



MTA Board Meeting Report
Feb. 7 and 8, 2004
Highlights

Selected issues of interest to MCCC leadership.

Statewide Rally

A very lengthy discussion began on Friday night with extended adjournment, and discussion continued on Saturday morning. The delegates at the MTA Annual Meeting voted to have a statewide rally, but some feel the situation has changed since that date and therefore a statewide rally should be put on hold for now, and the \$500,000 in funding be kept in reserve for a possible future rally. After a long and vigorous discussion it was clear we had two issues. First, should we have a rally at this time? Second, the appropriate process for revisiting a vote of the annual meeting. Finally (whew!) It was decided to send out a ballot to poll the delegates to the 2003 MTA Annual Meeting. Please forward this information to 2003 delegates and/or membership from your campus. Also watch your e-mails in case the MCCC leadership takes a position on this issue.

PRIM Board Report

It was reported that the state pension fund has recovered to its market value of three years ago. The commonwealth made part of its "payment" this past year by transferring the Hynes Convention Center and the Boston Common Underground Garage to the fund. The convention center is a money loser, but the garage has a huge positive cash flow. However, neither ownership has been cleanly transferred as of this date.

Contingency Budget

The MTA Advisory Budget Committee (ABC) recommends continuing to freeze some account funds based on uncertain drops in membership numbers for the rest of the current fiscal year. The ABC will recommend a dues increase to reinstate all unfilled positions except one in the forthcoming fiscal year. While the process must go through the Executive Committee, Board, and MTA Annual Meeting, the ABC is looking at about a \$15 increase in dues. (Aside: In addition, the NEA is looking to increase the \$5 extra assessment to \$10 at the 2004 RA.) There was extended discussion about starting the hiring process for one position in MTA Legal now, but in the end the Board supported the ABC position.

MTA Today Letters to the Editor

Phil Mahler had requested that this issue be put on the Board agenda for discussion, at an MCCC member's request. The current editor made a presentation to provide historical perspective on the issue of letters to the editor. There have been a few in the past, but not often. There was discussion by the Board. The Board as a whole seemed all right with the current policy of not accepting letters to the editor.

MTA Board

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