

# Missouri Library Association Executive Board Meeting

Friday, May 1, 2009  
9 am to 1 pm

Via Videoconference Sites:

Host Site: MLA Headquarters, Columbia, Room 224  
Missouri Library Network Corporation, St. Louis, Training Room;  
Springfield-Greene County Library District-The Library Center, Springfield Room A  
University of MO-Kansas City, Administrative Center, Loose Park Room  
University of Central MO, Warrensburg, Kirkpatrick Library, Room 1430  
University of Central MO, Lee's Summit, Summit Center, Room 145

## Approved Minutes

### 1. Welcome and Introductions – President Kimberlee Ried:

Meeting was called to order at 9 am. President Ried welcomed everyone and asked for attendees to introduce themselves.

Those in attendance at MLA Headquarters: **President Kimberlee Ried, Past-President Karen Hayden, Interim Treasurer Tony Garrett, Interim Member-At-Large Sarah Howard**, Executive Director Margaret Booker, Conference Coordinators June Dewese and Judy Maseles, Outreach SIG Chair Connie Bush, YASIG Recorder Letitia Den Hartog, and MLA Lobbyist Randy Scherr.

Attending at MLNC: **ALA Councilor Pam Klipsch**; Tech Services SIG Recorder Elizabeth Madson; MACRL Recorder, Publications Committee Chair, and CIT SIG Vice-Chair Jodie Borgerding; Tech Services SIG Recorder Elizabeth Madson; Tech Services SIG Past-Chair Keri Cascio; Membership Committee Member Asia Gross; and Awards Committee Member John Furlong.

Attending at UMKC: **YSD Chair Crystal Faris**, PR Committee Chair Diane Hunter; Outreach SIG Chair Niki Powell, and RISSIG Reporter Melissa Muth.

Attending at UCMO-JKL: RISSIG Chair Carol Smith; IFC Chair Jerry Brown; and Trails Regional Library Director and guest Karen Hicklin.

Attending at UMCO-Summit: **Member-At-Large Marty Miller** and **PLD Chair Mary Beth Revels**.

Attending at SGCL: **President-Elect Sharon McCaslin, MACRL Chair Courtney Mlinar**, CIRCILL SIG Chair Katherine Bohnenkamper, and CSRT Chair Jeana Gockley.

### 2. Approval of Minutes – President Kimberlee Ried:

3.6.09 BOD Meeting Minutes, President-Elect Sharon McCaslin moved to approve, Past-President Karen Hayden seconded. Minutes approved: Columbia 4, MLNC 1, SGCL 2, UMKC 1, and Lee Summit 2 votes, all in favor.

4.22.09 BOD Teleconference Minutes, Sharon McCaslin moved to approve, Treasurer Tony Garrett seconded. Minutes approved: Columbia 4, MLNC 1, SGCL 2, UMKC 1, and Lee Summit 2 votes, all in favor.

### 3. Report from Kimberlee Ried, President:

Ad-hoc Task Force. Full scale organizational assessment needed. Task force working timeline will span 2009 into 2010. Send Kimberlee Ried names via e-mail if you have someone who would like to help.

Sharon McCaslin: Does charge exist yet? No formal charge yet. Kimberlee Ried and Board of Directors (BOD) will develop over next couple months. Would like the task force charge completed by the July meeting.

Annual Report Project: President wants to create a formal end of year annual report for the purpose of grant seeking and membership/nonmember information and would include financial details, a report on activities tied to goals, and membership demographics.

Send useful samples to President Kimberlee Ried.

Budget and Finance Committee will recommend distribution format, electronic v. print.

Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Project. Researcher Terry Ward, KC consultant, has done TIF study for MO School Boards Association and stakeholders. Has talked to Directors of Large Libraries (DOLL) group about the prospect of producing a library focused study. They have not pursued such a study. President Ried asked if MLA is interested in contracting such as survey.

Such a study would gather data and facts to see what amount of tax is being diverted, would look at the overall impact of deferments, and would projected future losses to public libraries. Terry Ward could present in July.

Discussion: Sharon McCaslin is unfamiliar with Mr. Ward but thinks project is fantastic, if we can get him to talk about it at the 2009 conference.

Mary Beth Revels thinks this is an excellent idea. Most public libraries would be interested and wonders if a LSTA might be available to pay Mr. Ward's fees. Kimberlee will check with the MO State Library about LSTA funding with the emphasis on pro bono.

Kimberlee Ried will share the School Boards Association report with MLA Board via e-mail.

President Ried has recommended Mr. Ward as a conference presenter in 2009.

