

MassCUE Board Meeting
DRAFT 6/30/2000
June 21, 2000
Holiday Inn, Worcester

Priscilla Kotyk, Earle Hancock, Pat Trotman, Sharon Eempio, Bev Reber, Laurene Belisle, Lelia Richardson, Marcy Reed, Linda Colvin, Arthur Jackman, Jim Modena, Steven Olivo, Algot Runeman

Laurene Belisle called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM

Approval of the June 9, 2000 Minutes

Have accurate record from the June 21 meeting.

Earle: Historic meeting.

Laurene-Try hard to let people finish their comments before adding your opinion.

Lelia: Look for out and out errors in the June 9 minutes, please.

Bev: We asked Nancy to turn off a tape recorder. Bev made a motion and it was seconded-near the ITS certification before the discussion of the check. See page 4

Laurene: Do not remember being asked about "keeping MassCUE going".

Pat: Grant [MEET] would have been unlikely without MassCUE on board. We are a volunteer organization. Grantwriting workshops filled the most recent calendar. Grants need specific format. Low need for these workshops. "Where are the grants?" asked one participant.

Bev: good info. At the workshop, but not worth \$500 to tell this.

Bev: Now there are rubrics.

Sharon: Who made the suggestion about writing an article as a product for PDPs?

Marcy: It was Marcy.

Arthur: I will provide exact wording of money limit motion "Before you can enter into..." [Lelia will update her minutes]

Linda: Discrepancy of her [Nancy Vose] actions from the board.

Bev: Is there a worry about a lawsuit?

Earle: Expect venting from Nancy. Intelligence level of Beth Lowd and Steve Miller will help them to see our point of view and we should send out a letter about our acceptance of Nancy's resignation. Nancy's consulting business has perhaps grown too large for Nancy to continue leading a volunteer organization.

Bev/Linda Just a plain announcement.

Move to accept minutes with noted modifications (Bev, Marcy)

Passed unanimously (11-0)

What is the status of Earle? Appointment?

Marcy: Marcy, Bev, Linda, are appointments.

Laurene: February meeting appointments.

Earle: I resign from the board.

Move to accept Earle's resignation (Jim, Arthur)

Passed unanimously (10-0)

Move to reappoint Earle to the board (Jim, Arthur)

Passed (9-0-1) w/Sharon abstaining.

Jim: Best if we officially appoint Earle to the board.

Laurene: As a matter of form, invite non board members to speak during a period set aside at the beginning of the meeting.

Steve: Curious, did organization pay others before Nancy. How did she come to be paid \$30,000?

Arthur: It was Not a salary.

Earle: Being MassCUE president was a full week's work done by Nancy as she saw it. She did not have full time [paying] job when elected as MassCUE president.

Steve: was she on leave of absence?

Lelia: Nancy didn't want to go back to teaching.

Steve: How did it occur that MassCUE stopped paying Nancy [a consulting fee]?

Laurene: Had gone on long enough. Soft approach had the board agree to pay up to March 2000. What Nancy heard was that we did not have the money

Pat: She said she was getting grants to pay for her to be on the board. Could only be done if she were president and she was paid. So it would not come out of MassCUE money.

Originally in summer of '98, we felt that we needed to have a percentage of any executive director paid by money brought in from outside. No follow through on plan. No detail provided on grants coming in.

Bev. Grants are a contract. I always wanted to see copy of the actual grants prior to agreeing to participate in them.

Pat: In any grant, someone is going to be expected do something specific. Connie and Steve must now be told why the money is being returned. The pressure is from them to Nancy. Money was not used for "something else", so the money must go back.

Earle: Depending on the source, can often amend the grant. Deadline attached to amendment may have passed. Big issue is: how can you ask the board to work for nothing while you are getting paid.

Steve: How did it happen from nothing to \$30,000.

Earle: It was intentional behavior by Nancy. There was this pile of "stuff" to do. For the board it was easier to let her do it. Tried three times to say no to an extension of the consultant's fee. The board did say no twice.

Lelia: MEET grant would pay \$15,000 for person who manages the grant. (Jim: as manager [of the grant] not [MassCUE] president) MassCUE would not be allowed to get/keep the money without a manager.

Jim: One day we finally woke up to the feeling that we didn't lead the organization any more, MassCUE is not ours, it belongs to the whole membership.

Pat: When we start offering money for any contract job, everybody needs to be able to apply and Nancy was paying some people for work. I don't love to make the drive here [to a board meeting] for free. If the proposal was put out in front of all, then "I might apply." Nancy seemed to say "You are the volunteer who is going to do the work for which I am getting paid."

