

**Draft Minutes
MLA Board Meeting
April 11, 2012
Big Sky, Montana**

President Kim Crowley called the Board meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. There were no introductions. Norma Glock moved to approve the minutes as presented. Dawn Kingstad seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Administrative Director Debbi Kramer presented the financial report. Marje Doyle moved and Suzanne Goodman seconded the motion to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

Officer reports were given. The suggestion of a fee for retired members was brought before the meeting. It will be discussed further at a later time.

ALA Representative Suzanne Goodman spoke to the meeting about the American Indian Library Association. She had originally thought it would be appropriate for MLA to join the group. After discussion the consensus of members was for MLA not to join at this time, but individuals were welcomed to join.

MPLA Representative Norma Glock would like to see more people nominated from our region for MPLA awards. The awards and requirements are listed on the MPLA website. She also acknowledged the MPLA members present. Discussion was held on the subject of ribbons being included with name tags to display memberships in other organization such as ALA, MPLA, or PNLA. It is difficult to affix ribbons to name tags that are used from year to year and as a cost saving measure T & T reuses name tags.

ASLD Division Chair Jim Kammerer reported that his is archiving information on ASLD members on the website. He is also adding more information with the help of Stacy.

Standing Committee Reports

Awards Committee report: Chair Anita Scheetz announced the 2012 award winners. She requested Board approval. Consensus was to approve award recipients.

By-Laws Committee report: Judy Hart reported to the meeting that By Law changes will be voted on at the membership meeting.

Cates Committee report: Discussion was held on the Cates Scholarship Committee By-Laws. An addition would have to be added to permit a contribution towards conference expenses. Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson relayed the following wording:

Each year, the Sheila Cates Committee may agree to make a donation to the MLA Conference in recognition of a program or speaker. The donation recognizes the continued support of the Montana Library Association to the efforts of the Sheila Cates Committee.

The Cates Committee has approved the addition to the Committee Guidelines. The MLA Board will need to approve the addition.

Government Affairs report: Judy Hart will be attending Legislative Day in DC at the end of April. A year round contract with Smith & McGowan has been signed as they are attending committee meeting on MLA's behalf. Their expertise as lobbyists is not only needed during the legislative session. Work is beginning on the legislative agenda. State Librarian Jennie Stapp and the Library Commission are creating a prioritized list. Jennie also spoke to the meeting about the Montana Attorney General's draft decision concerning Library Board powers concerning budgets. She will keep the library community informed as things move forward.

Marketing/PR report: Lisa invited everyone to stop by the MLA table and be sure to attend the movie night.

State Librarian report: Jennie encouraged all to present to make use of the State Library's website as there is a myriad of services and information available. She also conveyed that the Library Commission had approved the upcoming budget.

Website and FOCUS report: The MLA websites is looking and functioning well. The suggestion of a members' only area was brought before the meeting. This part of the site could have various uses. Megan Stark FOCUS editor is doing a wonderful job. The newsletter is very informative.

Kim stated that sculpture George Cole from Bozeman has created a Banned Book sculpture. He would like the sculpture to be moved from library to library around the state and wanted MLA's support. As the logistics of moving the sculpture would be daunting, Kim will contact him and tell him MLA is not equipped to help at this time.

Unfinished Business:

A strategic plan update was given. It will be necessary to invite our Ned back to help the Board to continue with the strategic plan. Discussion was held on the new MLA tagline and it was decided to stay with our current message.

The Nargis Library Recovery Interest Group purpose was discussed. It was decided by member consensus that any international interest group be allowed only a two year timeline for completion of their agenda. The interest group will then be dissolved.

New Business:

The Central Asia Institute interest group was formed in 2004. Although no funds from MLA were given to CAI, MLA did recommend members support the giving of individual money to the cause. It was agreed that the interest group be disband at this time, but if individuals wanted to continue support that is their right. Kim will relay the Boards sentiments about CAI during the 2012 Membership meeting.

Items to be added to the June meeting agenda:

1. Legislative Agenda
2. Elevator message
3. Commercial membership criteria

Respectfully submitted by
Debbi Kramer