

*Fifth MassJCL Board Meeting
Northborough Free Library
21 February 2015*

Present Board Members:

Connie Chang, BLS, President
Julia Pan, BLS, 1st Vice President
Hanna Seariac, AMSA, 2nd Vice President
Veena Lagare, BLA, Historian
Linda Qin, BLS, Publications Editor
Abena Oworae, AKF, Secretary
Mary Abrahamyan, AMSA, Treasurer
Daniel Packer, MTG, Parliamentarian
Dalena Nguyen, BLA, Technical Coordinator

State Chairs:

Janet Fillion, BLA
Anne Nelson, AKF
Nancy Sinacola, Shrewsbury
Tamara Bauer, At-large

Guests:

Amol Punjabi, AMSA, NJCL Editor
Michael Gao, BLS
William Gao, BLS
Will Burnett, BLS
Kayla Riker, BLS

9:48- The meeting begins.

9:48- Abena states that last week's minutes were uploaded.

9:49- Mary states that the current balance is \$18,457.47. We received \$14,260 from Classics Day.

9:51- Hanna points out that people were confused by the fact that both the roast beef and the vegetarian sandwich were labeled "B." This led to us running out of vegetarian lunches and having to give students money to buy their own lunches.

9:52- Julia sent out a Classics Day survey on the 4th of January. She received 34 responses, mainly from BLS:

- "More vegetarian lunches"

- “Screen the skits because some of the skit themes seemed in bad taste or included swear words”
 - Hanna says that the Nationals role call rules should be implemented at Classics Day. Roll call rules should be read at the before the skits are performed.
 - There is no time to pre-screen.
- “The journey from the ballroom to a workshop should be better organized”
- “Dry/dull workshops”; “The professors didn’t talk about what the workshop was advertised as being about”
 - Ms. Bauer says college professors just have a more didactic teaching style. We can’t do anything about that.
 - Have the attendees, after each workshop, rate it from, for example, 1-3 (1 being positive, 2 being neutral, 3 being negative)
- “The officers were a little disorganized”
- “The crossword in the paper was a little unfair for those who did not have a smartphone. Next time, a more accessible alternative should be provided.”

10:00- The social network meeting is recapped. The social network subcommittee met a month ago, and divided up social media responsibilities. Mary joins the subcommittee and is given a social media outlet to be responsible for.

Hanna- Twitter

Dalena- Facebook

Linda- Instagram

Julia-YouTube

Mary- Tumblr

10:03- Ms. Bauer says that when we send out Classics Day info we should say that it is a way to replicate the college experience.

10:04- Ms. Fillion points out that we try to have workshops for younger students.

10:04- Dr. Nelson gets feedback from students and uses that to recommend suitable workshops for the younger (middle school-aged) students for the next year.

10:05- Mary had a bad Classics Day experience where the person seated next to her fell asleep.

10:06- Linda states that she has received 3 early deadline entries for the Forum. Ms. Bauer offers to help grade them.

10:06- Ms. Fillion reminds us that originally it was the job of 3 board members to assist in grading the newsletters. Hanna says that the change was made to state chairs reviewing the newsletters because it was felt that to avoid any controversy it would be better for to assist in grading. Ms. Bauer, being an impartial at-large chair will assist Linda in grading. Hanna will also assist in grading.

The next newsletter will be the one for convention. Linda will send this newsletter to her mentor to review the Monday of April Vacation, April 20.

10:08- Whether the Convention Ear should be prepared ahead of time is discussed. It is decided that the issue containing an introduction to the candidates should be done ahead of time. In that issue, the results of contests already decided should be included.

10:10- Dr. Nelson states that there is no Xerox machine at the site of this year's state convention, the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Convention Center. We must do all copying prior to convention.

10:12- Ms. Bauer says that because of the new location we are gonna have to just skip some. So one short Convention Ear should be done ahead of time, including info on events that happen at every convention.

10:15- Veena will be doing cover last for the scrapbook. She does not at the time have any major updates to report on its progress.