Arthur: The decision to end paying a consulting fee was not a quick decision.

Pat: Nancy said, "I need to be paid if I'm going to continue this work.",

"I'm the paid president.", "You wouldn't believe what I get paid each day?"

Steve: Why was there need to consult the expert on the bylaws?

Jim: It was a way to table the discussion... "let's check so we don't make a snap decision." Trying to be careful.

Earle: at least three meetings where we tried to put on the breaks, that she was paid head of a volunteer organization. Could see scenario. November resignation offer may have been preemptory strike to head off board action. Earle recalls she said "I'll resign tonight." If she had stayed on the board officially, and pulled together a session in the summer there might again have been a move to pay her. Feel she represents herself better than MassCUE.

Pat: There was a sense from Nancy that MassCUE would not exist without Nancy

Steve: but the org did exist before?

Pat: "This meeting is ajourned," said Nancy. [at a board meeting that did not have a quorum, but the discussion indicated that the consensus was that the board did not wish to continue paying a consultant's fee] And then she left abruptly.

Earle: "Hubris."

Steve: What is my position re: talking to Nancy after this meeting.

Earle: Minutes are a public record.

Sharon: can say you don't feel comfortable.

Jim: Anyone can have the minutes after they are approved.

Linda: TCI...we promised them we would do SIG meetings that I had no idea that we had such a commitment. Not all of Nancy's commitments were for herself.

Sharon: Nancy's vision does not necessarily match the board's.

Marcy: Nancy's disregard for process. "This is critical...", "We must..." If we [the board] didn't agree, we were called tired.

When Pat was planning the retreat, Nancy took over and told Pat what was going to happen.

Lelia: 600 people dropped out of membership. Nancy wanted the next calendar to be sent to all of them with "important info." Now think that it was a dissemination method for Nancy's [MEET grant] commitment. Were May 11th event also dissemination.

Laurene: need a motion re: past president. Do we need to appoint her?

Sharon: patterining, past practice?

Algot: Resignation is from the board. Resignation is not just from a particular elected position.

Earle: This discussion clarifies the bylaws. Board has exhibited due diligence. We have made public record of our actions.

Anyone not on the board has no vote.

8 elected...

3 officers now (Laurene Belisle, Arthur Jackman, Algot Runeman) plus elected Prisilla Kotyk, Ron , Jim Modena, Sharon Eempio

Marcy Reed, Linda Colvin, Sharon Eempio, Bob Hanna, Bev Reber , Earle Hancock (6)

Can have more presnent at board meeting (nonvoting)

Must elect 4 officers this spring.

Arthur: should we send Nancy letter.

Jim: Send minutes to Nancy.

VES board Earle willing to go (done)

Project MEET – problem

Jim: Use copying company so we can pay.

Marcy: MEET money – when does it start, Fall?

Arthur: Federal grant.

Marcy: Have we received all the money which we were to get?

How much since Sept 99?

Research districts (Springfield, Lowell, etc. 5 year) (Acton 2 year consolidated)

Round 2 associate sites came on in June with training this summer.

Nancy talked about MassCUE at meetings.

Policy role and dissemination.

The MEET grant is 5 years.

TPD Technology Professional Development.

4 teacher workshops we need to attend as part of our role in MEET.

Laurene will be at one, Bev will be at a second. Is this a pitch obligation? Bev feels we are in a contract. Laurene will contact Connie to find out what our specific requirements. Wants to avoid "Because you are president of MassCUE, you are not doing your job [in Westfield]."

What's the MEET section of *onCUE*.

Lelia: Nancy asked that MEET editorial board do the editing. Maloof got flack after the recent *onCUE* about bad editing.

Middle section has too many articles. It makes *onCUE* look like a publication of the DOE.

Need earlier deadline than July for MEET articles which need extra editing.

Priscilla: \$4500 to expend for dissemination about MEET.

Lelia: extra 750 of just the MEET inserts were printed.

Priscilla: Dissemination of MEET related articles. How about a blurb from DOE about what each school is doing for the project.

onCUE and SIGs are both dissemination routes.

Sharon: What are we committed to? Can we put in a single page.

Special Edition in the Fall...*onCUE MEET Edition*.

As long as it is a separate insert it is a problem if it doesn't come on time for printing.

Marcy: DOE gives us money after we expend money of our own.

Lelia: Bills are subdivided for submitting.

Arthur: Need clarification. Fiscal year ends in August.

