



**MINNESOTA LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION**

Minnesota Library Association

Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 26, 2016

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Present: Margaret Stone, Megan Kocher, Maggie Snow, Kate Anderson, Jami Trenam on behalf of Barbara Misselt, Amy Wilde, Amanda Mills and Tammy Schoenberg

Not present: Sara Ring, Laura Morlock, Francis Veit, Deborah Bifulk and Amy Boese

Stone called the meeting to order at 10:16am.

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome to guest Jami Trenam, representing the Legislative Committee on behalf of Barbara Misselt today.

Approval of Consent Agenda

- Board meeting agenda
- July Minutes - Stone indicated that one correction was needed to the minutes, the lobbyist contract expires on August 31st not August 1st.
- Reports

Snow made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the correction to the minutes as stated above. Anderson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Approval of Financials

July financials included in the meeting packet.

1. Total Assets: \$165,690
2. Total Revenue YTD: \$116,394
3. Total Cost of Sales YTD: \$14,987
4. Monthly Expenses for July: \$12,946
5. Showing YTD Net Income/(Loss): \$4,779 -net gain
 - a. 2016 annual budget projected net income of \$3,067 at year end

The Board asked about the vendor revenue for conference. Schoenberg indicated that we were getting close to the projection but that we were likely going to be under a bit. Anderson moved to approve the

July 2016 financial. Snow seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Engaging our Members

2016 Conference Update

Stone provided an update on the Conference. She indicated that there is going to be come great after-hours entertainment and that she is really excited about speakers for the conference. Snow provided kudos to local arrangements committee. They have done a great job with things to do in Duluth and their blog. Stone indicated that MLA is hoping to video tape pieces of the conferences to put them on the website later. We will hopefully videotape the two keynote speakers and the featured speakers. And we are also considering having others reenacting their session in webinar form for later education. Pre-conference numbers are coming along slowly.

Project Updates

125th celebration – The committee has been busy with planning for the conference. We will have some reenactments of the historic radio shows. There will be one at breakfast and then one before the Annual Business Meeting. The MLA booth will also have some historical items and a huge blow up birthday cake. A local baker is donating a 125th celebration cake and tables will be decorated for the celebration.

Strengthening our Organization

MHQ Update

Schoenberg indicated that MHQ has been focusing this past month on planning for the conference and working with the Legislative Steering Committee with items related to the partner agreements and Capitol Hill Associates contract.

Educating & activating a library support network

Steering Committee Meetings

Trenam provided an update on the Legislative Steering Committee activities during the past month. The Steering Committee has met several times since the last board meeting. They went out with a Request for Information (RFI) for the lobbyist. There were three responses to that RFI. At this time, the Steering Committee feels that Capitol Hill Associates (CHA) seem to remain a good fit. Trenam explained to the board how our lobbyist contract and partner agreements work. The Steering Committee felt that there were some questions that needed to be answered by CHA so the decision was to have an interview with them to answer questions. That meeting was on held on Tuesday, August 23rd. CHA did a nice job answering the Steering Committee's questions. Sam Walseth is very knowledgeable and personable. He indicated that Elaine is going to be taking a very part-time role in the business so he will now become our main lobbyist. One of our biggest issues is still getting involvement from the members in the legislative process. Mills indicated that MLA may want to do something for the Subunits to show them why they should be involved. Wilde suggested that we may want to have a delegate from each subunit take part in the Legislative Committee meetings each month. It was also suggested that we need to find a way to work with the State Library on legislative issues.

Lobbyist Evaluation Process

Trenam indicated that a lobbyist evaluation that went out. There was not a lot of response which tells us again that we do need to do a better job of communicating to the members regarding legislative issues. We may need to engage the subunits to help planning for the platform. Overall the evaluation was very positive. There were a couple of really good critical questions. Of concern though is about 20 percent of respondents indicated that they have no opinion.

Legislative Forum

Legislative Forum was held on July 12th. There were about 40 people who attended. For the Platform, the main topics are going to be the same as usually for the most part (i.e. RLBSS, RLTA, Legacy, Multitypes, TSS, TEA). Trenam indicated that she will be in communication with CHA with how to best handle bonding bill. In addition, there will be a support statements for eBooks MN and continuing to support after school programs. There was a great conversation about communication with our legislators, communicating why libraries matter and why we ask for what we ask for and also communicating to members why having a lobbyist matters and what they are doing. Trenam indicated that this will be her task over the coming year.

Adjourn

Snow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Anderson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.

The next meeting will take place on September 16, 2016 from 10:00am to Noon at MELSA.