

# Board Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2020

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM EST

## Attendance

1. Eric Appleton
2. Cynthia Bell
3. Patricia Helmuth
4. Jeniah Jones
5. Sarah Lonberg-Lew
6. Connie Rivera
7. Heidi Schuler-Jones
8. Rebecca Strom
9. Mark Trushkowsky
10. Amy Vickers

## Minutes

Called to order at 5:03 PM

### Warm-Up Activity: Rose and Thorn

- Is it a good idea to use this or similar warm-ups in board and other meetings?
  - This type of activity can feel forced.
  - This can be unpleasant if there is not an existing connection/already among friends.
    - I would not enjoy in a group of strangers.
  - I like the low-stakes questions; it feels nourishing to catch up with friends at the end of the day.
  - It was easy to identify a rose, but not a thorn. I like that thorns are identified as challenges as opposed to bad things that happened.

### Committee reports

#### The Math Practitioner Committee - Patricia

- Meets 3x / year
- Meetings occur not long after issues are published with an idea of what will be in the issue
- The team is strong because members have different strengths and interests

- Mini-jobs - peer-reviewing, sources, articles, etc. One member only likes being at meetings and formatting. Members discuss article writing and brainstorming at the meetings - this information is great!
- Successes and challenges: The spring issue came out after COVID. Needed to add things to articles and write an article to remain relevant to current issues.
- The current issue is a challenge because people are overwhelmed with their schedules. It is difficult to find folks to make contributions.
- Success for the current issue - a member reached out to write an article.
- Patricia connected with members who expressed interest and all were still interested in serving in the committee.
- Patricia surveyed members and they like being involved in the committee to be involved with ANN without taking on too much.
- There was a guest at the last meeting.
- Goal: defining actionable items for members
- Goal: Answer the following questions:
  - What does it mean to be a committee member?
  - How do we reach out to the ANN committee to solicit articles?
- Sent out a survey on committee terms: 1 year is a reasonable time commitment (1 cycle of the newsletter). This will be a goal (explicitly state that members commit to a year).
- Suggested more meetings per year, setting more soft deadlines for members
- During meetings, committee members will be the lead and PH will sit as chair
- Goal: Increase outreach to members.
- Goal: More committee members.
- Board Support Needs: Great board support; person-to-person contact gets stuff in the newsletter - We need "an ask"
  - What's happening regionally?
  - How do we make this happen?
- Submitted application for NCTM Outstanding publication award
- Planning to reuse a flyer to recruit members for the Math Practitioner
- Q: Does the committee put out a call for articles?
  - Contact regional reps for regional news
  - Sent email to the membership through the website - no reply
  - ANN emails going into ads folder
  - Cynthia stated she's never received any emails from the website
  - **Follow-up item: Check with other members to see if they are receiving our emails. Is there anything we can do to help people receive group emails?**
- Always accepting articles to have something available for the next issue
- Suggestion: Invite individuals who signed up for the pre-conference last year to contribute to the Math Practitioner.

## Teaching & Learning Institute Planning Committee - Heidi

- Subcommittees: working committee, logistics, outreach, ANN Under 10
- About a dozen members in the working committee
- About half the members have participated in pre-conference planning before and the other half are newbies, particularly wanting to be part of the workshop planning team
- Can nourish leadership skills, engaging in a team atmosphere, learning to present, collaborating, sharing ideas; a great group of mentors with great energy
- Challenge: strong opinions on the direction of the training; focus
- Want to do a full day FTF and a half-day virtual preconference
- Need: More people to help (particularly since the majority of the group wants to work on workshop planning)
- Only Heidi and one other member are working on the pre-conference
- Heidi working on logistics
- Asked Sarah to lead the workshop planning subcommittee. Heidi trusts her to balance the strong opinions.
- Goal: Pulling off pre-conferences
- Goal: Come out of pre-conference with new members joining and participating in other committees
- Q: What are the topics?
  - Music and Art: Patterns. Bringing beauty, joy, and creativity into your math class.
- Q: What are we considering for the virtual pre-conference?
  - They will be parallel. We are extending what happens in the virtual to the F2F pre-conference.
  - How do we make a virtual half-day pre-conference interactive and engaging? Great brainstorming on what could possibly work.
  - It is challenging planning for virtual and face-to-face because they are very different
  - Working on virtual ways to have table ambassadors
  - If anyone wants to get involved but does not have a lot of time, send them Heidi's way!

