



## MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

GranTree Hotel  
Bozeman, Montana  
Friday, April 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1:11 p.m. by President Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson by welcoming the meeting attendees.

### **VENDOR DOOR PRIZES**

Drawings for vendor door prizes took place. Alyssa Ramirez won the prize donated by SW Solutions, Marsha Sultz received the prize from Bound to Stay Bound Books, Jennifer Birnel and Jan Zauha got the two from Abdo, Ulana Holtz was the lucky winner of the prize donated by Ebsco, and Ann Hills was the recipient of books donated by MLA.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson gave a recap of this past year's accomplishments in MLA, which included the passage of twelve new policies, update of the MLA handbook, new sections to the website, formation of an audit committee, Executive Director handling all the administrative portions of conferences and retreats, three successful retreats held, drawings for free memberships, surveys online, and a better way to disseminate resolutions. She introduced Rick Stoddart, the current PNLA President, who briefly mentioned the upcoming conference in August which will be held in Kalispell. He also invited attendees to stop by the PNLA vendor table and register for a free membership.

### **MINUTES**

Nancy Royan moved to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2017 MLA Member Meeting. Ann Ewbank seconded and the motion unanimously passed.

### **BOARD INTRODUCTIONS**

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson thanked and asked the current MLA board, Executive Director, and committee members to introduce themselves. Kendra Mullison, out-going Focus newsletter co-editor introduced herself and asked for any volunteers to consider being her replacement.

### **INTRODUCTION OF BOARD CANDIDATES**

President Mecklenberg Jackson asked candidates to come forward and introduce themselves. For Vice-President/President elect, Mary Anne Hansen is running. For the position of PNLA Representative, the three candidates are Corey Ffiles, James Parrott, and Gladys Rayhill. For the Director at Large-West, the two candidates are Megan Glidden and Kendra Mullison. Within two weeks of the conference's conclusion, the electronic ballot will be sent out by the Executive Director.

## **MLA FINANCIAL REPORT**

Debbi Kramer, MLA Executive Director, reported on the income received from various venues such as the different conferences and retreats, which she said all made money. She gave an accounting of expenses and assets, noting what has been budgeted and what the actual amounts are to date. She did indicate that the bills from the conference hotel still need to be paid. She also gave a breakdown of membership. She encouraged members to purchase MLA license plates and to choose MLA for Amazon's Smile charity program. Each of those programs generates income.

## **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS REPORT**

John Finn told members that last year's legislative session for MLA issues started off great, but by March the revenue projections had dropped. He indicated that funding concerns will not be mentioned, but will concentrate on which ones should be. He asked that everyone stay engaged and that information will be sent out through Wired and the Focus newsletter.

## **2018 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Planning Committee members, Pam Henley, Lois Dissly and Rachelle McClain were introduced. Pam, as spokesperson gave an overview of what they did in preparation for and during the conference. She also reported on registration numbers for attendees, speakers and exhibitors. The 2019 conference will be held at the Radisson in Helena. Mary Ann George and Stephen Licitra will be on the planning committee.

## **STATE LIBRARIAN REPORT**

State Librarian, Jennie Stapp, made a slight correction regarding the per capita/per square mile funding. She said that it actually passed, but the funding was later stripped. The bill exists and in fiscal year 2020, the funding is set to be reinstated at least through 2023. She also added that if the population increases from the 2020 census, then the state aid will also increase. She briefly talked about the losses at the State Library, which included staff members. Currently, they are not actively doing budget projections as no new funding is expected. She said that money from the coal severance tax remains and no decrease in the amount is foreseen. What has changed is that now the State Library maintains and pays out of the coal severance fund. She said that as a result of national support, Congress not only kept federal funding for IMLS, but also made a slight increase. As a result, Montana realized about \$12,000 more. Jennie will be attending the Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. and encouraged members to continue communications with our representatives. She announced that donations were received that have gone into trust. With that trust money, a communications firm has been contracted to work on a statewide campaign to advocate for all Montana libraries. The second part of this is to develop tools for library advocacy. Another way the trust will be utilized is the formation of a separate independent non-profit with the goal to support libraries around Montana, especially with fundraising efforts.

## **TECH SERVICES INTEREST GROUP PROJECT**

The Tech Services Interest Group is launching a new service that is aimed at helping to catalogue Montana items that need cataloguing. The request form is now live on the website.

## **MLA BYLAWS COMMITTEE MEMBER BYLAWS**

Sam Buechler proposed seven changes to the current MLA Bylaws. The first change is to remove the phrase "and approximate date" from Article IV, Section 1. Sam Buechler made a motion to accept the bylaw change to Article IV, Section 1. Angela Archuleta seconded. The motion was approved. The second change is to remove the word "Number" from Article V, Section 1. Sam Buechler made a motion to accept the wording change to Article V, Section 1. Carmen Clark seconded. The motion passed. The third change is meant to align the start of the term for the PNLA rep with MLA, changes to Article IX, Section 1 to specify a June 1

beginning date. Sam Buechler made a motion to change the Article IX, Section 1 starting date. Carmen Clark seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The fourth change is meant to align the start of the term the MPLA rep with MLA, changes to Article IX, Section 2 to specify a June 1 beginning date. Sam Buechler made a motion to change the Article IX, Section 2 starting date. Darrah Rogers seconded. The motion passed. The fifth change is meant to have a more concise start of term date for the ALA rep, Article IX, Section 3 wording will now specify a start date of September 1. Sam Buechler made a motion to change the Article IX, Section 3 to specify a September 1 starting date. Matt Beckstrom seconded. The motion passed. The sixth change is to add the phrase "after the annual MLA Conference" to Article XIII, Section 1 to clarify when an application for a new interest group may be submitted. Sam Buechler made the motion to add the wording to Article XIII, Section 1. Nancy Royan seconded. The motion passed. The final change is to change wording in Article XIII, Section 2 pertaining to the interest group chair position to reflect the current practice. Sam Buechler made a motion to change the wording in Article XIII, Section 2. Kay Randall seconded. The motion carried.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Matt Beckstrom put forth two resolutions to the membership. Kendra Mullison made a motion to accept the Net Neutrality resolution. Gavin Woltjer seconded. The resolution passed. Beth Boyson made a motion to accept the resolution thanking all those involved with planning the 2018 MLA Conference. Aaron LaFromboise seconded. The resolution passed unanimously. Matt also added that the quarterly webside chats will continue to discuss any issues and/or come up with possible new resolutions. The plan is to have better communications regarding resolutions, to include discussions at division meetings and posting in the resolutions area of the MLA Website.

## **DRAWINGS**

Cathy Brandvold is the recipient of one year's free MLA membership. Jim Kammerer won the Kindle Paperwhite.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson reminded everyone about the Bookmobile Roundup. She also reported the Cates Event brought in about \$900, Cates silent auction drawings will be done this afternoon around 5:00 p.m., and that thanks to Eva English who made it, there is a new traveling Cates quilt.

## **2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson stated that the 2019 conference will be held April 10-13, 2019 at the Radisson in Helena.

## **INCOMING MLA PRESIDENT**

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson passed the gavel to incoming MLA President, Elizabeth Jonkel.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

All business being concluded, the MLA Membership meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. Guthmiller  
MLA Secretary/Treasurer