#### **4. Report from Sharon McCaslin, President-Elect:**

Budget issues were deferred to the treasurer's report.

2010 January Board Retreat. Groups surveyed for preference regarding date and days. Preference was for week-days, Thursday and Friday, January 7 and 8, 2010.

ALA Midwinter Meeting is the next weekend.

Treasurer Tony Garrett reported that there is no money for this event and asked that President-Elect give serious thought to alternative funding.

President-Elect presumes expenses totaling no more \$1300 and will provide \$200 from personnel funds if required. MLA is going into reserves to fund this year's January Orientation and probably will need to do the same next year.

#### **5. Budget and Finance Report, Treasurer Tony Garrett:**

Presented 2009 MO LAD final budget report for Board consideration.

Presented 2009 Orientation final budget report for Board consideration.

Treasurer recommended a bylaws change to allow monthly financial review to be completed from a distance via an electronic document review. Executive Director Margaret Booker explained that MLA does not have best practices audit status because we have only one full- and one part-time staff, allowing for almost no checks and balances. The Association had a long history of electronic review with no hands-on review outside of professional audits. Current auditor's advice was offered and adopted a

couple years back, the primary suggestion being that board members have hands-on with actual documents, including deposits, check registers, and account statements. This is not a Bylaws matter, but is a practice issue.

Treasurer discussed lengthy learning curve regarding budget and finance matters, and Executive Director explained Association's hope for continuity provided by the two-year treasurer term of service.

President-Elect McCaslin wondered if a Budget and Finance Committee member should be from Mid-Missouri or if a locally residing Board membership could be assigned hands-on review duties.

ALA Councilor Pam Klipsch agreed with Tony and Margaret that it is important to comply with CPA advice so there are no questions about organization finances and supports conservative practices to maintain reputation and organization integrity.

Treasurer will continue to conduct in-person, hands-on monthly financial reviews.

#### Discussion of Reserve Funds and 2009 Income and Expense Expectations.

Per the unreconciled April 2009 Check Registers Report, reserve funds total \$47,867.56.

Per the unreconciled April 2009 Revenue and Expense Report, the shortfall in membership dues income is approximately \$18,000 from January-April 2008 membership dues income.

Total year \$55,000. Down about 20%.

Board needs to decide what to do about budget. Treasurer directed transfer of \$5000 in reserve fund at the beginning of January and another \$5000 at the end of March.

The Association will shortly begin receiving trade show/conference income and will receive one more membership increase in conjunction with conference registration.

38 Association leaders, Division and SIG Steering Committee Officers, and Committee members have not renewed. President Ried will be e-mailing or calling each lapsed leader in the coming weeks.

Association may have to pull from reserve funds again in December.

What will the Board do? President-Elect McCaslin predicts that 1/3 of the reserves may be used in 2009. Treasurer Garrett recommends a working group on budget issues. President Ried said she and the President-Elect have been discussing different scenarios, including access to unrestricted reserve funds; staff cuts; 5%, 10%, 15% budget cut contingency plans, and the re-evaluation of contracted auditing and lobbying services..

Mary Beth Revels had a question regarding the 2008 trade show. In January-April 2008, Association received \$6,720 in conference income with none during the same period this year. Executive Director Booker explained that, as a result of new programs and a delayed timeline, the 2009 trade show solicitation has been delayed and has not gone out yet this year. It should be forthcoming by mid-May.

#### **6. Report from ALA Councilor Pam Klipsch:**

Memorial for Judy Krug. Councilor Klipsch has used the ALA Chapter listserv to inform chapters that we were contemplating this resolution. She is working with Chapter Councilors to pass resolutions. Council Klipsch asked each state chapter to pass a similar resolution so all could be presented to family together.

Sharon thanks to Pam.

Pam moved that the MLA Executive Board approve a resolution honoring Judith Krug, seconded by Kimberlee Ried. Resolution approved: Columbia 4, MLNC 1, SGCL 2, UMKC 1, and Lee Summit 2 votes, all in favor.

Kimberlee Ried will follow up with Cindi Ernst and Frances Piesbergen. Margaret Booker will produce the resolution in advance of ALA Annual Conference.

## **7. Reports from Committees, Divisions, and Special Interest Groups:**

### **Bylaws and Handbook Committee:**

Bylaws and Handbook Committee Chair Karen Hayden presented Computer and Information Technology SIG Bylaws for approval. Tony Garrett made a motion to approve, Interim Member-At-Large Sarah Howard seconded. Motion approved: Columbia 4, MLNC 1, SGCL 2, UMKC 1, and Lee Summit 2 votes, all in favor.

Chair Karen Hayden asked if the Board would like to look at the structure of institutional rates for dues. Ideas on how to restructure dues and grow institutional membership are desired. The current fee structure is tied to gross income and is based on a sliding scale. We have between 30-40 institutional members and they are a mixed type group.

Corporate memberships were moved to institutional last year per a bylaws change approved by the members.

A recent suggestion has been that MLA lower institutional member rates to increase the number of members. Karen did some research and found that some chapters have a set fee and that MLA's dues are higher than most.

Margaret Booker reported that it has been over 6 years since we last reviewed institutional rates.

Kimberlee Ried asked that the Bylaws and Handbook Committee do a matrix of other states in this part of country. President Ried has concern about the short timeline to prepare this matter for a member vote in October, and directed that a change proposal would need to be presented in July. Karen Hayden will work on it.

Outreach SIG Chair Nikki Powell asked about the approval of Outreach Bylaws. A look back at past Board Meeting Minutes showed that these Bylaws should be presented for Board review in July. Committee Chair Hayden will see that they are added to the July meeting agenda and presented for the Board's approval.

### **2009 Conference Report:**

Conference Coordinators June DeWeese and Judy Maseles reported that, due to the 2009 board meeting schedule, neither the conference budget nor the preliminary schedule are ready for board review. Judy is working with unit and stakeholder sponsors to nail down costs.

Conference Coordinator June DeWeese moved that the budget and preliminary schedule review be done via e-mail with vote following 5.20.09 Stakeholder Meeting. Karen Hayden seconded. Motion approved: Columbia 4, MLNC 1, SGCL 2, UMKC 1, and Lee Summit 2, votes all in favor.

Promotional materials have been distributed to MASL members via the MLA trade show booth. Distribution to MPLD members will be completed by a Columbia colleague. Conference Coordinators will seek help with MOBIUS Conference distribution. June asked that everyone spread the word!

Coordinator DeWeese reports that program and event requests have garnered 92 proposals, 5 with meals, 5 pre-conferences, a book cart drill team competition, a SISLT reception, and other stuff. Two keynote speakers are on hold.

Board and unit leaders are asked to reply to green survey. Link is in listserv archive and conference web page.

### **Long Range Planning Committee:**

Chair Karen Hayden reported that Committee met on April 17. LRP members reviewed survey and discussed MLA history, 2008 Member Forum, and action plan for committees and MLA as a whole.

Survey results showed that the most important benefits of membership were reported to be conference, networking, issues, advocacy, and professional development

Chair Hayden asked committee, division, and SIG leaders to review survey results and to develop ways to promote. Karen asked that leaders look at unit action and vision statements to ensure that plans reflect survey results.

Sharon McCaslin stressed the importance of listening to members' survey feedback and she stated encouraged a response to survey, so they realize we are responding.

President-Elect McCaslin will work with LRP and organizational review taskforce to address member issues and plan the first step to evolve and reorganize.

The Legislative Committee has improved their communications and is doing a good job getting out the word and talking to membership as a whole.

MACRL Chair Courtney Mlinar stated that on-going communications can be effected through *MO INFO* correspondence, listserv postings, and annual business meeting reports. The Association needs to get survey details and organization task force plans out to the memberships.

Regional membership recruitment is especially important.

Received were 180 survey responses from folks working in a variety of library types.

LRP Chair Hayden and President Kimberlee Ried will compose the *MO INFO* article in the next 10 days for inclusion in May issue.

### **8. Communications – None.**

### **9. Unfinished Business:**

PLD Chair Mary Beth Revels asked about 2010 conference location, which will be Lake of Ozarks, Lodge of Four Seasons. The Board approved and the event contract has been signed. 2010 Conference Coordinators are Camdenton County Public Library Director and Assistant Director Carolyn Chittenden and Randall Yelverton.

### **10. New Business:**

President Ried reported on 2011 conference site selection. Site selection visits were conducted in the KC Metro Area in April, and there are several potential sites. Site Selection Chair and Past-Conference Coordinator Stephanie Tolson will report Committee recommendation in July.

### **11. 2009 Legislative Update, Lobbyist Randy Scherr**

Lobbyist Scherr reported that we are in the last two weeks of the legislative session and that he is tracking 47 bills of interest to MLA. His legislative updates are posted on the Legislative Committee web page, <http://molib.org/legislative/Hotbills.pdf>.

Regarding the state budget, the House and Senate later than usual. The next significant budget process is Friday, May 8. The House Republican caucus has fallen apart. There are \$300 million in tax cuts, 6 percent to 5 percent. Pass operating budget but there are stimulus issues. The stimulus money may be held in reserve for next year. Budget conferees are working now to finish the budget. Stay tuned.

HB11: Medicaid expansion required but the republicans are split. Special session may be needed in late June.

House bill 299: Athletes & Entertains Tax issues don't affect libraries. HB 299 will have a \$10,000 cap on Arts Council receipts but the bill has not been moving.

HB316: Open meetings and records laws. As originally written, this bill would have extended public standards to MLA and others receiving public funds, but this application has been removed.

Penalties for "knowingly" violating the law have been removed. The maximum penalty shall be \$1000. The House passed mandatory training for board members subject to 610. The Municipal League led the battle, with MO School Boards Association, MLA, MO Association of Counties, and other small groups supporting.

HB390: Immigration and "public benefit". The purpose of this session's bill is to limit content/intent to "monetary loans". This affects university and academic libraries. Public benefit could have been understood to include the loaning of books. This is a clean up from the 2008 legislative session.

HB191: Would allow tax payers to petition to lower their tax rate. The standard proposed for the passage of such a reduction is extraordinarily high and would require participation of 33% of registered voters and passage by 66% of those who vote. Lobbyist Scherr reported that there is no way to meet standard and he is not wasting energy to fight it.

HB711: Property taxes, correction regarding rollback language is the only property tax bill still in play

HB824/SB386 combined: This bill affects combined library report due dates. Bill addresses western Missouri and Mid-Continent Public Library initiated change.

HGR23: Tabor amendment: passed the House Limits on appropriations. DOA in the Senate. Sponsor did not make it to the hearing the first time.

SB266: Sales tax for libraries. Passed the Senate, now in the House. In local political subdivision bills. Lobbyist Scherr has offered an amendment regarding state aid and grants. The amendment requires balance of sales and property tax.

SB40: Cunningham. Calls for young adult appropriate signage and the restricted location of pornographic materials. Heard by the Senates General Laws Committee and voted out but not turned in for further consideration. Six witnesses testified in support of the bill. Lobbyist Scherr was only one to testify in opposition to the bill. Senator Cunningham might try to add to another bill. Policy or sign....bill will be back, 7 more time in accordance with Senator Cunningham's public service.

YSD Chair Crystal Faris is very concerned about the effect such legislation might have on youth services and will assist as possible. She stated that the YD community would like to be a part of that process.

Lobbyist Scherr urged librarians to have conversations with senators. Show them what we already have in policies in place. The bill is not as simple as it might appear to be. There could be lawsuits, costs, and segregation of materials for 16 year olds as "porn sensitive".

President Ried asked how MLA's 2010 legislative agenda might be tailored to address these labeling and location issues. Lobbyist Scherr suggested parental control, local control, existing policies, and legal action as leverage.

ALA Councilor Pam Klipsch talked about Topeka-Shawnee County (KS) example of acts leading to litigation - 4 books behind desk, no access without asking. May face author and publisher challenges for labeling titles as "objectionable to minors". Chilling affect on patrons.

Wisconsin "porn shop" example - denied reappointment to Board of Directors whose reputations were attacked. Smear campaign.

A "Hecklers Veto" is a tactic used to intimidate users and affects availability. A small group decides for whole community.

Karen Hayden talked about the danger of offering amendments. They must be within the scope of the bill.

Lobbyist Scherr is working to manage points of order with the Chamber Parliamentarian and Speakers.

Pam asked if there is a political trade off for Senator Cunningham's dead tax bills. Lobbyist Scherr thinks not.

Lobbyist Scherr concluded his report. SB40 was voted out as a show St. Louis County Library (SLCL) attendees and Committee Chair directed MLA to pressure SLCL to "clean own house."

Pam Klipsch: SLCL has a process, went through the process, and advocates now want change to the process as they didn't get what they wanted. Senator McKenna and Pam are talking.

## **12. Announcements**

May 20, 2009, Conference Planning Videoconference Meeting.

July 10, 2009, MLA@ALA Happy Hour, Westin.

ALA Chapter Relations Committee will again be offering their Orientation for Chapter Leaders at the ALA conference in Chicago on July 10. President Ried will be presenting on MLA Leader Orientation.

May 15, 2009, Publications Chair Jody Borgerding hopes to complete annual review and updates to units web pages.

May 19, 2009, Treasurer Tony Garrett and Director Booker will participate in teleconference workshop called "Creating Investments Policies for Your Nonprofit: Risk Tolerance, Reserve Funds and Portfolio Management Capacity." Interested board members are welcome to attend.

July 24, 2009, Mid-year Board Meeting in Columbia.

## **13. Adjournment**

11:40 am adjourn.