

Inside the Legislative Process Meeting Minutes

2019 ASLCS Spring Business Meeting
Jackson, Wyoming
April 27, 2019

Call to Order

The meeting of Inside the Legislative Process was called to order by Barrett Dudley (Ark.).

Attendance

The following members were present: Barrett Dudley (Ark.), Lindsey Vroegindewey (Mont.), Bernadette McNulty (Calif.), Heshani Wijemanne (Calif.), and Margaret O'Brien (Mich.).
Guests in attendance were: Brenda Erickson (NCSL) and Patrick Harris (Ala.).

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Bernadette McNulty (Calif.), seconded by Lindsey Vroegindewey (Mont.), the minutes of the last meeting held in Madison, Wisconsin, were approved.

Old Business

In Madison, Wisconsin, committee members received copies of the mock-up proposed website changes distributed by Chair Donna Robinson Holiday. They discussed visual changes to the website, as well as adding listserv questions and answers and posting them online by topic and by state to make the site more user-friendly for clerk staff, as well as others, to search. The committee requested that the site be more state-specific, with principals' names and roster information, as well as states' session schedules and responsibilities of each principals' office. They also suggested creating 6-8 "bubbles" with topics such as listserv, published sections, states (map), historical information, and topics by year. The "bubbles" can be periodically rotated, with a hot topic "bubble" in the top left corner of the website. Jay Braxton (Va.) suggested in Madison that this page could serve as a one-stop shop for information.

Upon the motion of Bernadette McNulty (Calif.), the committee agreed to proceed with webpage updates to be worked on by all committee members via email. Lindsey Vroegindewey (Mont.) also suggested a map with a link to each legislative website.

Jeff Beighley (Wis.) requested in Madison that when future surveys are sent to principals, all support staff be alerted that a survey has been sent, so they may follow up to make sure the surveys are completed by their chamber.

New Business

Brenda Erickson (NCSL) gave the committee an update on redesign of the NSCL and ASLCS websites. She shared with the committee that the visual changes discussed in Madison were on hold pending completion of the redesign. She encouraged the committee to create a priority list of changes they would like to see and suggested we start with 2-4 items which would most benefit the society. Barrett Dudley (Ark.) provided a printed copy of the website as it currently looks and asked the group what changes they would like to see.

Bernadette McNulty (Calif.) suggested creating an online map where you can select a state to get information on its legislature. When selecting a state, a window will populate identifying the principal(s) and provide links to the state's legislative website(s). Over time the committee can decide on expanding the information provided. Lindsey Vroegindewey (Mont.) suggested eventually adding chamber rules. Margaret O'Brien (Mich.) showed examples of existing maps on the NCSL website and suggested we use one that has already been created. Brenda Erickson (NCSL) said she will begin putting together the information in chart form and will look into creating a map. The committee agreed to continue the discussion during our next meeting.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Bernadette McNulty (Calif.), seconded by Heshani Wijemanne (Calif.), the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barrett Dudley (Ark.)