



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, November 8, 2021—Online Meeting**

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

Minutes and Officer Reports

October 2021 Minutes

October 2021 Minutes were received and approved.

Agenda

The November 8, 2021 agenda was amended and approved.

Organizational

Refresher Course 2022

Updates

AMI/USA is about ready to open registration and our elementary track is set. Registration was posted this morning. Nicole will forward the promotion to add to our files. We are waiting for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AMI/USA.

Alternate Online Option Speaker Contract

Melinda worked to create a speaker contract for the virtual portion. Our work is to look at how much we are going to pay, what we are paying for, and clarifying any other pieces. Elizabeth Slade and Allison Jones are the presenters. There was discussion on what will be covered.

There was discussion on which rooms and meals will be comped by AMI/USA. Melinda will check with Samantha Levine (AMI/USA Director of Events).

There was discussion on the recording of the sessions and how long the recording is kept by AMI/USA. Nicole suggested that the contract state that the rights for the recordings are for a specific amount of time. Elizabeth wants to make sure that we (AMI-EAA) have the rights to the materials that her presentation. Melinda will contact Elizabeth with details on the contract and making sure we have the correct understanding for them and their presentation.

Melinda will ask Samantha for how the EAA Board will need to register and reserve a room.



We will work to have Elizabeth and Allison's presentation be available after the event. The registration will push elementary-trained people to attend the RC-portion. Rachel asked Elizabeth if she needed any help, and they will tap people that they work with already to support them. Rachel also shared that if they needed help to let us know. It's not clear how the tech will work for this portion. If they need Zoom infrastructure, it still might be that EAA supports them.

Promotional SWAG for 40th RC

Rachel has a survey for members to ask about swag. There was discussion on if swag would be given away as prizes, purchased and delivered by EAA, or purchased directly from a company by members. Rachel will send out a survey to see what people are interested in purchasing.

Plan Travel Details

Melinda or Nicole will arrive for the pre-conference meeting. The plan is to arrive on Thursday morning flights and leave Monday late afternoon. Melinda will check on when to meet with AMI-Global. We will go ahead and book flights.

Registration

EAA will be doing registration. It's not clear what registration will look like. Nicole will check with the Events Committee to see if anyone is attending the RC/ME to see if they are interested in volunteering or offering support in some way. There might be double the support because of the two tracks. There was discussion on options to use for the registration volunteers.

Committees

Discuss Results of Membership Volunteer Survey

Rachel invited people who were interested in social media work to invite them to do a walkthrough for ami-eaa.org. We can share it at our ABM if people are interested as well.

ABAR, Communications, SEEDS

There are people who shared on the volunteer survey that they are interested in equity work. Rachel has emailed the people from the first meeting for ideas for equity work to share with Dakota.

ABM

We will be using the presentation Rachel shared. We will start with a land acknowledgment and invite people to add theirs to the chat. Melinda will have a welcome, introduce all of us. Melinda will acknowledge that it's been a challenging year for members and the same is for board members. It could be an opportunity to put out a call to people interested in volunteering and we can share the volunteer survey in the chat. Nicole will forward the details she wrote for the SC to Melinda. Nicole will update her slide to match the language of AMI/USA for the RC/ME.

Nicole will send a reminder on Wednesday, November 10 and Saturday, November 13. We will meet 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

AMI Global

AMICUS: Update, Professional Development cross-level/role committee

For AMICUS, AMI-Canada joined. They are celebrating their 50th anniversary as well with an inclusion conference on Friday. The keynote speaker focused on gratitude and happiness. After the International Montessori Congress to close out Montessori's celebration year, the Montessori architecture website launched. You can search "Montessori Architecture" to find it.

They are working on finishing up the course management system to manage online courses and have released the requirements for hybrid courses. Indaba graduated their first cohort and they are expanding their reach. There is concern around folks outside of the US attending the AMI/USA Montessori Experience. There is a group "The Prepared Adult" associated with the Global Montessori Network who have been in conversations to figure out how they can partner with others. There is concern outside of the US with the growth of Montessori programs and making sure they are able to keep up the pace with staffing for schools.

People are happy that we are doing a non-diploma offering. People asked if we are interested in having someone work in the archives work, people could see if there is an option for an intern. Rachel or Melinda will share the notes from the meeting to add to our archives.

Schedule 2021-2022

Schedule Spring Meeting Dates

November 13 ABM at 10:00 am

December 6 (no OR reports) at 7:00 CST

January 10 (submit OR reports) at 7:00 CST

Financial

Rachel has reached out to Pat Fullmer, EAA's accountant, to work on the taxes. He has filed for an extension. Rachel has a meeting with an Ameriprise person to see what they say about EAA and our holdings. It might be that there are simply suggestions or a suggestion for a more hands-on approach. We currently have a socially aware collection of funds, but it is mostly Northwest Pacific-focused. In talking about finances, we are in healthy shape. We are positioned to think about an independent event if we have to.

Publicity/Communications

Website Redesign

This is going to happen in the next couple of weeks. The survey has been sent.

Outreach

Regina is trying to get the takeovers again, but it is taking longer and more effort than it had previously. There are a couple of people lined up. People seem to be feeling more overwhelmed with how life during the prolonged pandemic is going. Regina is starting to do more reposting of materials in our stories. She is scrolling through and sharing content at the elementary level. It might be that people put together themes. It might be possible to have people send Regina their posts ahead of time to save for another time. There was discussion about our following and how to increase it.