10:16- Dalena needs pictures for the website. Potential picture sources: Ms. Moguel, Ada and Julia, Hanna. Julia, Hanna, Dan will be assisting Dalena in grading websites for the contest, using Nationals rules.

10:17- Connie should mail state convention packet to Dalena. The state convention info needs to be on front page. Dalena had put the tumblr link on the website.

10:19- It is decided that the websites of other states should not be linked on our webpage.

10:19- "Snowball" should be changed to "MassJCL Semi- formal" on website. Connie says that members will buy their own masks. Dalena will archive the officer questionnaires.

10:20- Hanna has gotten 7 chaperones for the Midnight Masquerade. She is waiting to hear back from 4 more chaperones (all 21 and older). 56 people have preregistered for the dance. Last year at this time 33 had preregistered. Hanna's goal is 80 pre-registrations, and 30 tickets purchased at door. Mr. Mathieu will probably be DJ. Venue is all set and paid for. Hanna ordered 2 pizzas, not 4, because last year we barely finished 2 pizzas.

10:23- Mary confirms that a \$684 deposit for Midnight Masquerade was made.

10:24- Ms. Bauer deposits all the money because we've had more than one treasurer who couldn't keep track of the checks. \$800 dollars was received recently from a chapter.

Food and Drink Menu- cheese tray, veggie tray, stuffed mushrooms, chicken tenders, hummus tray, 14 2-liter soda bottles. Accents- last year's speakers (which cost \$120-177 speaker price), mask centerpieces Hanna will be making, mardi gras beads. Connie says that there should be glow sticks because they are cool.

10:27- Hanna says that a fog machine is cool. Kayla has fog machine, but we must buy fog for it. Hanna is looking into renting AMSA's strobe lights.

The identity of the Roman Murder Mystery killer(s) is decided.

10:30- Linda says that we should have jars for each officer at the registration table and each attendee should put a marble in the jar of the officer they believe is the killer. 9 people want to sing or perform. Hanna is going to bring laptop for karaoke. Hanna will send a blurb on Feb. 28th to Dalena about MassJCL Challenge. The theme for this month is environmental projects.

Current Coin Wars standings:

9. Connie
8. Dan
7. Dalena
6. Abena
5. Veena
4. Julia
3. Mary
2. Linda
1. Hanna

Hanna says that people were confused with the “ Clam Chowda Classics” spirit day theme, so she told them that an alternative to the Clam Chowder theme is a general New England theme
10:34- Pre-Convention Meeting- April 12th at Sturbridge. We should get here by 9:30 and start the meeting around 10:00.

10:39- Hanna says that as a result of the snow days, only one teacher, Dr. Nelson, responded to her email about Midnight Masquerade. There is a form and a flyer for Midnight Masquerade on the website.

10:41- Julia says that BLS has a second form to keep track of the number of students that have signed up.

10:42- Connie has been working on State Convention contest rules. Connie doesn't have access to Microsoft Word so she is using Open Office and the format is less than appealing. It is suggested that she use Microsoft Word on a school computer. Connie has edited everything, but needs to reconfigure page numbers in appendix. There is a March 15th deadline for most contests. There are out-of-state officers, including National officers, who want to attend our convention.

10:49- Ms. Bauer asks is we could give them a discount on registration fee. Also, if they were to come they would be given tasks to do.

10:52- We are not inviting anyone. The board considers why bona fide officers would choose to come to our state's convention. It is decided that this is because “we are bae.”

10:53- Dan cleverly quips that Massachusetts is “The Bae State.”

10:54- A total of 3 from out of state want to come.

10:54- Ms. Bauer feels that charging them a discounted price of \$100 would show our hospitality, and perhaps, we could auction them at Rent-A-Roman.

10:55- Mary reminds the board that we lost money at States last year so we must be conscious of our financial decisions this year.

10:56- Ms. Fillion says that having the National officer at State Convention will make the idea of going to National Convention more real to the average MassJCLer.

