

Minnesota Library Association

## Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 10, 2013 • 5:00–6:00PM  
St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center– Marsh/Fandel

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by President Kristen Mastel at 5:02pm. A quorum was present with 83 members.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Mastel introduced the Association officers and Parliamentarian, Chris Olson, MELSA Executive Director.
3. **Adoption of Agenda** – Mark Ranum moved to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Kimberly Edson. Motion carried.
4. **Approval of 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes** – Mark Ranum moved to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Kimberly Edson. Motion carried.
5. **State of the Association** Kristen Mastel, MLA President, provided highlights of the association activities for the past year. She noted four areas of focus: engagement with 150 volunteers; financial stability indicated through a healthy budget that was able to support investments such as logo development, strategic planning, and the two-day conference format. Mastel provided members with the membership update. As of September 29, 2013 the organization had 800 members. The report concluded with Mastel noting the breakdown of members and subunit/division members. Mastel also noted that there may be an uptick in subunit numbers if the membership approves changes recommended by the board to drop the \$5 charge to join.
6. **Treasurer's Report** - Anna Hulseberg reported strong financial health for the association. At the end of 2012, MLA's total assets were \$210,941. She noted that the current financials do not include 2013 conference revenue and expenditures. A streamlined process for check requests and reimbursements was completed, and as part of the budgeting process for 2014 the board is looking at investment strategies. Hulseberg thanked the board and Ampere! for working with her in her role as treasurer.
7. **Proposed Bylaws Change** - Carla Powers, MLA Secretary, reported that the board is proposing the following changes:
  - Eliminate \$5 annual dues for membership in sections and roundtables and allow members to join as many subunits as they wish free of charge (Article 1.3.1)
  - Require approval by president, in addition to treasurer, for all disbursements of funds (Articles 2.3.4 and 2.6.2)
  - Eliminate separate bylaws for sections and roundtables; permit divisions to adopt bylaws if they wish (Articles 5.3 and 5.4)
  - Clarify role of secretary in regards to elections (Articles 11.2 and 11.5)

- Establish procedure for resolving tie vote (Article 11.10)

A member inquired about whether or not a dues increase was considered to offset the \$1700 loss in revenue from subunits. Powers noted that this is reviewed annually and the board chose not to raise dues this year. Mastel further noted that there was a dues increase last year. Carla Urban noted that subunits do not have bylaws; they have procedures which provide the framework for them to operate. There was another question from the floor about consideration of reducing student registration fees for conferences. Mastel noted that the current conference rate for students is basically a break-even rate. Powers moved approval of the ByLaws changes as proposed. Seconded by Dale Zelenka. Motion carried.

**8. Draft Legislative Platform** - Mark Ranum, MLA Legislative Committee Chair turned the presentation over to Jim Weikum. Weikum noted that there are two items on the plank this year.

1. The Minnesota Library Association and the Minnesota Educational Media Organization support the appropriation of \$3 million dollars for the 2014-2016 biennium for the construction of public library buildings through the State's currently authorized matching program.
2. The Minnesota Library Association and the Minnesota Educational Media Organization supports an increase of \$6 million in funding for the Telecommunications Equity Aid (TEA) and \$ 2.2 million in funding for the Regional Library Telecommunications Aid (RLTA)

Ranum reported that the MLA board approved the platform as presented at the October 9 board meeting. Pat Conley noted that the current platform was missing the eBook item that had been approved at the committee level. Weikum reported that after lengthy discussion at the last committee meeting, committee members decided it was better to gather more information on unanswered questions before including it in the platform.

There was discussion about the pros and cons of adding language about eBooks to the platform. Zelenka asked for an informal showing of hands of those who would favor adding it. Zelenka made motion to amend the platform, adding a plank to include language determined by the Legislative Committee that would address performing a study of eBook pricing, including a review of options available. Seconded by Peg Werner. It was requested to count those opposed; four votes were counted. Motion carried.

Kristen Mastel moved to adopt the platform as amended. Seconded by Robin Ewing. Motion carried.

- 9. MLA Strategic Plan** - Robin Ewing, 2011 MLA President, presented the outcome of the 2013 Strategic Planning session. The strategic planning committee chose Minnesota Technology of Participation (MN ToP) as the consultant. The plan includes four strategic directions: educating and activating a library support network; strengthening our organization; engaging our members; and developing and equipping our leaders.

These areas will set the direction for MLA and will be integrated into the board meetings to ensure that outcomes are met. Ewing asked that the planning committee members stand and be recognized.

- 10. MLA Logo Redesign** - Kirsten Clark, Member-at-Large/IFC Chair, presented the background on the logo development and design. The committee worked with Beganik as the consultant, and the design went through several iterations. She recognized committee members and thanked them for their work. The approved logo can be used in color (as presented at the meeting) as well as in black and white. A member asked if it was tested for ADA compliance. Clark responded that it was screened by the consultant.

- 11. Plans for 2014** – Michele McGraw, MLA President-Elect, noted that activities in 2014 will be driven by the strategic plan. She asked members to look for new ways to get involved in the organization. McGraw told members that next year's conference will take place in Mankato on October 8 and 9.

- 12. MLA Board Election Results** – Peg Werner, MLA Nominations Committee Chair, introduced the nominating committee: Maureen Bell, Julie Kelly and Nathan Wunrow. She noted that serving on the board is a large commitment and she thanked everyone who was willing to be a candidate for 2014. She introduced the 2014 Board additions: President-Elect Maggie Snow, Treasurer Jennifer Hootman, Member-at-Large Carla Lydon, Intellectual Freedom Chair-Elect Maureen Gormley, Legislative Chair-Elect Pat Conley, and ALA Chapter Councilor Michael Scott.

- 13. Member Questions, Memorials, Comments and Resolutions** – Kristen Mastel asked for final comments and resolutions. She recognized William DeJohn and Anne Boyce Fredine in memoriam for their significant contributions to MLA and the library profession. Carla Urban read an MLA resolution in honor of Bill DeJohn. Urban moved approval of the resolution. Seconded by Barbara Misselt. Motion carried.

Chris Olson moved to thank Kristen Mastel for her year of service as president for MLA. Marlene Moulton Janssen seconded. Motion carried.

- 14. Adjourn** – Kristen Mastel adjourned the meeting at 6:14PM.