



MLA Board Meeting Minutes April 11, 2018 DRAFT
GranTree Hotel
Bozeman, MT

President Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Board and Committee members: President Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Vice-President Elizabeth Jonkel, Secretary/Treasurer Mary Guthmiller, Executive Director Debbi Kramer, PNLA Rep Carmen Clark, ALA Rep Matt Beckstrom, ASLD Chair Jerusha Shipstead, PLD Chair Kit Stephenson, SLD Co-Chair Angela Archuleta, and Government Affairs Chair John Finn.

BOARD MINUTES:

Matt Beckstrom moved to approve the January 20, 2018 Board meeting minutes. Carmen Clark seconded. The motion passed.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS:

Reports were disseminated prior to the meeting. Kit Stephenson voiced concern that the term of the PLD Chair is too short. She indicated that will be a topic of discussion at the division meeting. It was mentioned that if it is suggested as a change, a revision to the bylaws is needed. There was also discussion regarding the length of terms for the other two divisions. It was also mentioned that SLD has co-chairs, each serving two years, alternating. They find this model very effective.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Progress on Goals: Debbi Kramer reported that the MLA handbook is now up-to-date, complete with table of contents on the webpage. The plan is to have an ongoing review schedule so that every two years, everything gets updated. Lisa will send out the goals that everyone established at the 2017 board retreat.
- B. Financial History Timeline and Budget Requests: Debbi Kramer indicates the timeline has been created and that it will be added to the website in the near future. Debbi also indicated that she will send out budget request information to everyone and that the request needs to be submitted by May 15th. Those whose terms are ending will submit a budget request for his/her position for the incoming person.
- C. MLA Strategic Plan: Updating this has been tabled. Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson suggested that it might be an agenda item for the June 2018 board retreat.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approve MLA Award Winners: The awards committee presented the MLA Board with the following slate of awardees and all were approved:
Montana Library Association Champion: Ann Ewbank and Sara Groves
Pat Williams Intellectual Freedom Award: Mark Wetherington & Bitterroot Library Board
Sheila Cates Librarian of the Year Award: Gale Bacon
Library of the Year: MSU Library Bozeman
Outstanding Support Staff of the Year: Marlys Stark
Jane Lopp Trustee of the Year: Rita Henkel
- B. Candidates for MLA Board: Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson announced those that are running for open positions. They are: Vice President/President Elect: Mary Anne Hansen; Secretary/Treasurer: Megan Stark; Director at Large West: Kendra Mullison and Megan Glidden; and PNLA Representative: Corey Ffiles, James Parrott, and Gladys Rayhill. The voting will be online. Debbi Kramer indicated she will be sending out the ballot electronically within ten days after the conference.
- C. Government Affairs: John Finn indicated that the committee is deciding which issues to focus on, but will not be concentrating on the funding aspect. He did indicate that the per capita funding is scheduled to be restored in 2020. Some possible issues that he brought up were net neutrality, join a coalition to stop the bathroom bill, or any new taxes for revenue. Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, John Finn and our lobbyist, Nanette Gilbertson met a few months ago and it was advised to stay out of the revenue unless there is something in it for us. Debbi Kramer also brought up the lobbyist's contract that is up for renewal at the end of the fiscal year. She indicated that if the contract cost is too much, we may lose our non-profit status. By the end of the board meeting, John Finn had a response from the lobbyist indicating that she was fine with the current amount that is being paid. John is also submitting Focus articles and will be asking for ideas for the upcoming legislative session. Matt Beckstrom said he could resend the old bathroom resolution and that we could probably get librarian support for the net neutrality issue. It was clarified that the executive order that Governor Bullock issued regarding net neutrality is only geared toward businesses that provide services to Montana governmental entities. The six mill levy bill that goes to support higher education was briefly discussed as there was a query from Ann Ewbank regarding MLA support. There was also mention that there could also be some coalition support from MEA/MFT for this mill levy bill.
- D. Member Meeting Agenda: The agenda for the annual membership meeting was reviewed.
- E. Resolutions: Matt Beckstrom has drafted a net neutrality resolution that is currently directed at our national congressional delegation. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that mentioning our state delegation would also be appropriate. By the end of the meeting, Matt had revised the resolution. Matt also drafted a resolution thanking the conference planners and host city. Both these draft resolutions were posted on the website and will be sent out through Wired prior to the annual membership meeting on Friday for members to review. A better timeframe for drafting, review, and discussion has been formulated. It was decided that the ALA Representative will be responsible for resolutions and that duty will be added to the handbook. It was noted that to avoid confusion, there is now only one place on the website for resolutions. It is within the handbook.

- F. MLA Membership Raffle: Based on suggestions from Angela Archuleta, Gavin Woltjer, Anne Kish, and Debbi Kramer worked on a plan for free memberships, effective at the start of a new fiscal year, which is July 1. There will be \$600 budgeted, which will be split among the three divisions. At this year's division meeting, each chair will get a bucket with the names of each person in the respective division that are currently in the database to draw for free membership (need not be present to win). If the person is already paid for the year, it will roll to the next year. Additionally, there will be another drawing at the membership meeting (must be present to win).
- G. MLA Audit Committee: The current Audit Committee consists of John Finn, Sheila Bonnard, and Eva English. It was asked if it needs to be a full audit or just a review. Since we do not get money from the federal government, a full audit is not required. A review of bookkeeping methods will be done with an eye for what is being done right and what could be improved.
- H. MLA Policies Recap: The MLA Board passed twelve new policies this past year. They are on the website in its own section. There are currently nine more that are up for consideration.
- I. Tech Services Interest Group Project: This catalog project has been 20 years in the making. The project consists of providing original catalog assistance for any materials that are on the topic of Montana. The project will be officially launched at the 2018 MLA conference, but the information and forms are already on the website. The plan is to eventually have own page on the website.
- J. MLA 2018 Conference Update: Debbi Kramer reported that currently there are 250 registered, 7 unregistered speakers, and 18 vendor tables. Vendors are down a little this year as there has been turnover in those that do business with the State of Montana. Sirsi/Dynix has contributed \$500 and Kindle has donated a PaperWhite that will be used as a door prize. Debbi asked that if anyone has a big contract at their own library, please let her know as this may be a potential vendor for the conference. She also indicated that ribbons will be distributed to those that are board members and new members. The anonymous conference survey will be available online the week after the conference. She also indicated that meals were included in the price of registration and that the group price was less per person than if each meal was separated.
- K. National Library Legislative Day: Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson indicated that she and John Finn will be traveling to Washington, DC to attend this event May 7-8, 2018.
- L. Focus Co-Editor: Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson announced that a new co-editor to the FOCUS newsletter is needed as Kendra Mullison's term is ending.

The next board meeting is scheduled for June 7-9, 2018 at the Montana Learning Center near Helena.

Having completed the April board meeting agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. Guthmiller
MLA Secretary/Treasurer