

Spring Business Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2010
Swallow Middle School
8:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:42 a.m. by president Bruce Coats.

2. Break into Committees

Bruce announced where the committees were meeting in the room. Attendees were asked to join one of the standing committees and share their input on the committee's agenda. The standing committees that met were Judges Standards, Categories, and Tournament Practices and Procedures.

3. Committee meetings were adjourned and the Spring Business Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

Bruce revisited item #3 and shared that the Fall Meeting date, time, and location is not determined, and that information about the Fall Meeting will be posted on the website early in the school year. Information about the Fall Meeting will be shared by the incoming President and Vice President by September.

Bruce then announced the Elections for the upcoming MFLA year needed to take place. Laura Michelz who was President –Elect for the 2009-2010 season will now move into the President position for the 2010-2011 season. Bruce Coats who was the President for 2009-2010 season will now move into the Past President position. The President – Elect position was then open. Nominations for the position were entertained and Pam Cullen and Tyne Turner were brought forth for consideration. After a written vote was taken, it was announced that Pam Cullen will be the President- Elect for the 2010-2011 season. After many years of service, and tremendous accounting ability given to keep the MFLA books in the black, Jackie expressed the desire to see if anyone else would want to be treasurer. Kris Wells from Burdick name was brought forth for consideration. After a brief discussion, both Jackie and Kris were officially nominated for the position of treasurer. After a written vote was taken, it was announced that Kris Wells was the new treasurer for the 2010-2011 season. Jackie agreed to stay on in the position of treasurer until Fall. Due to Pam Cullen's election as President –Elect the position of Secretary was now open. Pam nominated Jody Herbert for the position of Secretary. There were no other nominations so Jody was unanimously elect as the new Secretary for 2010-2011 season.

4. Committee Reports

Bruce recognized and thanked all the Committee Chairs for the work on the committees this year. Bruce also shared thoughts and thanks for this year as President and what the future holds for him during the 2010-2011 season.

A. Helen Andrews reported on the Category Committee. All categories appear to be viable.

Infractions were mainly Time Infractions (92%).

Issues considered by the committee were:

1. The time change to **Solo Categories** piloted this year was made permanent.
2. **Special Event Situation** changes tabled until summer to give everyone an opportunity to consider new ideas. Anyone can send their ideas to Helen via email.
3. Remove all reference to 'Podium' in rules and rubrics is now permanent.
4. Descriptions of Category part of the rules is going to be addressed at a later summer meeting.
5. Add to **Storytelling** rules that storytellers who choose to stand may move around freely when telling their stories.

6. Clarified why **Non-Original** requires either a script or memorization. Include in language allowances for referring to script when parts are memorized but whole script is not . All agreed to this language.
7. Everyone agreed that the visual aid option in **Informative** should stay and will remain permanent.
- 8 The time period for **Moments** was chosen. **For the 2010-2011 Season the time period is 1855-1875.**
9. It was brought forth by committee to change **Demonstration** time limits to 4 to 8 minutes excluding set up and tear down. Timing would start when the participant would begin talking. It was agreed to try this as a 1 year pilot in the 2010-2011 season.
10. It was brought forth by the committee to change **Group Interpretation** time limits to 5-10 minutes instead of 6-12 minutes. Committee members agreed to a 1 year trial of this change in the 2010-2011 season.

B. Historian

Bob Herman was absent. Bruce reported that all Historical Items are now posted on the website.

C. Judges Standards

Scott Morgan shared a presentation on the progress made on judges' training for this committee. Scott stated that it is a work in progress. Members present at the spring meeting were provided input by Scott on revisions that could be made. Scott felt that the document was close to being finalized. Scott was open to posting the document he presented on the website and answering any questions or concerns on the proposed document. Recommendations were made by those assembled as to when training should be held and how often. The topic of Judge's training and when it will be required will be discussed at the fall meeting.

D. Tournament Practices and Procedures

Bruce discussed current practices and procedures implemented this year with members during committee reports.

