



**MINNESOTA LIBRARY**  
ASSOCIATION

**Minnesota Library Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Friday, January 6, 2017  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Present:** Kate Anderson (Treasurer), Jami Trenam (Legislative Committee Chair), Sarah Hawkins (Secretary), Stacey Hendren (PLD Chair), Deborah Bifulk (Member at Large), Tammy Schoenberg (Executive Director), Margaret Stone (Past President), Amy Boese (President)

**Remote attendance:** Jodi Grabinowski (ARLD Chair), Megan Kocher (Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair), Rachel Gray (RART Chair), Nicole Miller (Continuing Education Committee)

**Absent:** Ryan McCormick (President Elect), Sara Ring (MLA/ALA Chapter Councilor), Jim Weygand (MLTA Chair)

The meeting was called to order by Boese at 10:10am.

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

- Board meeting agenda
- December Minutes
- Reports

Hendren made a motion to correct the December minutes under Engaging our members, Subunits/Social media accounts changing “possible” to “impossible.” Stone seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Stone moves to approve the consent agenda. Bifulk seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

**Engaging our members**

**RART proposal (Gray)**

Rachel Gray presented a request to spend \$100 from RARTs 2016 budget in 2017 for the RART Spring Retreat with MaryJanice Davidson on April 1<sup>st</sup> at Inver Glen Library in Inver Hills. Hendren moves to accept proposal. Trenam seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

**St Kate's social networking sponsorship (Stone)**

Stone reported that language is needed in the MLA policy manual for when and why MLA chooses to sponsor an event or program. Stone will bring draft language to the next meeting.

Currently, there is a request from St. Kate's to sponsor a networking event for SLIS students at \$100.00. The board discussed the possibility of generating new membership by sponsoring the event. There was a discussion about using the existing ALA/MLA membership trifold brochure. The membership committee will create an insert with MLA specific information and board contacts to include in the trifold and distribute at this event and others. Bifulk moves that we sponsor the event at the \$100 level. Hendren seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

### **Strengthening our organization**

#### **MHQ Update (Schoenberg)**

Schoenberg reported that MHQ has been working with PLD to get space secured for PLD Day, tentatively scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> in Northfield, as well as working with the Legislative Chair Jami to set the date for and plan Legislative Day. Schoenberg also reported that MLA membership has dropped from 623 to 615. The board discussed potential reasons for the drop, as well as interest in data for non-renewing members, to look for trends.

#### **State Library Services (Boese)**

Informational: Jen Nelson from State Library Services is writing an IMLS grant application, surrounding libraries provision of racial equity training and programming, and wants MLA to be a supportive partner. The proposal is based on St. Paul's city-wide racial equity initiative with GARE (Government Alliance on Race & Equity) that included the library.

### **Educating & activating a library support network**

#### **Legislative Platform talking points (Trenam)**

Trenam reports that Legislative Day will be on Wednesday, Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>. The morning briefing will be held at the Judicial Center, thanks to Liz Reppe. The briefing the evening before is tentatively scheduled to be held at the Rice Street Library. Trenam reports that the platform is essentially done, but that the next step is to put the platform in an aesthetically pleasing format to share. The Legislative Committee approved ESSA policy support statement in December. Trenam and Walseth (Capitol Hill Associates) will be developing a list of key players (bill authors) for this session. Trenam encourages inviting staff, Board, Friends, stakeholders, and supporters to attend. Constituents are especially helpful. There was a conversation about how to get others introduced to Advocacy, including talking points available in a Google document, listserv, Engage platform, and attending committee meetings. The board discussed how a top-down strategy might be important, encouraging administrators to give front line staff time to attend committee meetings. Trenam reported that CRPSLA's advocacy campaign MN Loves Libraries is currently going on, soliciting stories from users, which will then be delivered to legislators on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> in postcard form.

#### **Social Media Policy for Subunits (Stone)**

Stone reports that the Communications Committee has a Best Practices for Social Media document, available on the website, but which needs to be updated. Subunits need to be aware of this document and current procedure. Stone and Boese will add to the upcoming subunit leader orientation.

### **Developing and equipping our leaders**

#### **Continuing Education Committee (Miller)**

Miller reported survey responses indicate that collaboration, relationship building, administration, and conflict management are top areas of need. Barriers to continuing education are cost/budget and time.

What the committee plans is to host four regional meetings/networking experiences annually, consisting of both a web and in-person component. You must be a member to attend, which will encourage membership. Stone raised issue of charging nominal fee, but the board encouraged the committee to partner with the multi-type systems to avoid doing so.

**Other**

Boese shared that she and Stone will be meeting with Nhia Lo from Minitex, who, along with Boese and Stone, was concerned with lack of diversity at the annual conference.

Next meeting: Monica Stratton discuss CYP Un-Conference. Ann Wahlstrom will discuss Maud Hart Lovelace Awards. Bifulk will send email to subunit leaders to sponsor networking event months. Boese will schedule them to report to board meetings before or after said events.

ARLD Day is set for April 28<sup>th</sup>.

MILE is still in need of mentors.

**Adjourn**

Hendren moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:27. Stone seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Next meeting: February 17th, 2017 from 10am to noon at MELSA.