



**MINNESOTA LIBRARY**  
ASSOCIATION

**Minnesota Library Association**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

Friday, October 28, 2016

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Present:** Kate Anderson (Treasurer), Deborah Bifulk (Member at Large), Amy Boese (President Elect), Megan Kocher (Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair), Amanda Mills (ARLD Chair), Barbara Misselt (Legislative Committee Chair), Laura Morlock (Secretary), Sara Ring (ALA Chapter Councilor), Tammy Schoenberg (Executive Director), Margaret Stone (President), Maggie Snow (Past President), Frances Veit (PLD Chair), with guests: Jim Weygand (MLTA Chair Elect), Jennifer Nelson (Director of Minnesota State Library Services), Ann Walker Smalley (Legislative Committee Chair Elect), Ken Behringer (MELSA Director).

**Absent:** Amy Wilde (MLTA Chair).

Meeting called to order by Margaret at 10:04am.

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

Board meeting agenda

September Minutes

Reports

Snow made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Boese seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

**Approval of financials (Anderson)**

September financials included in the meeting packet.

1. Total Assets: \$262,396
2. Total Revenue YTD: \$240,932
3. Total Cost of Sales YTD: \$28,249
4. Monthly Expenses for September: \$17,606
5. Showing YTD Net Income/(Loss): \$84,637 -net gain
  - a. 2016 annual budget projected net income of \$3,067 at year end

Kate shared that we are working on the 2017 budget and will have that for the next meeting.

Anderson made a motion to approve the September financials. Veit seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

### **Engaging our members**

#### **2016 Conference Recap (all)**

Have heard mostly positive comments. The conference survey will reveal evaluation feedback; a summary of the evaluation could be placed in the RoundUp. We need to review the online session evaluations as this was a new change for the conference and will look to improve the form format to be more user friendly. There had been vendor comments about meals. The Glensheen event was a huge success. The advocacy bootcamp preconference event was a success. Minnesota was the first bootcamp event.

#### **ALA Gun Violence Affecting Libraries, Library Workers, and Library Patrons Resolution (Ring)**

This resolution came before the ALA Council last summer. It had the most discussion there and strong feelings. There was concern about some clauses not having sources cited. The resolution has been revised. Sara would like to bring this to the Board for discussion. Please continue to send her feedback after this meeting. See resolution document. The Board needs to give Sara a decision to send to ALA. Feedback from the Board included add more of a focus on safety in libraries; include statistics about gun violence. There is research and access to information being suppressed by the NRA.

We will continue this discussion, after review of the resolution, and have a motion on this at the next Board meeting. Think about the parts of the resolution you support or do not. Sara would speak about this before ALA on MLA's behalf.

#### **Membership Report (Bifulk)**

Had a first time attendee meeting at the conference. Changed out the format and invited Minnesota Library leaders to mingle with the new members. It was successful. The booth was a hit as well with the photo idea. They had a whiteboard for member feedback about what they want from MLA. One idea was for a conference brainstorming idea meeting. Field trips was another idea. Connected with members.

Per Tammy, monthly membership was 646 members, as of September. This is down a little. Deborah is continuing to send out reminders to those whose membership has expired. From one county we did lose 17 members due to a change in how bulk registration for an organization is utilized.

#### **Strengthening our organization**

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

Schoenberg indicated that it was a fairly quiet month on the MHQ side. Staff worked on paying the invoices from the conference, sending out the thank you and evaluation e-mails for the conference and working with the budget and finance committee on the 2017 budget.

### **PLD Bylaw Approval (Veit)**

The PLD Bylaws need to be updated. The PLD membership did pass the updated PLD Bylaws. They are now before the MLA Board. Any comments or questions? Add the updated date and who worked on the Bylaws. They had referred to the ARLD Bylaws as a resource.

Snow made a motion to approve to approve the PLD Bylaws. Boese seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

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

#### **Legislative Platform (Misselt)**

The contract with Capitol Hill and Associates has been signed; it is official. Jami and Barbara presented on the Legislative Platform at the MLA Conference; Jami and Ann presented at ITEM on the Legislative Platform as well. Work on this is on hold until after the elections. There is a placeholder and outline and numbers that need to go in for the funding request, especially re: telecommunications. The Committee leadership has a plan of action for what the Chair, Chair Elect and Past Chair will be working on next. ESSA and School Plan question? Should there be a piece from MLA and ITEM in support of School Library Media Programs for ESSA implement a stakeholder meetings on this in the Platform? Ann Walker Smalley and Maggie will work with Jami and Barbara to pull this language in. It supports the whole community. Ann will bring it to the ITEM Board and CRPSLA. Jennifer Nelson is also bringing this to State Library discussions with their stakeholders.

### **Other**

#### **Jennifer Nelson, Director of State Library Services**

Margaret invited Jennifer to share changes that are occurring at the State Library Services, along with Ann Walker Smalley for Metronet and Ken Behringer for MELSA updates. Jennifer had been invited this summer in a new role with MDE and Charter Schools (there are 66) on a team. Transition for MDE, in the past with 3-4 staff members and no administrative support. There is more administrative support now. There are vacancies that are needing to be filled. MDE is funded by federal money; it falls under the Governor's budget in the Education division.

Concerns from the Board? That the focus will be taken away from libraries and be more on Charter Schools. Jennifer said the new work is more with Charter School authorizers and staff. Jennifer's role would be supporting work on contracts and meeting statutory deadlines, oversight to staff, communication to authorizers, schools, and other MDE divisions. There was a resolution about concern that Jennifer's work and attention would be pulled away from libraries too much. Categorizing time distribution? Jennifer estimated 55% for Charter Schools and 45% for libraries. Her work has always involved statewide agency work when libraries were 100% of her focus. How does this change affect state library services? Her title is Director of Minnesota State Library Services. The role has changed over time. This education work lets Jennifer connect to school libraries in another perspective. She is continually advocating for libraries. Library stories and photos sent to MDE can get published on their website.

On behalf of MLA, Margaret, should set up a meeting with Jennifer Nelson and Kevin McHenry to discuss the advocacy role from MLA for more support of library funding, resources, etc. from MDE. MLA could put a request for more MDE support in the Legislative Platform.

Amanda shared that ARLD Day is April 28, 2017. (Update from a different date in a previous meeting.)

Sara shared that there would be an Advocacy Webinar right after the Board meeting if anyone wanted to join.

**Adjourn**

Boese moved to adjourn the meeting. Kocher seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was passed.

Next meeting: November 18, 2016 from 10 am to noon at MELSA.