10:57- Ms. Fillion suggests that the out-of-state officers do personal workshops, as well as one on National Convention. Lindsay could possibly do a Graphic Arts workshop.

11:03- Pizzas are ordered.

11:04- Lindsay is contacted. She replies that she would do a Graphic Arts workshop and comply with whatever conditions that we decide for the out-of-state officers.

11:07- Ms. Bauer motions that we allow those who will comply with our conditions to come to State Convention for a discounted price. Hanna seconds this.

11:08- Julia asks that if one officer from a school chapter and another member of that chapter like/follow a state officer on a social media site we can give them State Convention points.

11:09- Ms. Fillion doesn't believe that we can enter this new idea for points now.

11:13- Julia says that she is going to upload videos on the YouTube.

11:18- Dan passes out proposed amendments and begins to debrief them.

11:18- First amendment is to add to the duties of president, as well as those of the secretary. The president would compile pros and cons of each MassJCL event, and the secretary would record these in the minutes.

11:20- Julia suggests that the officer who was in charge of the event said event should compile the pros and cons.

11:21- Ms. Sinacola believes that the responsibility of compiling pros and cons should be kept to the president and secretary

11:21- Hanna says that the rationale behind giving the president this responsibility is that they oversee everything.

11:22- Also, secretary could go through minutes of last year, look through, and compile pros and cons for minutes.

11:23- Ms. Fillion believes that we should do more intentional discussion pros and cons of events at these meetings.

Julia thinks it would be more effective if the pros and cons are events-based because it would promote accountability if the main event coordinator had to compile the list. Julia doesn't believe this should be in constitution.

11:25- There is discussion that officers won't do work that is not explicitly enumerated in the constitution. There is a counterpoint that officers might still ignore their responsibilities clearly expressed in the constitution.

11:25- Ms. Fillion reiterates that, for example after Classics Day, we should intentionally discuss pros and cons at the board meeting.

11:27- Dan asks if we want to extent this responsibility to involve other officers. The secretary should end minutes with event pros and cons.

11:29- Ms. Bauer thinks it is up to each officer to look over minutes.

11:30- Julia discusses the varying implementation of binders.

11:31- Ms. Fillion says that binders should be digital, like the Editor map. Ms. Fillion says that after every we should talk it over at the board meeting and the president should make sure that discussion happens.

11:32- Connie agrees that the president should compiling pros and cons list for all events. Fillion believes that it should be added to list of presidential duties, and also that they should keep list of suggestions, all kept in the president's folder. There is a discussion whether we should list the events- Kick-off, Classics Day, Semi-formal, State Convention- in the amendment. It is decided that we keep the wording ambiguous by saying "major event."

11:33- Dan makes the motion to pass this amendment with revision. Linda seconds it, and it passes unanimously.

11:34- The basic concept of the second amendment is that candidates, for the skill- dependent offices of Historian, Publications Editor, and Technical Coordinator, must provide "a composition of relevant works" to the current board members of their competency in the office they are running for.

Ms. Bauer says that we haven't had a problem of people being unable to do the work, just lacking the time to do it.

11:39- Amol says it would discourage small schools from running. Hanna says that young people wouldn't be confident enough to go against older people with such a requirement. Hanna says we should just encourage them to show their skills while running.

11:40- Amendment 3- changes "Specified Date" to "April 1st" in Article IV, Subsection IV, Subsection A- is struck down because that deadline date is not constant. Dan motions to strike the amendment down. Mary seconds that motion. The motion passes unanimously.

11:42- Amendment 4- to run for office currently you need to be enrolled in Latin or Greek or have completed all such courses offered by one's school; the amendment proposes to remove that condition for candidacy.

11:43- Hanna says we should get rid of language requirement entirely because someone might be devoted to MassJCL, but not a classical language.

11:44- Mary says that if we get rid of the requirement we will lose the appreciation for the classics that it is important for officers to have.

11:44- Ms. Fillion and Dr. Nelson argue that this is a national precedent and thus must not be removed.

