



MINNESOTA LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

Minnesota Library Association
Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 8, 2015 5:00 -5:50 PM
River Centre, Ballroom; St. Paul, MN

- 1. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by President Maggie Snow at 5:02 p.m. A quorum was present with 112 members in attendance.
- 2. Welcome & Introductions** - President Maggie Snow introduced those MLA Board Members on stage with her: President Elect Margaret Stone; Treasurer Jennifer Hootman; Secretary Laura Morlock; as well as Parliamentarian Don Kelsey and Nominations Committee Chair Phil Dudas.
- 3. Adoption of Agenda.** Motion by Marlene Moulton Janssen, seconded by Stacey Hendren, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Approval of 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes.** Motion by Peg Werner to approve minutes. Seconded by Anne Friedrichs. Motioned carried unanimously.
- 5. State of the Association Report.** President Maggie Snow highlighted the MLA retreat and Strategic Plan, its four areas, and highlights of the year. Highlights regarding “Strengthening Our Organization” include: new financial policies; several new committees and areas for involvement: Membership Committee, Digitization Committee, 125th Celebration, and the Education Task Force. There was also a DORT proposal on diversity resources of MLA membership. Highlights for “Developing and Equipping Our Leaders” include: Job descriptions updated for Chairs and Board members posted online; a Procedures Policy Manual updated and posted online soon; the MLA website will be used as a document repository. For “Educating & Activating a Library Support Network” highlights include: Gretchen Wronka and CYP; Ignite Afterschool; and the Engage platform for advocacy as led by Pat Conley and Barbara Misselt. “Engaging Our Members” work included: a successful PLD Day with Stephanie Hall and Frances Veit; a CYP Unconference with Amy Commers; the MILE conference with Amy Boese and Ryan McCormick; RASS had tours of MNHS with Stacey Hendren and Sarah Hawkins; Tomes on Tap had new locations added this year; the Instruction Roundtable held an event at ARLD and a separate workshop on "Assessment and Value: Strategies for Evaluating and Demonstrating Impact"; webinars with Kristen Mastel; and the new feature of a “member spotlight” in the RoundUp.

- 6. Treasurer's Report** – Jennifer Hootman shared that it has been an honor and privilege to serve as Treasurer. She shared that the gentle downward arc of budget is ok and reviewed MLA's assets. MLA is using our reserves, per policy, to fund programming and projects. Refer to Annual Meeting PPT slides for graphics. Advocacy on chart is not really revenue. Most of MLA's money is coming in from advertising. We are beginning the 2016 budget conversations. MLA is in good financial health. We are spending down our assets. Members were asked for questions or comments? There were none. Motion by Rebecca Nelson to accept reports; Ken Behringer seconded. Motion carried.
- 7. Proposed Bylaws Change** – Secretary Laura Morlock led the discussion on the proposed MLA dues change as well as a brief summary of how the change was proposed by the board and requires approval by two-thirds of the active and life members in good standing present and voting at this meeting. Proposed MLA dues changes were distributed to members Aug. 31. There were a few copies for review on hand. The floor was opened for discussion. There was a question as to why there was a need to have a 9 month reserve but now we need to spend it down. It was explained that this is part of MLA policy. The idea is not to sit on too much money. MLA will use it for membership and increase benefits. With no further discussion, the motion to approve a dues increase of 15% for 2016 was proposed. Using a stand-up vote there were 106 ayes and 6 nays. The motion carried.
- 8. Draft Legislative Platform** - Legislative Committee Chair Barb Misselt shared that the Legislative process starts in July. At the forum in St. Cloud there were 50 attendees. The platform was discussed with Capitol Hill and Associates, CRPSLA and ITEM. The Committee met last week and implemented a single platform moving forward. From the PPT slide, here is the text: "The Minnesota Library Association (MLA) and the Information and Technology Educators of Minnesota (ITEM) support the appropriation of \$10 million dollars for the 2016-2017 biennium for the construction of public library buildings through the State's currently authorized matching program. (Minnesota Statutes 134.45)." This is a bonding year. Issues that MLA/ITEM will support include: the MnSCU capital budget requests for new and improved library facilities; the recommendations of the Governor's Broadband Taskforce in order to ensure equity of access to high speed telecommunications for all Minnesotans; initiatives of the Minnesota Department of Education and Ignite Afterschool that focus on early childhood learning and reducing the achievement gap. Per the PPT slide, a "Placeholder for issue that may develop: Neither METN nor CRPLSA can yet predict whether additional TEA and/or RLTA funds will be needed in 2016. The two organizations will monitor the situation over the next few months and respectfully request the opportunity to return to both MLA and ITEM to ask that additional funding be placed on the MLA/ITEM Platform as required and appropriate to the Session." ITEM has approved plan in concept and recommends for approval in concept. There were some questions about partnership and naming of them. President Snow said we'll follow up with

Elaine. There was a motion by Gretchen Wronka to move that the platform as written be amended to include IGNITE and other organizations dedicated to out of school quality programs, and if Elaine decides this isn't wise that we take her advice. It was seconded by Marlene Moulton Janssen. There was an explanation of what IGNITE is. Peg Werner shared that per process, it is a procedural matter to vote on the platform it as is and then, if needed, change and vote later. Peg Werner spoke against the current motion. Jami Trenam agreed. This is conceptual and language should be kept as is. There had been a motion to change the language to include IGNITE. The Motion failed. Next Motion to accept it as is. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. The Motion carries. Library Legislative Day is the next time to talk about this. The Committee will set a date and make tentative plans.

- 9. Plans for 2016** – President Elect Margaret Stone shared thoughts on her MLA presidential plans. She is looking forward to next year and the MLA 125th celebration. There will be trivia and tidbits; check out the MLA Booth for a taste of what's to come. She will continue focus on networking opportunities and is excited to see the upcoming Education Task Force projects, work on advocacy, and the Communications Committee work.
- 10. Board Election Results** – Nominations Committee Chair Phil Dudas shared the election results, thanked members of the committee Angie Noyes, Michelle Twait, and Mary Mehsikomer and thanked everyone who ran for office. For those who didn't get elected please consider running again in the future. The newly elected Board members are: President Elect Amy Boese; Treasurer Kate Bessey; Member at Large Deborah Bifulk; Intellectual Freedom Chair Elect Megan Kocher; Legislative Committee Chair Elect Jami Trenam; ALA Chapter Councilor Sara Ring. Congratulations.
- 11. Memorials and Resolutions** – There was a moment of silence to honor those who have passed. MLA is continually grateful for the lives and roles each member has played.
- 12. Questions and Comments** - None.
- 13. Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 5:49pm per a motion by Carla Urban, seconded by Rachel Gray. Next year's meeting will take place at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center in Duluth on September 29 and 30, 2016