

MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

Board room, Billings Public Library

Hotel & Conv. Center

April 9, 2014

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

In attendance: Sheila Bonnand, Beth Boyson, Dana Carmichael, Susanne Caro, Della Dubbe, Eva English, Norma Glock, Susan Gregory, Judy Hart, Cheryl Hesel, Debbi Kramer, Lisa Lykins, Jan Zauha.

President Beth Boyson called the meeting to order at 1:00p.m.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2014, BOARD MEETING: Norma Glock moved that the minutes of the February 22 meeting be approved as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Debbi Kramer reported that profit has increased in some areas, including the MLA license plates, which are now all profit. Jan Zauha commented that we should push increased purchases of license plates each year, and Debbi added that they will be advertised on the MLA website. Further discussion of the budget included noting that Line 40 uncatalogued income needs to be moved to Line 13. Beth said we are hopeful of making good income from the conference. Expenses have been reduced by MSU-Billings paying for the programs; the Cates Committee paying for the New Member Breakfast free breakfasts; having no AV expenses; and the awards plaques being much less expensive thanks to Eva English and her college's engraver. Debbi reported that numbers are down with attendance at about 277 registered participants, a total of about 350 including 27 vendors, speakers, and others. A new expense is offering the vendors two breakfasts and one luncheon free. About 20 people are registered for each of the preconference workshops. Related to the vendors, Debbi Kramer has a blurb in the program encouraging attendees to spend money with the vendors to keep them coming to the conference.

So far we have about \$87,000 income and have paid out \$55,000. The cash flow is good, but we are still facing another year of tough budgeting.

Debbi also commented that the session facilitators are new members, and they will be taking room counts. We have a lot of concurrent sessions which demands more breakout rooms and affects our having a variety of conference locations. If counts are not high, we might consider less sessions. Finally, the group discussed lobbyist fees during legislative years and Legislature Day.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS: OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Beth Boyson provided a printed report of the on-line voting and approval of a motion made by Sheila Bonnand on March 17, 2014, to move \$2,935 MLA funds to the Technical Services Interest Group to pay for professional instruction in RDA for catalogers.

VICE PRESIDENT: Sheila Bonnand reminded everyone of the Board Retreat scheduled for June 4-6 at Canyon Ferry. She asked that everyone respond to the survey monkey for a count for each day and special needs. She also has a Steering Committee for the next conference consisting of Mary Guthmiller, Carmen Clark, and Kari Eliason to represent all divisions.

PAST PRESIDENT: Anne Kish reported that we have a great slate of officers running unopposed. The RFP for the Conference Planner is also coming along.

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE EAST AND WEST: Eva English reported that she and Roberta Gebhardt are ready for the New Member Breakfast.

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES: The three representatives for ALA, MPLA, AND PNLA will be giving their reports at the Membership Meeting.

DIVISIONS:

ASLD: Susanne Caro reported that their group has a secretary but needs a Chair-Elect. They offered a writing competition and had only one person enter, but it is a start.

SLD: Lisa Lykins stated that their national speaker had cancelled but promised to be available next year. Dana Carmichael will be taking over leadership of this division. Lisa was complimented on a job well done.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

AWARDS AND HONORS COMMITTEE: Two award winners – Trustee of the Year and Legislator of the Year – cannot attend, but other people will accept the awards. Media has been contacted to cover the event.

BOOK STORE: Barnes and Noble are offering books at a 25% discount for the store. This has made the store much easier to offer.

CATES SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson commented that we have a lot of nice items for the silent auction and everything is set for the Bunco Bash Cates Event. Also, the Cates video is done and ready to be shown at the New Member Breakfast. Scholarship applications are due July 1.

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE: Jan Zauha noted that it has been an interesting year, but the outcome is successful.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS: Judy Hart provided a handout with the Legislative Agenda Proposal. She particularly emphasized point #2 that it is important for libraries to report their use of State Aid funds; and point #5 concerning the Attorney General's Opinion. It was agreed that we will need full support of the membership to proceed with this issue. It will be an action item for the April 12 meeting. All of the proposals will be considered for approval at the April 12 meeting but nothing at this point is ready to be reported to the membership. Judy also brought up the issue of Library Legislative Day. The last one was well attended but people were coming and going and not needing the volume of food provided. Sheila Bonnard suggested that we consider having a reception instead of a full dinner. Judy is looking for someone to do the photo posters. Beth Boyson responded that Judy has enough responsibility without trying to do the Legislative Day work as well. Beth will appoint a committee of 4 to 5 people to plan Legislative Day, a good way to relieve some of Judy's overage and to involve more people. Sheila Bonnard moved to form a planning committee for Library Legislative Day, and the motion passed unanimously. Judy and Beth are both going to National Legislative Day.

There was further discussion of the issue of the Attorney General's Opinion related to the budgetary authority of library boards. Sheila Bonnard asked what would happen if we advocated for this. Cheryl Hesper commented that we need to do it now or not do it at all. Anne Kish emphasized the problem of having much of the membership not support any action. The discussion of problems and solutions will continue at the April 12 meeting.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE: Their Resolution on the Need for Reforms for the Intelligence Community to Support Privacy, Open Government, Government Transparency, and Accountability will be presented for action at the Membership Meeting on April 11.

INTEREST GROUPS:

REPORT OF STATE LIBRARY: Jennie Stapp will give the report at the Membership Meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MONTANA BOOK AWARD RECEPTION: The committee working on this issue will write a letter of understanding between the Montana Book Award group and MLA. Debbi Kramer noted that we should just be setting a time, and Anne Kish felt that this was basically a one-time problem. Sheila Bonnard suggested that the Montana Book Award group do a proposal for their reception like all other groups.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The participants in the meeting were decided on. Board members will sit up front and be introduced.

NEXT MEETING: The Board will meet Saturday, April 12, beginning at 1:30p.m. in the Madison Room. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl J. Heser, Secretary