

# Membership and Communication Committee

## Meeting Minutes

2019 ASLCS Fall Professional Development Seminar  
Seattle, Wash.  
Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019

### Call to Order

The meeting of the Membership and Communication Committee was called to order by Melissa Bybee-Fields (Ky.), chair.

### Attendance

The following members of the committee were present: Melissa Bybee-Fields (Ky.), chair; Jay Jacobs (Ky.), vice chair; Barrett Dudley (Ark.), vice chair; Jason Hataway (Nev.), Nicole Albers (Texas), Brad Young (Ohio), Heather Fahey (Ariz.), Erin Gillitzer (Wis.), Susan Aceves (Ariz.), Lenore Naranjo (N.M.), Ellen Thompson (Wyo.), Rhonda Schierer (Ky.), Adanna Hydes (Ky.), Tamitha Jackson (Ark.), Morgan Barton (Mo.), Jay Braxton (Va.), Jay Pearson (Va.), Andrew Lunney (Va.), Tammy Letzler (Tenn.), Kim Cox (Tenn.), Daniel Hicks (Tenn.), Lee Cassis (W.Va.), Jeryn Vesperat (Wis.), Roberto Lusanta (Nev.), Lourdes Litchfield (Texas), Michelle Hill (Texas), Tim Sekerak (Ore.), and Buddy Johnson (Ark.).

Other members/guests in attendance included: Holly South (NCSL).

### Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Ellen Thompson (Wyo.) and seconded by Susan Aceves (Ariz.) the minutes from the Summer Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee were approved.

### Old Business

Melissa Bybee-Fields led some discussion on how the committee's activities for the week went. The new attendee mixer seemed to be a hit. Heather Fahey (Ariz.) said she enjoyed the Escape to Seattle game and that it was a good collaborative effort and very challenging. Lenore Naranjo (N.M.) also attended the game and she also thought it was wonderful. The goal was to promote teamwork while highlighting the resources and benefits of the society and most agreed that goal was met.

Melissa Bybee-Fields also asked members who were sponsors to reach back out to their new attendees in the week or two after the PDS to keep in touch and get feedback on their experience.

Melissa Bybee-Fields brought up the Passport activity, which was started last year at the 2018 PDS. This was an experiment this year, in that in addition to the paper passport, an electronic version was attempted to be created with the NCSL Event App. There was not as much promotion of this activity this year and the electronic version did not work as anticipated. It was suggested to have a working group, including some IT members, to work on a better way to create an electronic version of the Passport. Roberto Lusanta (Nev.) agreed to be in charge of the working group to follow up on this.

## **New Business**

President-Elect Paul Smith addressed the committee and brought up his hopes for a Mentoring Program within the society that would be open to both new and long-time members. He outlined how the program would work and mentioned that Holly South would be sending a survey to members in the coming weeks to ask for participation. The Support Staff committee will be helping with the program but the Membership and Communication Committee may also play a role.

Susan Aceves (Ariz.) brought up the question of what our charge is as a committee. The charge, according to the Standing Orders, is for the committee to “strengthen the Society’s membership and to improve the Society’s ability to share information with its members.”

One thing Melissa Bybee-Fields suggested as a way to strengthen the Society’s membership is for sponsors to keep in contact with their new attendees after the PDS.

Melissa Bybee-Fields asked for suggestions on how we could communicate and share information better, even amongst our own committee. It was suggested that the committee start a Facebook group to help with communication between members of the committee. Not all members belong to Facebook but it was decided enough of the group did to try it out. The chair mentioned she would also send out emails to the group to make sure everyone sees the important information.

Brad Young (Ohio), who is the President-Elect for 2019-2020, shared that it will be his duty to reach out to new members of the society. Melissa Bybee-Fields said that the committee would be happy to help with that. A committee was created to write hand-written notes to new members welcoming them to the society. Barrett Dudley (Ark.), Tamitha Jackson (Ark.), and Susan Aceves (Ariz.), agreed to be in charge of this committee.

Melissa Bybee-Fields also asked members to think about what topics we could do for a concurrent session at the PDS in Maine. She asked that members try to come up with ideas while this year’s PDS was fresh in their minds and email them to her by October 30.

## **Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Susan Aceves (Ariz.) and seconded by Lourdes Litchfield (Texas) the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Bybee-Fields (Ky.)