

**Massachusetts Junior Classical League Executive Board Meeting  
Held at Abby Kelley Foster Charter School on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
Minutes taken by Jacob Meister (2<sup>nd</sup> VP, 2007-2008)**

Officers in Attendance:

- Rebecca Gwaltney, MassJCL President (07-08), Notre Dame Academy
- Mark McNally, MassJCL 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (07-08), Catholic Memorial
- Paula Luong, MassJCL Technical Coordinator (07-08), Boston Latin Academy
- Jacob Meister, MassJCL 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (07-08), Boston Latin School

State Chairs/Sponsors present:

- Ms. Marjorie Keeley, MassJCL State Chair, Mt. Greylock Regional School
- Ms. Janet Fillion, MassJCL State Chair, Boston Latin Academy
- Ms. Victoria Miklosky, MassJCL State Chair, Barnstable High School
- Dr. Anne Nelson, Sponsor, Abby Kelley Foster Charter School

Guests:

- Zachary Hall, Abby Kelley Foster Charter School
- Alexa Wall, Barnstable High School
- Karyn Greene, Boston Latin Academy
- Max Mitrokostas, Barnstable High School

10:22 AM—Becca Gwaltney, the 07-08 MassJCL President, calls meeting to order.

10:22 AM—Becca starts the officer reports herself; as President, she is responsible for outreach to new schools. Becca has emailed many schools in Massachusetts that have a Latin program, but no local JCL chapter. The news, however, is discouraging, as no school has responded to her emails so far. Becca will write another letter to these schools.

10:23 AM—Chair Keeley tells Becca not to be discouraged by unresponsive schools; for the past seven years, she's tried to get schools that offer Latin in western Massachusetts to join, but even with pictures, films, it's tough to persuade new Latin teachers to join JCL. She's targeted the PVCA every time, but some schools and associations are just apathetic towards MassJCL.

10:25 AM—Mark, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, has no other news to relay, besides plans for BU Classics Day, which is a separate item on the agenda. His officer report will be discussed later in the minutes.

10:26 AM—Jacob delivers the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP's report. Jacob brings up prospective ideas for community service, which require more thought and planning. Right now,

various walks and relays happen across Massachusetts in the spring; he intends to investigate the possibility of MassJCL volunteering. If any concrete details surface, he'll be sure to bring them up at the next Board meeting.

10:27 AM—Paula delivers the Technical Coordinator's office report. The website contest has already begun, but she has not received many submissions.

Chapters who have a website should email her to register; the final judging for local chapter websites will begin in April.

10:28 AM—Dr. Nelson alerts the board of mistakes within the whole school convention contest sheet, which was sent out in the September Packet. All of these contests' deadlines are April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. This could account for the few website entries. Paula says that all schools who are members of the MassJCL for 2007-2008 and also have functional websites should email her; she'll enter them in the contest. The first check will take place on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

10:29 AM—Chair reports are given.

- Ms. Fillion gives the Treasurer's report, as he was unable to attend this board meeting.

As of November 17<sup>th</sup>, MassJCL has \$5,681.52. The majority of bills have been paid, and the organization is in good shape, financially speaking.

- As of now, MassJCL has 18 local chapters registered; some schools have paid dues on a National level, but haven't paid the MassJCL yet.

10:31 AM—Continuation of Chair Reports.

- Rules for State Convention and the current MassJCL constitution will be sent out to the newly registered schools.
- This is the first time we've separated the rules for States and the MassJCL constitution from the September mailing; this way Latin teachers are not overwhelmed with unnecessary information early on.
- Anthony has sent a letter to the schools notifying them of their membership; this is a nice touch, and Chair Fillion hopes that this will be a continuing precedent, associated with the Treasurer's office.
- Another flier will be sent out to the registered schools with the corrected dates for whole school contests.

10:33 AM—Chair Keeley delivers her report.

- Chair Keeley states that MassJCL's books are ready for the tax people to look at.
- In the opinion of the board, this year's Kick-Off Event (certamen scrimmages, catapult contests) was the most successful one the organization has ever seen. The last minute change to a military museum was great; additional money was made at the bazaar.

- The only improvement for next year's contest would be to have a date that works with the Clark Art Museum, as the museum was booked for our Kick-Off event.

10:35 AM—More discussion about Kick-Off event; how to improve it...

