole will share the materials with Yvonne. The publications role will still share on Facebook and post articles, AMI and affiliate posts, etc. like an extension to the website. The publications role will also manage the comments, inbox, etc. for Facebook.

Another idea for publications would be to post that our website has job opportunities and how to post a job opening. If the training centers have postings, it could be useful to include the training centers and links to their sites for job postings.

Following the transition of responsibilities, continue to update the EAA Board Duties documents.

Outreach

Review Position Expectation and Responsibilities

The social media responsibility seems like an outreach position. Instagram cross posts on Facebook. The publications role has been sharing articles on Facebook that are pertinent to elementary folks. There was discussion on what to post: core principles, ABAR workshops, etc. are great to post to share. For training centers, MNW and WMI doesn't have an elementary trainer to connect with centers since they might not get an email without a trainer.

The Outreach Coordinator will manage Instagram messages and comments and those comments from Instagram posts that are cross-posted on Facebook. Encourage friends, peers, colleagues, etc. to comment and share because it increases our visibility.

Following the transition of responsibilities, continue to update the EAA Board Duties documents.

Membership

Status

Tabled for a later meeting.

General

Scholarship for AMI Training

Tabled for a later meeting.

Montessori/Common Core Mapping Project

Tabled for a later meeting.

Review Action Items

Tabled for a later meeting.