11:46- It is discussed if the condition should then be modified to say "must have completed Latin 3 or if one's school does not provide Latin 3, up to what is offered.

11:46- Ms. Fillion says that the only modification she approves of is explicitly stating that one can be enrolled in a classical mythology course.

11:48- Ms. Sinacola suggests the wording of the condition be changed to having completed classical courses "available to student."

11:51- Dalena suggests the wording say "required."

11:51- Pizza arrives and we break for lunch.

12:13- We return to business at hand.

12:15- Julia says that whether the candidate meets requirements should be left up to discretion of their chapter.

12:15- Hanna says that if someone is super passionate about running, then they will challenge that condition.

12:16- Ms. Bauer says it hasn't been a big deal. She asks each board member if they are currently enrolled in a classical language course, and we all answer in the affirmative.

12:19- Kayla suggests that we add a sub-section about discretionary points, or exceptions to the language requirements.

12:20- Amol does not believe that the current wording of the clause presents a problem

12:20- The fifth amendment proposes to clarify the meaning of a majority in a vote for a candidate. It proposes that "majority" be changed to "more than half" or "a larger amount than other candidates," or that instant runoff/single transferable vote is used.

12:24- Hanna says that instant runoff/single transferable vote is complicated, and asks why this amendment is needed.

12:25- Amol says that there have been some state of emergencies, as with Ada's year and Thomas Flaherty. If only one person is running, they must get at least half the votes. Amol says that we have a working system in place already though, so the amendment isn't necessary.

12:27- National candidate is chosen.

12:50- We review the seven t-shirt contest submissions.

1:20- We decide on t-shirt contest.

1st place- BLA; 2nd place- Rising Tide; 3rd place- BLS

The final design will incorporate the front of the BLA design, and the back of the Rising Tide design. We will add the Vergil quote to the front but then cross out MALIS and write NIVIBUS.

1:26- Dr. Nelson and Ms. Sinacola got State Convention room assignments squared away.

1:27- Ms. Sinacola says that most of the GAs will be in the exhibition hall. Last GA has to be moved to the ballroom, which will also be great for the dance, there the lights can be dimmed without having to be turned off.

1:29- Dr. Nelson says we can't attach things to the wall and can't hang anything for dance.

Candidates have to be warned against hanging posters for campaigns. People have to be walking campaign boards.

1:30- There will be a wedding will be outside, unless weather gets in the way. All meals will be in gazebo room, unless wedding has to come indoors.

1:31- Board members will monitor buffet.

1:32- Mile will be first thing in the morning. Swimming will be at the nearby Y, which is only charging us 200 dollars and providing lifeguards.

1:33- We can use Y locker rooms for changing. All swimming Olympika events will be done.

1:34- We could do long jump on sandy volleyball court.

1:34- We might have to eliminate shot put.

1:36- The mini golf course could be used for Ludi.

1:38- They do not have lifeguards for the paddleboats, so Ms. Sinacola says then we would have to get lifeguards or if we want to utilize them.

1:38- Ms. Sinacola discusses remaining issues. There are no tables for testing, we must use boards. Do we need to get those who take more tests other rooms? We could get a digital projector. We need extension cords for certamen machines, which we must buy. We scoped out where there are outlets. Ms. Sinacola is can bring in two extension cords.

1:41- We need to bring speakers. We should make that clear that there is no piano for That's Entertainment, but that there's a stage.

1:43- The far side of the exhibition hall will be used for holding art. We have to check in cloakroom. We need to leave before Saturday night because of a Girl Scouts. event

1:44- We might want to consider blocking off art with stanchions or room divider.

1:45- The chariot race will take place on the field.

1:47- We can have the Worm on the grass.

1:47- No TV available for games, so can someone bring in a TV? The projector will be difficult to get, so we are gonna can the movie. We are using BLS machine for karaoke.

1:49- We have to decide on a DJ.