5. State Tournament Report

Sarah Lichey provided the final report on the State Tournament. Sarah felt it went well with 850 entries and 1200-1300 total kids attending. Sarah announced the next state tournament will be at Oconomowoc for the 2010-2011 season. A question was posed about certificates for participation. Sarah shared that certificates have not been given out for many years because each student that attends the state tournament receives a ribbon. All members agreed the practice of not issuing certificates should continue.

6. Stipends for helping at State Tournament

A discussion was initiated by Sarah Lichey in regards to stipends given for hours worked at state, and how they were allocated for services rendered at the state tournament. In the past people received stipends based on the job they did and completed at State. Sarah then outlined who was compensated this year for state tournament. She further explained that she as director had 8 gift cards to restaurants which she gave out to people who assisted with the State Tournament. She also shared those who went up before the tournaments were compensated with a hotel room, meal, and their mileage to/from the tournament. Sarah then raised the question if any people or positions were left out.

Next, Sarah then stated that Jackie (Treasurer) was in charge of payments due at State; collecting and recording that information. Jackie also came to State without having a team there or any other reason to be there other than in her capacity as Treasurer. For her time and work at State, Jackie did not get compensated for her work, and Sarah felt that Jackie should be compensated.

A discussion was then held on how state stipends were determined, whether Jackie's position was included or not in the payment schedule, past practices for State compensation, and whether Jackie should be compensation for her time and services rendered. A motion then was called for by Sarah L. that Jackie should receive a stipend of \$200.00 dollars for services rendered at state. Barb seconded it. At 10:48 a.m. President Bruce then turned the meeting over to the President Elect Laura so he could speak to the motion. Bruce shared that he was against the motion because Jackie knew she had to go up without being paid and further more there were 4 other people who were in the same situation as Jackie and were not getting compensated for their work. The meeting was then handed back to the President by the Vice President at 10:50 a.m. The motion was put up for a vote and was passed by the majority of votes in favor of Jackie receiving compensation for services rendered at the State meet with a stipend of \$200.00 .

A second conversation was then initiated by Tyne stating that she felt that all the officers of the executive board should be compensated for the time that they put in for MFLA. A discussion was then held about this issue. A motion was then brought forth by Tyne stating, "All officers who currently hold the officer positions for 2009-2010 and all future officers should receive an annual stipend based on the total assets available to MFLA which can be adjusted in times of financial hardship". Jackie seconded the motion. Discussion then took place about who is on the executive board, and what amount would be reasonable to give people for their service as an officer of the board. A amendment to the motion was offered by Helen which stated that the current six officers (President, President Elect, Treasurer , Secretary, Past President, and Small Schools Representative should all receive \$200.00 per year for their services not only this year, but for future officers as well. This was seconded by Jackie. A discussion then took place to review the responsibilities of each of the officers. Kris then made a friendly amendment to Helen's proposed numbers and suggested that the compensation for officers should total 1500 with 500 given to the President, 250 given to both the Past President and President Elect, 200 given to both the Secretary and Treasurer, and 100 given to the Representative of the Small Schools. Robin then put forth a friendly amendment to the proposed amendment changing the amounts given to the officers as: President 300, Past President 150, President Elect 150, Secretary 250, Treasurer 250, and Small Schools Representative 100, for a total amount of 1200. Further discussion took place on the amounts for each position. Robin then amended her friendly amendment by changing the amount paid to the President from 300 to 500 and changing the total stipend amount for officers from 1200 to 1400. With the friendly amendment the proposal being brought forth to vote on was," All officers who currently hold the officer positions for 2009-2010 and future officers of MFLA should receive an annual stipend based on the total assets available to MFLA which can be adjusted in times of deficit or reduction of MFLA financial resources. The stipends amounts to be paid are: President \$500.00, President-Elect \$150.00, Past President \$150.00, Secretary \$250.00, Treasure \$250.00, Small School Representative \$100.00 for a total amount of \$1400.00." Then Robin asked for a vote on the amended motion, Jackie second it. The proposed motion was then brought to those assembled for a vote and the motion was passed.

