

MCHE Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2022

10am to Noon - Virtual

Members Present: Richard Cooley, Scott Durham, Scott Koenig, Jim McConnell, Sean O’Neill, China Ngozi, Nick Orłowski, Vivian Pearson, Jana Pisani, Tamara Shreiner, Catherine Tuczec

Nick Orłowski called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Scott Koenig from the Michigan Department of Education gave an update. He first thanked Nick and MCHE for help with the US Presidential Scholars. There were three Michigan finalists that made it. He said that a minor change of accreditation was recently made to the 2019 Social Studies standards in case you were wondering what changes were made.

He thanked MCHE’s effort to support Comprehensive History Initiative. He said MCHE has been a wonderful partner getting the word out to classroom spaces. Here is a link for the most recent offering through the Initiative:

Topic: entitled Maawndonganan: Using the Indigenous-Developed Social Studies Resource Guide to Teach “To and About First Peoples”.

Registration -

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPinC97MwsGMifJqtUjNd7tnbyTVH_ygRdjOPCbRwDKhUEvg/viewform

He said he has been working on developing some resources – not MDE endorsed, just interesting resources that might be helpful in supporting the work we are all doing:

www.civilmedia.io/newsome

<https://timeshiftamerica.com/>

<https://sheg.stanford.edu/>

<https://teachrock.org/>

<https://www.choices.edu/>

He also mentioned some work being done around economics, especially some resources about civility and its importance in our society and in our classrooms.

He continued to push the use of inquiry work, employing the C3 Framework and give students a voice in their own learning and understandings.

Finally, he did mention he attended the Multicultural Education Summit at Michigan State recently and commented that the presentations, from high school students to academics, were very powerful. It was nice to see the good work that many people are doing in this area.

Scott D. gave a Secretary's report by asking for the approval of the February 26, 2022 meeting minutes. Jim made a motion to approve and Jana seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Nick Orłowski gave the Treasurer's Report on behalf of David Zwart. We have a balance of \$21,545.91 with the most recent expenses being a \$1000 sponsorship for the Historical Society of Michigan and a \$150.00 stipend to David Zwart to attend the NCHE national conference.

Scott D. gave an update on the website. He reported that we continue to add new content as items are shared. He asked for that to continue and suggested summer might be a time to re-design it, asking for any volunteers to help with that.

Tamara gave an update on the Professional Development that has occurred. The most recently with the OER Project in April with 11 teachers. They did another PD on data literacy in May and another one coming up starting June 8. The week of June 13, she will be co-leading a series of PD sponsored by the NCSS in Kentucky. She added that she and Nadine are working on a PD through the humanities and that Nadine is taking the lead as project manager for that project.

Nick new SCHEs window starts again this summer. He will be updating those credits for things like Gilder-Lehrman and others soon. He said he has been asked from teachers to get PD for AP teachers as well. He also will be adding more potential hours people can earn through our application.

Nick gave an update on awards. Gilder-Lehrman has extended the deadline until mid-June so we will be convening the Awards Committee after that. He mentioned that we gave the runner up for Gilder-Lehrman the McConnell Award. He asked for other nominations for McConnell Teacher of the Year Awards.

He said that there will be an update soon for the US Senate Youth Program and it will be put up on the MCHE website. The deadline for applications will be in October.

Richard gave an update for the E-notes. He knows some have had some problems accessing the template and to let him know if they still are. Also, he asked if people needed more time to work on the separate offerings to let him know.

He also mentioned that he has a colleague who runs the Woman's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls and hopes to develop some lesson plans around those resources. He would welcome anyone who would be interested in helping in this effort.

Nick gave an update on behalf of Michele for the elections have been completed. Nadine will be the President-elect, Catherine will take over July 1. Marsha Lewis has been elected as a new board member. Nick will follow up to make sure Marsha has been notified.

Jim McConnell updated on the Re-districting Commission. All appeals were denied. The primary will take place in August. He mentioned that Michigan has done better than most states in this process.

Jim updated us on the Statuary Hall project we took on. He said the Democrats have decided to delay until next year to do anything about changing our representative for Michigan. He thanked Scott for putting together a series of lessons around changing the statue and thanked Catherine for offering feedback for the students in an elementary classroom from the Lansing area.

Richard asked about the implications of elections at the school board level. Jim said that it is really a serious thing. Scott K. added that this is a serious issue in particular to social studies content and that we need people to stand up for what we know is right.

Catherine asked if there is anything we can do to help educate local school boards about how best to do this work. Scott replied that the efforts must be done at the local level. He said we must understand our specific communities and the various cultures of those spaces.

Jim suggested that the Michigan Association of School Boards might be a partner to do some state-wide work around these issues. Even perhaps reaching out the PTAs to help develop a shared understanding of how best to educate, especially in the area of social studies. Scott added that representation is also very important in order to ensure that all voices are heard and included. Catherine said she is committing to learn more and talk with people with MASB and the Michigan PTA to see what opportunities there might be and will report back to us.

Jim suggested one way to do this is to get on the agenda at a conference for these groups to present our thoughts.

Nick said his group will be doing a conference in November to charter schools in Novi. If anyone might want to give a presentation at that conference, to let him know.

After discussion, it was agreed that our future meeting dates would be August 27, December 10, February 25, and June 3.

Richard moved to adjourn, Catherine seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Durham, Secretary