Sharon: Do we have anything from them to edit?

Pat: The concept of our participation in the MEET grant was that we're going to get paid to do "what we already do"? Where is the benefit to MassCUE and its membership.

Priscilla: Look at DOE and TERC website.

Look for paperwork from Connie.

Lelia: Who solicited the MEET articles?

Laurene: No manager pay for me. Just cover real expenses.

BEST – Earle volunteers. Consider Cathy Moss of Boston in Pat's office. Pat will go to next BEST meeting to ease coordination with board.

Could we have a MassCUE document for MEET meetings (Aug 7-11 at Bridgewater – Priscilla)

Lelia: As a part of the MEET process, Nancy created a 3 month membership for MEET members – only 2 of those short-term memberships were renewed.

Offer free membership to MEET institute attendees and bill DOE for the membership?

Lelia: It could be a marketing cost for memberships as dissemination.

Priscilla: Let people join on their own.

(Stationery - other)

((Check bylaws for balance of elected vs. appointed))

Algot contact Charlie to regrettably withdraw from the presentations at the MTA

Williamstown session)

Move (Marcy, Sharon) to withdraw from our presentation at the Williamstown MTA

Leadership conference.

Passed (11-0)

Superintendent's conference?

Move (Bev, Arthur) to have Marcy contact about and then represent.

Passed (11-0)

Jim and Sharon are on the Web committee and will contact Grace at Mass TechCorps to say we will link to promote web site.

AlphaSmart offer? Should we invite a representative to come to a board meeting? Upgrade for \$99 with trade in of old AlphaSmart or DreamWriter.

Laurene: ETIS Vendor proposal... Paperwork by June 30. What is our benefit? Services for training like MESPA? MassCUE business plan submitted to DOE/ETIS as of April 14, 2000 ("From Marketing to Practice") "This was recently brought to the board's attention and we have no knowledge of it." Letter of disclaimer to Greg Nadeau/John Fuller.

Need letter. "We have only recently become aware of these documents and we, the board, need to take time to consider the implications of what they say."

Jim: "I hate to be an undefined resource."

Marco Polo Proposal

Arthur: If Nancy actually signed a document while president, it would be binding.

Marcy: I don't remember agreeing to preconference day involvement by MCI-WorldCom

Vendor must have a paid table at the conference.

Lelia- Promises made cannot be kept.

Earle: Write letter "We have just been made aware of this proposal and must decline involvement."

Jim: TechCorps Verbal agreement was promote and link. Letter. Jim will contact the person to clarify our requirements.

Elections in the spring. –

Subcommittees for next meeting

Bylaws: Consider executive session, succession, past president, elected vs. appointed

Mission: Revisit. What structure works with volunteers. If we offer prof development.

We need to think through and put boundaries and work within them.

Looking for bi-monthly board meetings with reports from subcommittees and get reports and be done within 3 hours.

If you cannot be here routinely, please consider resigning.

Every other month only Friday. Subcommittees need not meet on Fridays.

What subcommittees do we need? (retreat, speakers, etc.)

Marcy: Intention of the MassCUE retreat? Plan for retreat in May? Plan done by Conference. Intimate group. Not enough professional development for the trainers. Board make suggestions for committee to follow. Earle sees committee should make recommendation to the board. Ginny Warn (principal of Rockport) might have a teacher who would help.

Meeting time for next meeting at which we will set year's calendar cycle.

The next MassCUE board meeting will be July 31, 4:30 at the Holiday Inn in Worcester. Stationery.

Laurene: Like to do job well. Rather not do it if can't do well. Crisis management is not my style. If ask for immediate response, it's real.

Look for: Second Friday alternating month with Sept 8, 5:00 Worcester as the first fall meeting.

All our meetings should be open.

Letter... to all concerned (MassCUE members, DOE, MassNetworks, BEST, etc.)

"On June 16, 2000 the MassCUE board accepted Nancy Vose's resignation. Nancy served diligently for three years as MassCUE president, making a significant contribution to the integration of technology into the learning process in Massachusetts' schools. None who know her can deny her impact and energy. The MassCUE board wishes Nancy well in her new endeavors. Until the election of officers in the spring of 2001, Laurene Belisle, the current vice president of MassCUE will serve as president."

Letter... to explain our need for review of commitments/proposals made recently by Nancy prior to her resignation.

"We have just become aware of the two documents enclosed. The MassCUE board will need to review and deliberate the content at a future meeting."

(August?? September??)

Move (Algot, Earle) to adjourn 7:59.

