



# ASSOCIATION MONTESSORI INTERNATIONALE

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## 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, September 12, 2022—Online Meeting**

**Attending:** Amanda Cade (Membership Coordinator/Secretary), Emily Curry (Conference Coordinator), Rachel Kimboko (Treasurer/Vice Chair), Ginger Kleiber (Membership Coordinator Candidate), Melinda Nielsen (Chair), Rebecca Peters (Publications Coordinator), Regina Sokolowski (Outreach Coordinator)

### **Minutes and Officer Reports**

#### **July 2022 Minutes**

July 2022 Minutes were received and approved.

#### **Agenda**

The September 12, 2022 agenda was amended and approved.

### **Organizational**

#### **Summer Conference 2022**

##### **Evaluation**

We have gotten positive feedback from people. We had 164 registrations for the 2022 SC. Emily will close the registration, and Amanda will continue to send the links once people have paid. Becca has one more giveaway to send. There was discussion on gifts for the presenters—Montessori blankets are a possibility. Regina will have them shipped to her and then send them to presenters. There are six blankets for presenters (including Nicole).

#### **Refresher Course 2023**

##### **Speaker Update**

Melinda has been connecting with the EAA RC presenter on the topic.

Rachel suggested to the Events person of AMI/USA to start thinking about school visits and reach out to possible schools to host and organize transportation. This is something other than our Elementary RC where we could also be volunteers.

#### **Relationship with AMI/USA moving Forward**

EAA is planning to meet with AMI/USA to discuss the partnership on the Montessori Experience. Our PAs (Pedagogical Advisors) also suggested that we have a meeting with AMI/USA about the partnership as well. The correspondence Rachel sent was prompted because of cost divisions with the 2022 Montessori Experience. AMI/USA is waiting for us to schedule with them.



EAA will have an opportunity to be united in our front with AMI/USA and what we are looking for in our partnership with them. Ayize Sabater (Executive Director, AMI/USA) will engage AMI/USA's new strategic initiatives person and Tim Walker (Virtual and Hybrid Events Director, AMI/USA), and Sheri Bishop (Human Rights and Social Justice Advisor, AMI/USA), who is a trusted advisor/consultant. There was discussion on possible PAs to invite to the discussion. It was also suggested that newer board members attend because of continuity and institutional knowledge.

Melinda will get the next steps moving.

### **Virtual Events**

#### **Update on Baiba's presentations (Abba's Orchard)**

We have not heard from Baiba recently to give Abba's Orchard the go ahead. Melinda will reach out too and Rachel will continue her regular checks.

### **Global Series**

There are a couple of members interested in working on a Global Series. Emily will reach out to Rachel to get started on organizing the Global Series.

### **Possible Virtual Presentation**

A member reached out to Regina about presenting a virtual event as early into the school year as possible. The proposal is for a three-part workshop. Regina will forward the overview, which includes multiple topics for each part.

There was discussion on challenges with supporting and having people who have their own businesses. When we have virtual events, we offer them for free. Regina will get back to them directly, and if the idea of a shorter, free option is of interest, Regina will propose a couple of dates that would work for her. The one time we have paid or provided a pass-through option was with NCMPS because of the content that was important to get to members at a time that felt it was most needed.

### **Committees**

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

Rachel will set up a Google doc for people to share ideas and availability.

### **Policies and Procedures**

#### **Needs to be updated**

Amanda or Melinda will look at the most recent Policies and Procedures. Outreach and Publications will be on deck for discussion at the next meeting. Regina and Becca will connect before then. Emily could craft a statement about virtual events with details on adding virtual and coordinating member-led clubs.

## **ABM (Annual Board Meeting)**

### **45 Day Notification to Membership for the ABM**

The date of 45 days is September 28, 2022. Becca will send out the notice of the annual board meeting. Amanda will send Becca the details, Emily will create the link on Zoom, make it so folks have to register, and send it to Becca. It will be at 11:00 CST. We will discuss the agenda in November.

## **AMI Global**

### **AMICUS (AMI Community in the US) Update: Tuesday, July 25 Meeting**

The group is meeting every other month now. Canada came for the first time. Rachel will forward the NAMTA fire sale details and post them on EAA-Talk and the details on John Snyder's book. Rachel shared what was discussed at the meeting. NAMTA does have copies of John Snyder's book. We can order them through NAMTA, and EAA could decide how many we want to buy. They will go out of print. They make great gifts for people.

## **Financial**

### **2022 Refresher Course Finances**

Still in process.

### **MES (Margaret Elizabeth Stephenson) Fund EAA Donation**

Rachel will send the check.

## **Budget**

Rachel will reach out to our accountant, Pat Fullmer, to get our AMI dues paid. It currently looks like we've lost money on the 2022 RC, but that's because we haven't gotten payment on it yet. Rachel is planning for an in-person 2023 Summer Conference. Rachel has been accounting for comped registrations, which will affect our summer registration. Amanda and Rachel are also working on accounting for the Public Montessori Educator complimentary memberships. Rachel will check with Pat on them as well. Amanda and Rachel will make sure they are indicated as a complimentary membership. There is no transaction because there is no money exchanging between the member and the organization. Rachel has also looked at the Montessori Congress and included costs.

The 2022-2023 EAA Budget was received and approved.

## **Publicity/Communications**

### **How To Post Job Openings**

Since we aren't sending EAA Newsletters anymore, it was discussed that we should post the ads consistently on our social media feeds—Instagram and Facebook. Becca and Regina can discuss this more when they discuss their roles and responsibilities. Becca suggested that Publications and Outreach send a survey to see what people are looking for. There was discussion on ideas for content: book club experiences/takeaways, paying folks for content, a Treasure Article-like idea, connecting directly with the book club group to write. Becca

has also been doing a lot of work with getting the links ready for the website. Send photos to Becca of organizational pieces, unique elements not common in other classrooms, follow-up work, classroom setups, etc.

### **Sharing RC 2021 and SC 2021 with Membership**

There was discussion on when to release the previous RC and SC recordings. The proposal is to release the year prior's SC around September. We could release the year prior's RC/Workshop in March or April (if it's recorded). There was discussion on how it might differ with presenters and setups. With the new website design, we will need to support our newly released materials. Becca will add them to the website with the resources.

Melinda will check with AMI/USA to make sure they have taken down the 2021 RC content for EAA.

## **General**

### **CRT Response to Ayize**

Rather than crafting a response, EAA is working to set up a meeting with AMI/USA and EAA to discuss our partnership.