



# 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, August 9, 2021—Online Meeting**

**Attending:** Amanda Cade (Membership Coordinator/Secretary), Rachel Kimboko (Treasurer/Vice Chair), Melinda Nielsen (Chair), Regina Sokolowski (Outreach Coordinator)

### **Minutes and Officer Reports**

#### **June 2021 Minutes**

June 2021 Minutes were received and approved.

#### **Officer Reports**

Officer reports for Chair, Outreach, Membership, and Treasurer were approved after questions and a brief discussion.

#### **Agenda**

The August 9, 2021 agenda was amended and approved.

### **Organizational**

#### **Refresher Course 2022**

##### **Updates**

Melinda has been communicating with the 2022 presenter and will continue to follow-up with them to get a writeup for the brochures.

##### **Promotional SWAG for 40<sup>th</sup> RC**

Rachel added SWAG options in her officer report. Rachel will create a questionnaire to see what members are interested in for people to order like a fleece, t-shirt, hoodie, totes, masks, notebooks, sweatpants, hat, clipboards, etc. We could also have pencils, stickers, or other small items as SWAG. There was a brief discussion on updating our marketing and branding materials. Amanda will include marketing/branding in the volunteer questionnaire.

##### **RC Advisory Meeting Update**

Melinda, Nicole, and Rachel attended this in preparation for the RC 2022. The takeaway is including equity in the speakers' presentations. A question posed was "How can we get people in conversation across levels?" If there is a closed elementary session, there could be an equity-focused question. If the presenter is presenting on movement and there is a pause there could be a question available for all people live and virtual.



There was a lot of discussion at the advisory meeting on getting the local adolescents involved in a very active way and possibly do a project. Instead of a school tour, the RC could have a service project component.

Following the update, there was discussion on how to be proactive as a board in having a closed session for EAA. One idea is if there was someone having a parallel paired conversation at another level, we could come together to talk about that. There was discussion on possible presenters and topics.

## **Summer Conference 2021**

### **Debrief**

Nicole wasn't present to share more details.

### **Ongoing issues, concerns, recording only details**

The late registration opened and is planned to close August 14. It's been shared on social media and EAA-Talk. Regina emailed training centers and invited them to take advantage of the recordings. Mindy Holte, MCM Course Assistant, reached out and asked if there could be an extension because the MCM course is in their exams this summer.

The deadline will be extended through September 30. Regina will make the announcement on EAA-Talk, social media, and the trainers on Friday, August 13. There has been great feedback so far.

## **Virtual Events**

### **Baiba video ideas**

We have reached out for Baiba's contact information. The folks who hosted her presentation were willing to talk about it. Rachel will email (and copy the EAA Board) Lynne Lawrence to see if we could connect with Baiba. We will gladly support and push the donations for Abba's Orchard.

### **Phyllis Pottish-Lewis to discuss her book**

Melinda will email Phyllis about the book. There was discussion about co-sponsoring the event with Debby Riordan's company, Montessori 360, and EAA to host Phyllis's discussion of her book. Regina and Melinda (to plant the seed) will reach out to Debby.

## **Committees**

### **Development of Events Committee**

Amanda will email a list of people who shared their interest in SC work on the 2021 VSC questionnaire for possible people to help support an events committee.

### **ABAR, Communications, SEEDS**

Rachel emailed Dakota and Marcela to verify they are able to coach our committee. She will let us know when they return.

## **Professional development cross-level/role committee (practitioner, trainer, ETOT)**

This was originally from our discussions on coming up with a way for people to connect on professional development.

### **ABM**

#### **When to have it**

November 13, 2021

### **AMI Global**

#### **Update on AMICUS (from Rachel)**

There is a Born Inside-like program, this is Montessori parent support for women who are having children while they are incarcerated.

The Mexico affiliate has different groups of people interested in different initiatives and they are bringing people together under the same tent while offering them a chance to work on their projects. Their affiliate is forming by pulling folks together.

There was discussion on the restructuring of AMI/USA.

#### **Professional Development Meeting with Trainers**

There were two meetings this summer with trainers and other RC shareholders.

#### **UNESCO Future of Education**

The dates for this have passed.

### **Schedule 2021-2022**

#### **Fall 2021 Board Meeting Dates**

September 13, October 11, November 8 at 7:00 pm CST. ABM is scheduled for November 13 at 10:00 CST.

#### **RC 2021 PA Rotation**

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

There was discussion of possible people who could be EAA's next PA.

#### **RC 2022 Board Transitions**

Amanda will be transitioning off at the ABM 2022 (since these are now in November instead of at the RC). She can offer opportunities for FAQs or a meet and greet during the 2022 RC. Regina shared an idea for a possible person. Amanda will send a list of people who have offered to volunteered and a general list of members with their names and locations.

## **Financial**

### **Financial Updates/Investment Accounts**

We are in a positive position to be able to have flexibility depending on how the RC may or may not change.

For Elizabeth Slade's book, Rachel has connected with Rebecca Dallam and there isn't a book seller selling it in Australia. She suggested reaching out to other members to see if they have or want access to it as well.

Amanda and Rachel will work to connect to see on ways for how to connect QuickBooks and FileMaker Pro.

## **Outreach**

### **Update on Graduation Gifts/Gift ideas when crown supply is exhausted**

Regina shared that people really like the crowns. Rachel has a contact on Etsy for crowns that might be around the same price and they will connect on the seller.

For social media, let Regina know if there are people for social media and she will start getting them organized.

## **Membership**

### **Subscriptions for Automating Tasks**

Amanda has been automating tasks for forms, pdfs, emails, and at some point may need to start using a subscription service if there are over a certain number of tasks automated. The cost is around \$9.99/month. She will keep the board updated.

## **General**

### **Services EAA Might Provide**

There was discussion on what kinds of services we might want to have for members that we would use our money to support or cover.