

# Meeting Minutes – High School Battle of the Books

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**Location:** Howland Library, Beacon, NY

**Date:** June 2nd, 2017

**Time:** 11:00 am

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## Attendance

Maureen McGrath, Butterfield Library; Matt Pavloff, Kinderhook Library; Jennifer Gay, Patterson Library; JoAnn DiSalvo, Beekman Library; Martha Farrell, PPLD; Krista Miller, PPLD; Michelle Rivas, Howland Library; Ginny Figlia, Howland Library; Lacey Snowden, Grinnell Library

## Agenda Items

### 1. Committee Updates

- a. **Questions** Chairperson Christine Pacuk reported to Matt that the editing process is underway and everything is going quite well. Practice questions are estimated to be available some time after 6/15. A couple of editors dropped out at the last minute.
- b. **Facilities** Poughkeepsie Day School will be acceptable as a facility for the 2017 Regional Battle to be held on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. There are 5-6 rooms available as well as a central location to hang out between rounds. Tables are available. We must take the garbage with us when we are finished. There are pizza places nearby and Matt will take orders the week before the event. We have the venue from 12 pm to 7 pm. The facility will cost \$500.00 deposit and \$500.00 fee, requiring \$1,000 to be laid out with \$500 expected to be returned.
- c. **Volunteers** Currently there are 7 volunteers for the Regional event and at least 13 are need. Lacey reported that she has 4 more volunteers available.  
Judges will have all acceptable answers. If an answer is not included, it will not count. The Master Scorekeeper will record the points from each team. No runners are needed because H.S. kids are used to finding their way.
- d. **Book Selection** Emily Chaimeides reported to Matt that is going well and that final suggestions were due by the end of May. The committee will present 8-10 books to the full membership in October and then it will be narrowed down to five titles. **Clarification:** You must have read the book prior to suggesting it. This will make it easier on the selection committee.

### 2. Rules and Policies

- a. Age limit follow up A vote was taken by those present to adjust the age/grade limit to say “A participant must be between the ages of 14 & 18 years or entering 9<sup>th</sup> through leaving 12<sup>th</sup> grade. This will be a firm policy.
  - b. **Committee Signup** The High School program struggled to have enough committee volunteers this year. All present were in agreement that for 2018 and beyond, all members will be required to write questions as well as have another committee role.
3. **Brackets/gameplay discussion** This year, there are 13 teams participating necessitating more than two “pools” of teams for the Round Robin (last year, we had 9 teams, for which two pools worked fine). A discussion was had weighing the options of have 3 or 4 pools of teams. The structure for 3 pools would result in the necessity of a “wild card” and an evening of scores since some teams would play more rounds while others had a bye. The benefit is playing more rounds. The structure for 4 pools means fewer rounds but every team will play the same amount of rounds eliminating the need for a wild card. It was agreed by all that it will be easier and cleaner to have four pools of teams.  
Each team will accumulate points (1 point for each correct answer; 0 for incorrect; minus 1 for a shout out) during each round of play. Highest scorers for each pool will compete in a Semi-Final and then the two highest will go to the Final round. See attached outlines
4. **Trophy/Banner follow up** Now that a logo has been chosen, Matt will look into options for banners and plaques for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners. The winners can choose between a banner and a plaque depending on the appropriateness for their individual library. See attached image.
5. **Open forum/general discussion** The members discussed a review of the rules and annotated any necessary changes from last year. This revised edition will be circulated via email to the members.

## Action Items

1. A request will be made to the Middle School members for volunteers with the intention that libraries who may want to learn more about the High School program will step forward.
2. If any one has a better idea for the breakdown of rounds, Matt welcomes your suggestions. Please email him at [mateopav@gmail.com](mailto:mateopav@gmail.com)

## Other Notes

Minutes taken by Maureen McGrath