

Metronet Governing Board Meeting · Tuesday, November 17, 2015 · 3:00 p.m. · Suite 320

Present: Jean Doolittle, Lisa Gearman, Jenny McElroy, Donna Nix, Paul Ryberg, Tom Shaughnessy, Maggie Snow
Staff: Olivia Moris, Ann Walker Smalley, Deanna Sylte

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

II. Approval of agenda

Discussion of maker fairs added to #7

Tom Shaughnessy moved to approve the agenda as amended; Paul Ryberg seconded; approved unanimously.

III. Minutes of 9/15/15 meeting

Tom Shaughnessy moved to approve the 9/15/15 minutes as written; Paul Ryberg seconded; approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of September and October 2015 Bills

The Board reviewed the checks written from September and October.

Maggie Snow moved to approve the September and October 2015 checks written; Paul Ryberg seconded; approved unanimously.

V. Financial Statements – September and October 2015

Informational only.

VI. Old Business/Updates

A. MILI

Day 2 with Saint Paul Schools was completed in early October. This year teachers and media specialists will be collaborating. Metronet is still working to plan ahead with Minneapolis but there is a lack of communication which is hampering the process.

Ann noted that Metronet is coordinating a History Day workshop with Saint Paul Schools on November 30. There will be presenters from the Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul Public Library, Minnesota Digital Library, and others. Lisa Gearman asked if Metronet would consider reviving the History Day workshop that was open to all districts and Ann replied that we would.

Ann reconfirmed that Metronet is open to working with other districts (or a group of districts) as long as there is a Licensed Media Specialist in the building and at least 15 participants. She mentioned that providing an incentive to encourage participation is a barrier since Metronet can't afford it and must rely on schools/districts to provide.

B. ELM Expo

The ELM Expo was held on November 6 with attendance of approximately 77 with a nearly even split between school and public attendees. Feedback was very positive and the plan is for the multitypes to hold similar events statewide, often collaborating with each other as location allows.

C. Reserve Funds

A number of years ago, the Metronet Board passed a motion to restrict some of the reserve funds for specific purposes. \$120K was set aside for operating reserves, and \$75K was planned for future projects. As Metronet now needs to spend some of the reserve money, Marc Colin, Metronet's auditor, recommended that the board revisit those restrictions and re-designate some of the funds to cover any current operating shortages. After some discussion the board requested that staff contact Marc to ask for a recommendation on how funds should be re-designated. This topic will be revisited at the January meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Continuing Education Scholarships

The board reviewed the scholarship applications included in the packet.

- *Jackie Chitwood: Paul Ryberg moved to approve the scholarship application; Tom Shaughnessy seconded; approved unanimously.*
- *Fun Fun Cheng: Tom Shaughnessy moved to approve the scholarship application; Jean Doolittle seconded; approved unanimously. (Note: Due to the length of the event, reimbursement will be made after 4/19/15)*
- *Carol Tracy: Jean Doolittle moved to approve the Steltzner scholarship application; Paul Ryberg seconded; approved unanimously. (Note: The board asked that Carol be notified that since she is receiving a Steltzner scholarship, the report needs to be more substantial than the typical brief scholarship report.)*

Maggie Snow asked about possible developing a rubric to assist the board in scoring scholarship applications. Ann will create a draft for the board to review at their January meeting.

B. Board Recruitment

Jean Doolittle contacted Diane Wallace-Reid to ask her to re-apply. Deanna noted that we could post the position on VolunteerMatch, a free service, to spread the word.

C. Board Elections

Jenny McElroy and Donna Nix are willing to continue serving as Chair and Vice-Chair. Jean Doolittle agreed to serve as Treasurer.

Maggie Snow moved to approve the slate of officers for FY16 as listed above; Paul Ryberg seconded; approved unanimously.

D. Maker Fairs

Paul Ryberg suggested that Metronet and MELSA should be aware of, or possibly even sponsor, a maker fair. (Note: Maker Faire is a trademarked event, whereas Maker Fair is an event with people who make things.) Paul is going to try to attend a meeting at Leonardo's Basement and will gather info and report back at the next meeting.

VIII. Director's Report

AWS gave an overview of Metronet activities (written report provided to board).

IX. Other / Board Sharing

- Jenny McElroy has been named an ALA Emerging Leader
- Marlene Moulton Janssen, Director at Anoka County Library, is retiring at the end of December
- Ken Behringer is the new director at MELSA. The board suggested inviting him to the January meeting for introductions

X. Next Meeting – January 19, 2016

XI. Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.