

Membership and Communication Committee

Meeting Minutes

ASLCS PDS
Raleigh, N.C.
Sept. 24, 2015

Call to Order

The meeting of the Membership and Communication Committee was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Brad Young (Ohio), Chair.

Attendance

The following members of the committee were present: Brad Young (Ohio), Chair, Tisha Gieser (Alaska), Vice-Chair, Bonnie Alexander (Idaho), Maribeth Lacy (Va.), Judy Barrows (Maine), Jeannine Layell (Va.), Patty Benskin (Wyo.), Amy Leach (Calif.), Corey Carnahan (Kan.), Ali Sagraves (Ohio), Lee Cassis (W.Va.), Jackie Scott (Va.), Michael Coe (N.H.), Sandy Tenny (Utah), Crystaline Jones (Alaska), Ellen Thompson (Wyo.), Buddy Johnson (Ark.).

Other members/guests in attendance included: Phil Cottingham (Texas), Sarah Armistead (Va.), Sandra Daly (Calif.), Barbara LeCarpentier (Va.), Patience Worrel (Texas), Norm Moore (Ariz.), and Zach Twilla (Calif.).

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Sarah Armistead (Va.), seconded by Sandy Tenney (Utah), the minutes of the last meeting held Aug. 3, 2015, during the NCSL Summit, in Seattle, Wash., were approved.

New Business

New Member Orientation

Ellen Thompson (Wyo.) commented that she preferred the format of this year's orientation, which included brief presentations by three Executive Members and was timed earlier in the PDS. She added that she was glad there were no games.

Amy Leach (Calif.) agreed that this year's format was preferable, though she suggested that the orientation not be scheduled against another item on the program next year. Amy explained that she liked the friendship tables and the prompts provided and recommended prompts with a professional focus for future years.

Chair Young suggested having new member orientation during breakfast on the first day of the PDS in a separate room. Sandy Tenney (Utah) expressed support for this idea.

Susan Furlong (Nev.), ASLCS President, greeted the committee and thanked them for their work. She explained that due to the President-Elect's role as an advocate for increased Society membership, there would be discussion regarding the President-Elect serving as an ex officio member of the Membership & Communications Committee.

Sponsorship Program

Chair Young asked the committee if they had any input on the sponsorship program or information being communicated to the sponsors and new attendees. Zach Twilla (Calif.) asked if all of this year's new attendees were matched with a sponsor. Chair Young said that, yes, all new members were matched, adding that it was his understanding that all members of the committee would be assumed to be sponsors of next year's new attendees.

The committee then discussed how new members were matched with sponsors. Bonnie Alexander (Idaho) and Chair Young clarified that typically the Chair of the committee makes the matches. Chair Young suggested that new attendees be given a short survey asking them questions about their jobs and themselves to help make more effective matches. Tisha Gieser (Alaska), Vice Chair, suggested that matches could be made at the new attendee orientation. The committee agreed that they preferred having advance notice of their new attendee and the ability to connect with them before the conference.

Crystalline Jones (Alaska) suggested providing a list of Frequently Asked Questions and answers for new attendees including, "What to wear?" "What to bring?" and "What is the hospitality suite?"

Buddy Johnson (Ark.) shared that the resources he was provided as a sponsor this year were helpful to him. Jackie Scott (Va.) suggested that the handouts from the "The Who, The What, The Huh? of ASLCS" concurrent session (by the Bylaws Committee) would be helpful handouts for the new attendees next year.

Outreach

Ellen Thompson (Wyo.) asked if part of the committee's role was to help get people to come to the PDS. Chair Young said that, yes, it is, and this year there was outreach made to the new principal clerks and secretaries. Judy Barrows (Maine) suggested that the committee work with the President-elect on outreach and ways to highlight the Ed Burdick Scholarship.

Amy Leach (Calif.) encouraged the committee to consider providing job specific contact info to allow members to stay connected with work-related inquiries throughout the year. Amy also suggested that a new attendee write an article for the *Legislative Administrator*. Chair Young proposed offering a point of contact for members who might be interested in sharing a hotel room at the PDS. Tisha Gieser (Alaska) suggested making a posting on the PDS Blog and offering the email address of a committee member who might be willing to coordinate.

Amy Leach (Calif.) highlighted that there was still confusion on what the roles of the specific committees was. She suggested the committee think of ways to make it more clear to new members what the individual committees do.

Ellen Thompson (Wyo.) encouraged the committee to collaborate with the Technology Committee, which had discussed producing short video descriptions of the committees as one of their potential projects.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Judy Barrows (Maine), seconded by Jackie Scott (Va.), the meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tisha Gieser (Alaska), Vice Chair and Brad Young (Ohio), Chair