- As in years past, it has always been tricky to get a date for the Kick off event that doesn't conflict with PSATS and fits the club's activities well.
- In response to this, Chair Keeley informs the board that she is given the date at the school's convenience, sometime in June. She can only choose from the dates given by Mt. Greylock Regional School.
- People enjoyed the certamen scrimmages which were held at the Kick-Off event; despite the long distance, Mount Greylock Regional School will be attending its first ever Classics Day.

10:39 AM—Classics Day discussion begins, spurred on by Chair Keeley's mention of the event, but is stopped short, as Mark has a few more numbers to input and calculate. Discussion is postponed.

10:39 AM—Discussion of State Convention begins

- Unfortunately, this year's State Convention falls in one of the most inopportune times, from May 9<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup>. This date is right between the two weeks of AP exams; hopefully, this fact will not severely hamper the number of people going to the State Convention.
- Packets, convention rules and registration forms will be sent out after Christmas vacation, and it is at this time that online registration will begin.

10:43 AM—State Convention packets and registration will be sent out much earlier than in years' past, so as to accommodate Latin teachers' need to get transportation, approval of trip by school administrators, well before we approach the State convention.

10:44 AM—Chair Keeley recommends sending out reminders for schools to register for State Convention after the holidays. Neon postcards, with an official stamp will hopefully grab teachers' attention and remind them to get registration and necessary preparations for state convention underway.

10:45 AM—Debate ensues regarding when to exactly send out reminders about registration for State Convention.

10:47 AM—More heated discussion continues, this time about when to send out State Convention packets and what dates should be set for registration, both via email and by non-electronic means. What is agreed upon is that there should be 2 dates for registration.

10:53 AM—Issues concerning goals/deadlines for sending out convention packets, deadline for convention registration, and declaration of candidacy for state office are resolved.

1. Registration will be due on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 for Convention registration.

2. The deadline for MassJCLers to declare candidacy for State office will be March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.

10:54 AM—Becca informs the board that two Rhode Island JCLers and their sponsor would like to attend our State Convention next spring, but they would like a discount on the packet.

10:55 AM—The State Chairs unanimously say “NO” to this. If cost is an issue, then fundraising and grant writing will definitely help in defraying these costs.

10:59 AM—Chair Miklosky arrives. She is accompanied by two guests from her local chapter, Alexa Wall and Max Mitrokostas, both students at Barnstable High School.

- Chair Fillion reminds Becca that an artistic MassJCLer should find out the costume couple for this year, and have him or her create a black and white illustration, which will be on the Convention packet. Chair Fillion recommends that the illustrator come from her school, and also reminds her that she can choose a color for the packet’s cover page.

11:01 AM—Mark updates the board about Classics Day.

- As of now, there are roughly 377 JCLers attending BU Classics Day, but he will most likely have to add in a few more people. The number of people attending this event is normal, as last year’s 470 attendees was a departure from the norm.
- All in all, 15 schools will attend BU Classics Day this year. The theme for Classics Day is “Technology in Ancient Rome”. Over three-quarters of the schools have opted to perform a skit during Lunch, and schools should make sure that their skit mirrors the theme.

11:04 AM—Mark also advises that next year, the late registration fee for Classics Day should be waived, as few schools who registered late actually sent in the fee.

11:05 AM—Chair Fillion adds that next year, it should be made clear that the school’s money must be sent in separately from the registration forms. What MassJCL needs most is a number; any outstanding fees or dues should be paid upon school registration at the event.

11:06 AM—Chair Fillion reiterates that MassJCL does not need payment immediately, but rather numbers for the event. There should be two separate deadlines, one for registration forms, and one for individual/school money.

- Mark informs the board that teachers who have sent him emails neglect to include their school name and their own name within the entirety of the email. From now on, the teacher's name and school name should be included in the email, so as to avoid further confusion.
- Mark gives a recap of Classics Day's structure:
  1. All state officers who reside in the Boston area should arrive at BU (George Sherman Union) at 7:30 AM sharp, in order to help set up the tables, put candy/fora/advertisements on 'em.
  2. School registration will begin at 9 AM and last until 10 AM.
  3. Mark would like videos going on during registration, which are highlights from Nationals 2007.

11:11 AM—Discussion ensues about where to get needed projectors and when the movie highlights should be played. From this discussion, it is decided that the eight minutes of Nationals highlights will be played during Lunch time, and Carissa and Noah Young, both national officers, will have five minutes to extend their invitation to the 2008 National Convention.

