

Draft Minutes
MLA Board Meeting
April 6, 2011 1:00-4:00 PM
2011 MLA Annual Conference, Billings, Montana

Call to Order

Sami Pierson called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm.

Introductions

Present: President Sami Pierson, Vice President Kim Crowley, Past President Eva English, Secretary-Treasurer Sarah Daviau, Director-at-Large East Bridgett Johnson, Director-at-Large West Marje Doyle, Government Affairs Chair and Bylaws Chair Judy Hart, Executive Assistant Debbi Kramer, MPLA Representative Pam Henley, ALA Representative Suzanne Goodman, ASLD Chair Anne Kish, Cates Committee Co-Chair Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, PDC Chair Mary Drew Powers

Changes to the agenda

- Sami requested that discussion of providing an email list to vendors, discussion about the conference website, and amending Article XVI of the MLA Bylaws be added to new business.
- Suzanne Goodman asked that her report not be included in the consent agenda so she could address questions she had for the board.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the January 18, 2011 Board Meeting

Pam Henley moved to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2011 board meeting. Motion carried.

Financial Report

FY 2011 YTD Report

Debbi Kramer emailed financial reports before the meeting. No questions or concerns were raised.

Association Reports

Officers

President – Sami Pierson

Vice-President – Kim Crowley

Kim said that the Leadership Retreat will be at the Ursuline Center in Great Falls and has been moved from August to June 17-20; exact dates are still forthcoming based on availability of the center. The change in date is necessary so contracts may be signed earlier.

Secretary/Treasurer – Sarah Daviau

Past President – Eva English

Directors-at-Large – Bridgett Johnson and Marjorie Doyle

Executive Assistant – Debbie Kramer

Association Representatives

ALA – Suzanne Goodman

Suzanne said that Karen Gonzalez sought MLA approval on the ALA Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCE) Resolution last year, but that ALA has created a new TCE Resolution this year. The American Indian Library Association (AILA) endorsed the first resolution, but does not endorse the more recent resolution. Suzanne wanted to know if MLA should become an affiliate with AILA to keep up to date with American Indian library concerns. The cost for institutional membership is \$40. Suzanne said she will attend the American Indian interest group meeting, consult with its members, and revisit the issue at the board meeting on Saturday.

Suzanne asked if MLA should become an affiliate of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL). Suzanne said an affiliation with AASL would give Montana a greater voice at the national level with regard to school library issues. Affiliation with AASL requires that MLA meet certain requirements which would require dedication of more funding. Eva said the issue had been brought up during Della Dubbe's presidency and it should be in the minutes. Sarah said she would search through the minutes so the issue can be revisited at the Saturday meeting.

MPLA – Pam Henley

PNLA – Mary Lou Mires

Divisions

ASLD – Anne Kish

PLD – John Heldt

SLMD – Nancy Pensa

Standing Committees

Awards and Honors – Molly Ledermann

Book Store – Beth Boyson

Bylaws – Judy Hart

Cates Scholarship – Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson

Communications – Eva English

Finance – Eva English

Nominating – Eva English
Conference Planning – Johanna Freivalds
Government Affairs – Judy Hart
Intellectual Freedom – Sheila Bonnard
Marketing and Public Relations – Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson
Professional Development – Mary Drew Powers

Interest Groups

American Indian – Teresa Gilham
Central Asia Institute – Nancy Venable & Norma Glock
Children & Youth Services – Linette Greene
Friends – Della Dubbe
Health Sciences – Martha Thayer
Interlibrary Loan – Chris Vance
Offline – Matt Beckstrom
Public Library Directors – Joanne Erdall
Technical Services – Megan Dazey
Trustees – Carol Grover

Report of State Library – Darlene Staffeldt
MLA Website – Stacy Bruhn
Focus Newsletter – Suzanne Schwichtenberg

Kim Crowley moved that the board accept the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Update on web hosting change

Sami said the change is happening, but more slowly than anticipated as Stacy Bruhn is working with Matt Beckstrom from the Lewis and Clark Library in Helena to decide issues concerning ownership of the domain name.

Update on job descriptions and calendar for MLA bylaws

Eva said she has finished the calendar updates and will submit them to Stacy. The job descriptions will be done soon.

New Business

Student definition for MLA Conference registration

Debbi has received questions regarding what constitutes a “student” for the MLA student rate. Sami asked the Board to decide on a definition. Marje read the definition of “student” given by ALA for their student rates. Kim and Bridgett will collaborate on a definition and present it at the board meeting on Saturday.

Conference speaker reimbursement for MLA members

Sami said that conference policy states that MLA members can apply for \$30 speaker reimbursement. Sami thinks that that the reimbursement should be removed from the policy because MLA is a volunteer organization and the fee is so small as to not make much difference to expenditures. Eva said the entire conference manual needs to be redone and when it is reworked, the reimbursement can be left out at that time.

Change to Article XVI of the MLA bylaws

Sarah said that a necessary change to Article XVI of the bylaws was discovered after the thirty day membership notification deadline on March 8. Article XVI needs to be changed to reflect that membership may vote for amendments to the bylaws by email as well as postal mail. The membership will be informed of change to Article XVI at the meeting on April 8, a ballot regarding the measure will be posted to the MLA website and a reminder email will be sent via WIRED thirty days after the membership meeting. Members will then download the ballot from the website and mail their vote to Debbi.

Providing an email list to vendors

Sami said that vendors have been asking if it would be possible to obtain or purchase a list of email addresses for MLA conference attendees so that vendors would be able to distribute emails to attendees before the conference. Sami said there were several options including: no, yes, or yes with caveats. General discussion resulted in deciding not to allow distribution of the email list. Eva suggested establishing a privacy policy and adding it to the handbook. Sami said she would look for ALA's policy and report back at the board meeting on Saturday.

Updates to MLA conference website

Sami said that Mark and Janel Trowbridge have asked about updating the conference website. To make the site more user-friendly for those with hand-held devices, and to reflect the current trends in websites, the links that currently run along the left-hand side of the page would be moved to across the top of the page. The MLA main website would also be changed in the same way. Sami will speak with Mark, Janel, and Stacy about the changes.

Eva said that she will be submitting the necessary changes to the handbook to Stacy so they may be put into the online handbook. Eva suggested that the next Past President review the conference committee handbook and that the Secretary/Treasurer be made responsible for maintaining updates to the MLA handbook.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Daviau