7. 2011 Calendar

Bruce shared that Glen Hills would not host a tournament next year. He further shared that Roosevelt School of the Arts would not be hosting a tournament for the upcoming year as well. Robin (Oak Creek East) stated that she would like to switch her date with other team one week before her listed week or after. Laura Michelz stated that their school location and name will change next year. Her school will now be called Morse Marshall Middle School and the school is on 66th and Capital. MPS City Tournament may move their date. They will give their date in the fall. Bruce stated that hopefully at the fall meeting all teams can commit to their date for holding a meet. Deadline dates for the calendar will be reviewed at the fall meeting.

8. Old Business

A. New Registration Deadline

Bruce reminded everyone that the new team registration deadline policy piloted last year will be used again this year. Registration fees and membership forms need to be into Jackie by November 1st in order to take advantage of the membership fee of \$50.00. Unregistered teams after the November 1st deadline then have until December 15th to register late which still entitles their team to participate at the state tournament. A late registration fee is \$75.00. Teams that wish to register after December 15th need to go through review of their request by the executive board. The executive board will determine whether the team that that missed both the first deadline and the late registration deadline will be allowed to register and participate at State.

B. Judge's Training

This item was already discussed during Committee reports item c. Judges Standards

C. WHSFA Schools

Bruce discussed the 2010 season and how effective the current WHSFA policy was during the regular season and at State. The assembled group discussed that the current policy seemed to work and the WHSFA were looking to move to using rubrics similar to ours, but were not completely ready to change. As a result MFLA will continue to use the current policy which includes using the judges from WHSFA in the position of volunteer and not judge at State. The policy will remain as is.

9. New Business

A. Post Card Reminder

A post card will be sent out by September 10 containing important dates (for meetings, membership ect...), the website and a contact person to direct questions to. This was proposed because people are missing dates. This will go to executive committee but all assembled felt it was a good idea and should be implemented.

B. Membership Form online by contract

It was felt that the membership form should be online and the ability to fill it out online and submit the form online should be made available. This idea will be discussed at the next executive board meeting and with our web designer Andy.

C. Power Round qualification at State (submitted by Melissa Krahn)

Melissa Krahn submitted a revision to A. State tournament Practices and Procedures for review. The revision is (12.b.2.) "Any student participating in both preliminary rounds and receiving a rank of one(1) in a preliminary round, and without infraction in the other round, will be automatically placed into the power round."

The rationale for the change is at state some students face some of the toughest competition of the year. Many times the judge's personal preference comes into play when there are multiple ties by score. As a result, to even the playing field and eliminate some of personal preference and get back to the rules, students with a rank of 1 and 5 would be automatically eligible for the power round. Tyne seconded the motion. Discussion took place and it was decided to table this motion until the fall meeting pending an investigation by Sarah as to whether this is a frequent occurrence at the State Meet or not.

D. Infraction Table Qualifications

Bruce Coats shared that there was a concern about the people chosen for the Infraction Table. He shared that there were more issues than usual pertaining to the infraction decisions made last season. A concern was voiced that it seemed that those who sit on the Infraction table should have had some training before sitting at the Infraction table as an Infraction judge. Bruce also shared that it was voiced that 2 of the 3 people at the Infraction Table should be Head Coaches. It was then decided that a workshop would be offered on how to be an Infraction judge and the workshop will be offered at the Fall Meeting.

10. New Business from the Floor

A. The MFLA website and how it is working was discussed. Bruce Coats discussed how he worked with Andy the MFLA tech and website designer in regards to when problems occurred. After feedback was given on the concerns and positive items associated with the website Bruce stated the concerns voiced at the meeting would be addressed with Andy and further clarified and remedied by the direction given by Executive Committee.

B. Diane Stirn asked that any ideas for the MFLA t-shirt be sent to her so that a design for the 2011 season can be decided. Bruce thanked Diane for all her hard work.

Helen Andrews then motioned to adjourn the meeting. Robin Stein seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Cullen
MFLA Secretary