11:20 AM—Chair Keeley has a stroke of brilliance; she will create bookmarks that have all upcoming JCL events after Classics Day on them. She'll put them together herself, and they'll act as an effective way of keeping JCLers up to date on important deadlines and events.

11:24 AM—Chair Miklosky brings up the subject of State Convention; she has a copy of the contract. State Convention will be held from May 9-May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Barnstable High School.

- Chair Miklosky has been in contact with the food providers, and they are enthusiastic about serving the MassJCL. They really want to improve their food selections; Chair Miklosky will be sure to keep the board informed of any developments; a possibility to reduce long lines would be to have all four lines open in the cafeteria.
- Discussion about March 29<sup>th</sup> board meeting ensues; after a lengthy discussion, the meeting will be kept, and another meeting will be added on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 2 PM to finalize all convention stuff.

11:42 AM—On the subject of State Convention, Jacob proposes two additions/changes, which include adding a local chapter T-shirt day, and

having a theme for the Toga Parade. The possibility for adding a whole school contest (that of a school T-shirt) opens up for next year.

11:44 AM—The Forum Factorum is the next topic of discussion; everyone really liked it, and it'll be even better this issue, as the printed copy of the newsletter won't be a scanned copy of the original.

11:50 AM—The meeting is adjourned for a lunch break.

12:46 PM—The meeting is reconvened.

12:46 PM—Paula receives feedback on the website; everyone really likes the website, and there are only a few suggestions to improve it.

1. Integrate the photos from JCL events alongside text; the purpose of the website is to help people outside of JCL get a better idea of what the organization is all about.
2. Update the list of schools who are currently members of MassJCL.
3. Have forms for registration, State convention contest descriptions online; update the links to local chapter websites.

12:52 PM—Discussion of plenaries for BU Classics Day speakers ensues.

12:55 PM—Mark proposes a motion to pay a plenary of \$500 for Professor Fu; Jacob seconds; in the opinion of the board, the motion passes unanimously.

12:56 PM—There is discussion about the possibility of a MassJCL semiformal. Jacob states that it is a good sinker for the club, at Boston Latin School, there have been more members who have joined because of the fun at JCL dances. He says that it's a great way to bring the state together. Chair Fillion agrees, but reminds him that we'd need to act quickly to reserve the ballroom. The board agrees that a date in the middle of March (preferably the Ides of March) would be a good time for a social event. Jacob has to look into the cancellation policy of the John Hancock Hotel and Conference Center, dates available, and chaperones ASAP.

1:00 PM—Chair Fillion brings up an issue that has just arose concerning the possession of the state Scrapbook. The 2006-2007 MassJCL Historian, Michaela Reif of Lunenburg Schools, would like her scrapbook back. The question of who owns the scrapbook is discussed.

1:09 PM—It is agreed upon by the Board that the State has possession of the scrapbook, as it is a history of MassJCL events. The state scrapbook also

serves a dual purpose, as it gives new historians, both local and state, an understanding of how to assemble a scrapbook. A good number of them are at Boston Latin Academy, under Chair Fillion's watch.

1:11 PM—Chair Keeley makes a motion that Ms. Fillion become the official keeper of state scrapbooks, and that she be able to loan out previous scrapbooks to interested local chapters. Paula seconds; and in the motion is passed unanimously by the board.

1:12 PM—Discussion ensues about whether to treat the scrapbook as collateral, but in the end, it is decided that no repercussions are needed immediately.

1:16 PM—Becca lets it be noted that David should know about these amendments to the constitution (i.e. any changes in the description of state officers' duties).

1:18 PM—The board likes Abby Kelley Foster Charter School's location and amenities. The board would like the next two meetings (February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 and March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008) to take place at Abby Kelley. Dr. Anne Nelson will talk to the school's administration about having the library for these two dates.

1:30 PM—The discussion of officer absenteeism is brought up before the board, and whether there should be specific criteria that jeopardizes an officer's standing, such as attendance.

1:40 PM—Chair Keeley makes a motion that we postpone the discussion of officer absenteeism at Executive Board Meetings and repercussions of said absenteeism until the next executive board meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. Chair Miklosky seconds; and the motion passes unanimously.

1:45 PM—Chair Keeley makes a second motion to adjourn the meeting. Becca seconds, and the motion passes. The meeting is adjourned at this time.