1:49- There is a McDonald's near the hotel, across the parking lot. Ms. Sinacola saw a bunch of kids walking on their own to McDonald's. We have to consider whether to allow delegates to go there or not. Should you be able to go there on your own during the day and go at night with a chaperone.

1:51- Hanna agrees that during the day a delegate should be able to go there by themselves, but at night, they must go with a chaperone at night. Like Chipotle at Nationals.

1:53- give each hall an adult chaperone, sign in or sign out. When you enter the hotel hall, there will be an adult, possible 2 per floor, who will sign you in or out from your room.

1:55- Ms. Fillion doesn't like the idea of allowing McDonald's trips. There gonna be a lot of snacks in vendors.

1:56- Ms. Fillion says we should plant SCLers at McDonald's, to catch people sneaking there.

1:57- Ms. Bauer says that chaperones themselves are hard to control.

1:58- Ms. Fillion says that chaperones with kids can control them.

1:59- 21 and older SCLers and adults can be chaperones.

2:00- We cannot order any late-night pizza. All pizza places around the hotel close at 10 .

2:02- We have asked hotel if they can make pizza to sell for a dollar a slice.

2:03- Mary asks if they are gonna be upset if they don't sell out of pizza.

2:04- Ms. Bauer says that we have to ensure that the snack machines cannot run out.

2:04- Ms. Sinacola says that there is a media room with a foosball table. We need to brainstorm ideas for how we are going to use it.

2:06- Ms. Fillion says everyone has to sign up to play.

2:06- Ms. Bauer says that there should be no need for a media room sign-up. Everyone should just use common courtesy and wait for their turns.

2:07- Mrs. Foley has board games and video games.

2:08- Should we have the movie or not? Or animal movies?

2:10- Linda will put cat/dog/goat videos together.

2:10- Ms. Sinacola asks if we should cut out Friday night entertainment, because last year there were people who were wandering Friday night.

2:12- Should we have workshops Friday night?

2:12- Hanna suggests nom com.

2:13- Any other ideas on Friday night? Julia asks if we feel as though mini golf and a couple of games are enough.

2:14- Friday dance? Hanna would like to DJ that? Or Connie? Ms. Bauer says that we need many people to chaperone the Friday night contests.

2:15- Ms. Fillion says that in April we should ask delegates to give us some ideas of Friday night entertainment and have delegates vote on them.

2:17- We decided that no cares about candy, so we will buy national-size bags and include pens and water bottles.

2:19- Connie has to order water bottles. Ms. Fillion asks if we should get thinner water bottles to fit in bag.

2:19- Bags should be sent to Dr. Nelson because she will be handing them out.

They will contain: pen, pencil, water bottle, name tag, hot dog style brochures.

2:21- We spend 5 dollars per goodie bag. If we don't put date on pen then we could sell them again. However, people like pens as souvenirs.

2:22- Connie says that she will order goodie bags and send them to Dr. Nelson's house.

2:24- We return to amendments discussion, and discuss the sixth amendment, which proposes to replace the blanket maximum of 4 votes per school to 4 votes for small school, 5 for medium schools, and 6 for large schools. Ms. Bauer wonders if more votes to big schools might give them even more power.

2:25- Julia says that schools might still want to divide votes among candidates.

2:25- Ms. Fillion says 8 for small, 10 for medium, 12 for large will keep it proportional and allow the division of votes among candidates.

2:26- The rationale behind the amendment is that it is not fair that large schools have same votes as small schools, as delegates are not fairly represented. Also, small schools often vote blindly without really having a sense of who the best candidates are, while larger schools are more informed.

2:28- However, at Nationals, every state has the same number of votes regardless of delegate population.

2:30- Ms. Fillion likes the idea of the amendment, but feels that we don't have its wording down, and we haven't discussed it enough, so it will be up to next year's parliamentarian.

2:31- There is no time to fully discuss all amendments, so Daniel will have to inform the next parliamentarian of the amendment proposals.

2:32- Constitution will outlive us, so we will have to leave the rest of the work to the next parliamentarian.

2:34- Meeting is adjourned.