## Working Group for Racial Equity in Math Education - Sarah and Mark

- Just Sarah and Mark for now, but looking for more people
- Grew from the prior committee, based on ideas on potential actions
- [A new document](#) on future actions ANN can take. Board members will review and identify which they wish to be part of
- The person over the working group will divide folks into groups based on interests. Do not need to be on the committee to participate in the actions
- Very flexible about where things should go
- Actions on the list are a brainstorm of the committee
- If you have ideas for action, add it
- This will be used to draw interest

- Not signing up to do all, just what you're interested in, and can do one at a time, even though you sign up for all that you're interested in
- Goal: Need more than two people in the committee and need a chairperson
- Remember that the committee that drafted the ANN statement said they would work on revisions (Remembering our roots)

### Outreach and Support Committee - Jeniah

- Trying to engage current membership and recruit new members
- Focused on engaging new members as they connect, personal touch, answer questions.
- Scavenger hunt in the Math Practitioner (with prizes?) - we have leftover prizes, Zazzle cheap prices/free shipping.
- Strategic planning goals - working on the first two goals, narrow focus so that we're not all over the place and doing too much (Falencia has been good at giving the group a focus)
- Falencia Ezendu is the leader. She has scheduled meetings through the end of the year.
- The committee is in brainstorming mode right now, generating ideas and narrowing to what we will focus on right now.
- Wanting to connect to the regional reps to make sure that we're connecting to people in each region
- Falencia is looking at the members to see what regions people are from, what institutions.
- Needs:
  - Steal some energy from the Math Practitioner, so that we can give it back. Some space in the MP for the scavenger hunt.
  - Connection to regional reps.
- Q: How are new members finding us? Because of COVID, fewer face-to-face workshops.
- Q: Do we have agreed upon tools for recruitment? Online state workshops. What tools do we have? Maybe a slide to add to presentations. A sticker for the end of email signatures.
- Q: Maybe we could add a field to registration form. How did you hear about ANN? Use this for follow-up.
- Issue: Maybe we need to find out how many people are opening MP. Some people aren't opening it. So few people are clicking on our links.
- Issue: ANNleadership emails were showing up in junk mail for Cynthia.

### Website Committee - Mark

- Successes: Regular access to the site, content added, resources (what does it mean to do math? Exploring social justice, exploring math and art). Organization
- Challenges: Does anyone use the site? Focused on putting content and getting people to use it.
- Get people using the site as a resource for work. How do we incorporate new content to keep folks engaged?
- Challenge: no committee, recruitment/team building
- What is the website? It is one of the public faces of the organization.

- Goals: Renewing and making the content living
- Current components: Ask ANN, a forum for members only, events list. We need to clarify when to use which components.
- Committees communicate with members through the site
- Regions communicate with members through the site
- Goal: what clarity can we forge in the way we communicate?
- Have not had a formal introduction to the website. Writing regional reps and sending an invitation to the website. Increase feedback options
- Provide a space for committees (inter committee communication)
- Provide a space for new members
- Board support needed: talk about the website, share instructional resources (workshops). Members need to know about the website first, then maybe they'll come forward
- Question: How nice would it be if there was an open house (a welcoming environment)?
- Comment: Virtual open house through Zoom (synchronous) that goes in the direction that the attendees take it. Would be cool to show off the website.
- Thinking of joining a committee? Click here! Someone from the committee can connect with them.
- Comment: Test drive committees

## Building Committees: General Discussion

- Independent, but interdependent at the same time
- Doable goals; not too much
- Committee work points to other committees' work; prevents us from having to make so much content - highlighting different pieces
- How do members know how to get information to Mark for the website?
- Each committee chair could reach out to Patricia with a "help wanted"
- Just a reminder to everyone that the NCTM annual conference is this week
- A strong collection of events on our website would be a big draw, I think. There is so much happening. If we were to curate the best events available for our members
- We could have a scavenger hunt on the website too!
- Plan an "ANN Wants You" email stating what we want members to get involved with (no spamming; one direct email)
- It helps when we ask for specific roles and provide specific time frames
- For upcoming events - should that be webinars that ANN members are presenting?
- <https://adulthoodnumeracynetwork.org/Get-Involved>

## Next Steps

### Commitments

- Cynthia will help with the website.
- Mark will await Cynthia's email.
- Mark will send the document on the working committee so that people can sign up for any actions they want to be involved with.
- Heidi will make a donation to Zazzle for ANN swag for the scavenger hunt. She will look into whether Zazzle will accept donations or not. Patricia confirmed that there are Zazzle gift certificates.
- Patricia will have a conversation with the outreach committee to get more information on the scavenger hunt. Let's make this happen! Patricia wants a committee chair (that's not her) for the health of the committee.
- Debrief of the NCTM conference with Cynthia. It will be worth debriefing how they did the virtual conference.
- Zazzle currently has a holiday sale.

The next meeting will be around January 21, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM