

# Missouri Library Association Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 4, 2011  
Kansas City International Expo Center

## 1. Welcome and Roll Call

President Karen Hicklin called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Tracy Byerly, Steve Potter, Jodie Borgerding, Joy Dufrain, Glenda Hunt, Candice Oliver, Karen Hicklin, Chris Pryor, Mel Davis, Sharon McCaslin, Diane Hunter, Dawn Sanders, Nancee Dahms-Stinson, Shelly Akins, Pam Klipsch, Marian Davis, Neosha Mackey, Danielle Theiss, Eric Petersen, Sarah Wood, Brent Husher, Cindy Thompson, and Brandy Sanchez.

## 2. Minutes

Hicklin called for discussion and/or corrections to the July 29, 2011 Executive Board meeting minutes. Hearing none, Sanchez moved to accept the minutes. Mackey seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

## 3. Reports from Executive Board:

### Gumdrop Books

After discussion, it was agreed that Hicklin will be the MLA representative at the Gumdrop Books donation to Joplin on October 13.

### Financial Report

Treasurer Neosha Mackey presented the financial reports for August, September, and October. She also thanked Keith Gaertner for his efforts in keeping MLA financially stable. Lastly, she recommended that an apprentice treasurer be selected among next year's elected Members-at-Large in order to provide continuity and ease with the transition of responsibilities.

### Charitable Fund Committee

Member-at-Large Marian Davis and PR Committee Chair Chris Pryor are working on procedures for collecting charitable funds in response to future natural disasters. MASL did not collect any

funds; instead, they worked with vendors and volunteers to facilitate donations. Davis and Pryor are also working with ALA Councilor Pam Klipsch to learn what other state associations are doing. So far, only the Alabama and Iowa Library Associations collect charitable funds. It was suggested that legal council be sought so as not to jeopardize MLA's non-profit status.

### **ALA Councilor's Report**

ALA Councilor Pam Klipsch organized a dinner with ACLU, MLA, MOREnet, and members of Intellectual Committee in September. This arose from the law suit recently filed by the ACLU of Eastern Missouri against the Camdenton R-2 School District for their internet filtering practices. Klipsch has also been invited to participate in a working group at ALA in Chicago that has begun the complex process of reviewing and updating the intellectual freedom components of ALA's policy recommendations on the use of technology in libraries. Lastly, she reported that the ALA Washington office continues to lobby for library funding.

### **Trustee and Friends Division**

Trustee and Friends Division Chair Joy Dufraim sees this division disappearing under MLA's new structure of governance and voiced concern over how best to transition this group during the institution of Communities of Interest. Borgerding suggested deferring to other state organizations to see how they participate within their associations. Dahms-Stinson mentioned that the Tennessee Library Association has an active trustee's group that hosted regional workshops. Husher suggested expanding this group to all supporters of libraries. Petersen mentioned ALA's "I Love Libraries" program as a source of advocacy training.

Husher asked if training for trustees was a goal of MLA and how are we facilitating this. McCaslin suggested that perhaps we dedicate the last day of conference to trustee training to minimize the inconvenience to trustees. Klipsch expressed concern that it might be too much to serve friends, trustees, foundations, and other supporters since the purview is simply too large. Dahms-Stinson suggested this group work closely with the future Public Library Community of Interest (formerly the Public Library Division) to resolve this issue.

## **4. Update from Conference Arrangements Committee**

### **2011 Annual Conference**

Conference Coordinator Brent Husher reported that all evaluations will be done electronically. So far, MLA has received 342 full registrations with an estimated 413-474 people in attendance. The income goal for this year's conference was \$23,000; however, this goal was exceeded by \$2,000. In total, MLA will see a \$25,000 profit from this year's conference.

### **2012 Annual Conference**

2012 Conference Co-coordinator Mel Davis announced that next year's conference will be taking place Oct 3-5 in Springfield at University Plaza Convention Center. The Downtown area has been revitalized since MLA last hosted a conference in this area. Jim Schmidt has agreed to be Davis' co-coordinator. Mackey also offered the volunteer assistance of MSU.

### **2013 Annual Conference**

Borgerding and Dufrain created a Request for Proposal for St. Louis and St. Charles Convention and Visitor Bureaus. Final proposals were received from the Millennium, Sheraton Westport, Hilton St. Louis Frontenac (all located in St. Louis) as well as from the St. Charles Convention Center. Husher suggested an increase from the original 130 sleeping rooms. Site visits will be scheduled by the end of October for a report to the Board in November. It was requested by Board members that the Millennium be removed from consideration due to the numerous complaints from the last St. Louis conference.

## **5. Division and Committee Reports**

### **Bylaws and Handbook Committee**

Changes to the bylaws will be brought forward for consideration by the general membership to vote upon at the Annual Business Meeting.

### **Legislative Committee Chair's Report**

Committee Chair Steve Potter presented the proposed 2012 Legislative Agenda which placed heavy support on local control, especially related to censorship. Language and figures were also updated to reflect current budget cycles. Potter moved that the Board approve with recommendation to the general membership. Dahms-Stinson seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Potter also suggested that in the future the Board votes to approve, but the membership no longer formally approves. By the time we reach conference there is little time to implement any major suggestions to the agenda. Instead, the Legislative Committee would report. Klipsch spoke in support of general membership approval because of political connotations. Special sessions of the state legislature are also complicating matters. Hicklin asked that the committee draft a formal motion for approval by the Board.

Potter announced that Library Advocacy Day will be February 7, 2012. There will be two tracks for members to participate. A videoconference will be hosted the week before to discuss the issues for seasoned librarians. A typical orientation will still be held for newcomers.

### **Membership Committee**

Dufraim voiced that the registration process for trustees was confusing and that membership should be promoted earlier in the year. She suggested that trustee membership be automatically included with institutional membership. Klipsch moved and Borgerding seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Member Benefits Task Force**

It was mentioned that a task force be created with the purpose of better articulating benefits of membership. Hicklin suggested that the Board for next year approach this suggestion. Oliver and Pryor suggested that the Membership and PR committees join forces on this issue. Mackey recommended a membership drive among those who don't renew.

### **Nominating Committee**

Committee Chair Sharon McCaslin reported on the results from this year's officer elections:

- Carol Smith was elected 2012 President-Elect. She will serve as President-Elect in 2012, and President in 2013
- Stephanie Tolson was elected a Member-at-Large for 2012. She will serve a one-year term to support the transition to a new Board makeup, per the new MLA bylaws.
- Keri Cascio was elected a Member-at-Large (2012-2013)
- April Roy was elected a Member-at-Large (2012-2013)
- Brandy Sanchez was elected a Member-at-Large (2012-2013)
- Neosha Mackey will be serving as treasurer (2012-2013)

Sanchez moved to adjourn. Dahms-Stinson seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 pm.