The Adult Numeracy Network
Minutes of Quarterly Board Meeting

July 16, 2020   4:00-6:15 PM (ET)
(Conducted via video-conferencing)

Present: Eric Appleton (President), Heidi Schuler-Jones (President-Elect), Amy Vickers (Past-President), Sarah Lonberg-Lew (Treasurer), Patricia Helmuth (Newsletter Editor), Mark Trushkowsky (Webmaster and Historian), Cynthia Bell (NCTM Representative), Rebecca Strom (Math Practitioner Research Chair), Connie Rivera (Region 1 Representative), Adrienne Fontenot (Region 2 Representative), Amber Delliger (Region 3 Representative), Stephanie Stewart (Region 4 Representative)

Agenda:

- ○ Warm-up
    - ■ Amy provided a great Notice/Wonder activity based on our ANN Membership Map.
- ○ Minutes
    - ■ Heidi took minutes.
    - ■ Minutes will be sent to the board for edits by 7/17 and will be emailed to membership within 2 weeks, pending final approval by the board.
    - ■ We will post minutes on the web site (in service of being transparent and communicative with our members).
- ○ Our first quarterly board meeting!
- ○ COABE
    - ■ ANN board presenters: Adrienne, Connie, Patricia
        - ● Platform for presenting was a challenge; couldn't see the chat while presenting unless you had a separate device to view it.
    - ■ Amy received a plaque recognizing her for chairing the Math and Numeracy Strand.
- ○ Decision-making proposal
    - ○ [The Basics of Consensus Decision-Making](#) (used by the Literacy Assistance Center)
        - ■ Cynthia provided background on how the non-unanimous consensus process works at LAC.
        - ■ It's important for people to explain why they are not at a Yes. This can help others to understand what will turn someone into a Yes.

- Consider asking for the group to help brainstorm solutions, especially if the person objecting doesn't have a recommended solution.
  - A suggestion or modification for something does not mean a new proposal has to be submitted, if the amendment is accepted by the person who made the proposal.
  - At LAC, the basis and purpose of the model is revisited and agreed to at the start of each meeting where consensus is needed. It assures everyone that the group is on the same page and reestablishes how the group will work.
  - Maybe consider 'major objection' instead of 'blocking.'
    - A major objection is not an obstacle. Each of us has a personal responsibility to hear and respond thoughtfully to each person's perspective.
  - How do people not feel pressured to vote for consensus?
    - It will be important to foster more welcoming language/ vocabulary to minimize the pressure.
    - Must hear each other out.
    - Stalemate? What happens? Continue discussing to reach consensus.
    - Remembering the intentions of everyone is important.
    - Assume the best when reviewing the process.
  - Eric, Heidi, and Amy propose ANN adopt a consensus decision-making model.
    - Can we use the consensus model as discussed and work out more of the details along the way?
    - Question: Which model will we use? Unanimous or non-unanimous?
      - Proposing to use what LAC uses as described by Cynthia (non-unanimous). See [Consensus Flowchart](#).
        - Amended proposal: ANN adopts a consensus decision-making model, with the specific details and processes to be developed over time.
          - Poll results: Unanimous consensus was reached
        - Patricia asked/proposed: ANN starts a consensus decision-making development committee.

- - They can build on what was already discussed in this meeting.
    - Poll results: Unanimous consensus was reached
  - Budget
    - [Proposed budget](#)
      - AMATYC dues and COABE pre-conference scholarships not in budget due to proposing a more conservative budget. The scholarship line item can be amended if the 2021 (Nashville) pre-conference registration is large.
      - Zoom professional account is a new expense. Zoom can be used by board members to schedule committee meetings, social gatherings, etc without having to use a 'borrowed' work account (such as CUNY's). Zoom can also be used for webinars with membership.
        - Plan only allows for one meeting in a specific time slot. We can use a master calendar to keep this organized.
      - Recommendation for future budget proposals: Include a list of questions for the board to consider to help clarify what needs to be addressed in the review, i.e. cut a line item, increase something, etc.
      - Proposal: Adopt the FY21 budget. In addition, when budgets are proposed, please clarify the purpose of reviewing the budget in advance of the decision.
        - Poll results: Consensus was reached with some concerns but with agreement to move forward
          - Concerns: Not sure what lens we're using to evaluate the budget as proposed.
  - Secretary position
    - [Secretary job posting](#), [proposed process for filling the position](#)
    - Consider how this process for filling vacancies (between elections) can be used and built upon for elections, too.
      - Build committees similar to the pre-conference planning committee.
    - Proposal for filling a position: Adopt the proposed process for filling the secretary position.
      - Poll results: 90% agree; 10% have concerns but can live with the proposal
        - Concerns: Make sure this process extends to elections, too. A goal for the process to fill vacancies is to get to know our membership better. Also, recommend changing the 'interview' to a 'conversation'.
- Position statements on racial justice
  - [Proposal from Sarah: Black Lives Matter](#)

- - - - Poll results: At least one major objection was offered, so no consensus was reached.
    - ○ [Proposal from Mark: Sign on to #IamABE statement](#)
      - ■ Poll results: At least one major objection was offered, so no consensus was reached.
    - ○ Proposal: Form a committee to address concerns of board members (spoken or emailed to committee) to determine how to proceed with the two proposals. The committee will provide a new proposal back to the board (via email) to test for consensus.
      - ■ Poll results: Consensus was reached with some concerns but with agreement to move forward
        - ● Concerns: timeline, process for moving forward (What happens between this meeting and when the committee forms? Within the committee? After the committee convenes/discusses concerns?)
- ● Next Steps/Closing
  - ○ Next quarterly board meeting will be in October.

Respectfully submitted on July 17, 2020

Board comments and edits accepted and finalized on July 30, 2020

Heidi Schuler-Jones