

Minnesota Library Association

Board Meeting

Friday, March 15, 2019

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Present:

Dara Rudick (MHQ), Kirsten Clark (President), Patti Bross (President-Elect), Ryan McCormick (Past President), Ria Newhouse (Intellectual Freedom Chair), Jim Weygand (MLTA Chair), Megan Kocher (ARLD Chair), Ann Hokanson (Legislative Chair), Hannah Buckland (ALA Chapter Councilor), Lisa Motschke (Secretary), Ann Walker Smalley (Past Leg Chair), Jonathan Carlson (Treasurer)

Guests: Ashley Bieber (HCL Central Librarian), Lesley McKintosh (HCL Librarian), Anna Zillinger (HCL Librarian, AFSCME Local 2864 president), Ken Behringer (MELSA Director), Sam Walseth (MLA Lobbyist)

Remote: Angie Petrie (PLD Chair)

The meeting was called to order by Clark at 10:03 am.

Welcome and Introductions – Clark

Approval of Consent Agenda with changes to the agenda order

Moved Activate Library Advocacy item HCL Director Statute Change to beginning of the agenda.

Clark made a motion to approve the consent agenda with edits.

All were in favor and the motion was approved with edits.

Activate Library Advocacy

HCL Director Statute Change –Zillinger and Walseth

Walseth initially alerted MLA of the legislation being considered by the legislature. Walseth spoke about current state of the HCL Director legislation. The bill was introduced on March 7 and has been making its way through the process. The first bill deadline was March 15, so it is now eligible for the second deadline. The bill is authored by Dan Hall; Patricia Torres Ray and Paul Anderson are bill sponsors.

Zillinger presented research done by HCL Librarians about the bill history and origins; the current statute was put into place in 1981. She also presented information about the most recent Hennepin County Library Director search and staff concerns.

The Board discussed MLA's role in this situation. Walseth mentioned the ways that MLA could choose to engage in the conversation; make a statement, formally testify, make recommendations to membership about how to navigate the legislative process, etc...

Clark noted that more work needs to be done to support professional development, how to attract and retain diverse candidates, strengthen the profession, and other committee work in the state of Minnesota.

There was discussion on why only Hennepin County has legislation on library director credentials. Behringer noted that the reason for this statute may have been related to the HCL library board being created as an advisory board rather than a governing board. Regional library directors are required to have an MLIS per the Minnesota Rules not Statutes.

Clark listed out potential next steps.

Carlson made a motion to allow the presidential trio, Hokanson, and Walseth to draft a statement for approval by the board via email. The statement would be sent Hennepin County Commissioners, Hennepin County Library Board members, Hennepin County Library Administration, Hennepin County Administration, bill sponsors/authors, and legislative committee members.

Hokanson seconded.

Clark recommended an amendment to the motion - Hokanson, Walker Smalley, and Buckland will draft a statement for the presidential trio to approve and send by Tuesday, March 19.

Clark called a vote. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Clark requested we review the agenda and adjust some items to next month's meeting. None were opposed.

Legislative Update / Legislative Day – Hokanson and Walseth

Request for RBLSS has been submitted. Legacy proposal is included. Library media specialist bill has advanced through the education finance committee. Bonding bill may not emerge this year.

MHQ / Executive Director Update – Rudick

Supported Legislative Day more than in the past and it worked well. They're ramping up for PLD Day, ARLD Day, MILE, others. There have been a few new hires, but they are still working on a replacement for MLA Executive Director. One candidate has made it to the final stage.

Approval of financials (Carlson)

March 2019 Financial Report

February 2019 financials included in the meeting packet.

1. Total Assets: \$221,796.81
 2. Total Revenue YTD: \$33,378.20
 3. Total Cost of Sales YTD: \$2,212.64
 4. Monthly Expenses for February: \$14,164.06
 5. Showing YTD Net Income/(Loss): \$2,764.30 net income
- 2018 Net Income: \$33,920.34, adjusted from previously reported \$35,724.34

Membership dues are \$5301 behind what we projected for February 2019. Rudick noted that the membership dues projection is spread evenly across the year, but membership renewals spike prior to the conference. Dues are still \$1562 behind where we were this time last year.

Clark mentioned the difficulties some members are having receiving emails from MLA including conference proposal announcements, membership reminders, etc... MHQ will continue to seek solutions.

MHQ did a deep dive into accounts receivable and proposes writing off previously uncollected dues and event fees from 2014-2017 totaling \$1,909. MHQ also proposes we attempt to collect 2018 debt totaling \$1,736, but remove from financials because it is uncertain revenue.

There were no objections to these proposals.

Carlson made a motion to approve the financials and accounts receivable changes as stated; Bross seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Engage and Educate Members

Membership Committee Update

The committee is still without a chair. McCormick suggested reaching out to the previous chair, Deb Bifulk, to see if she is interested.

Continuing Education Committee – Clark

Clark reported that Tony Molaro is willing to chair the continuing education committee and Matt is willing to participate. They were pleased with the statements the board drafted.

2019 Conference Update – Clark

Call for proposals have gone out, please let people know that sessions are open. Not all membership received the email due to technology issues with the email system. April 18 is the deadline to submit a proposal.

Clark has received some names for keynote speakers and will follow up.

Sponsorship info has gone out. Conference Committee meets next week.

PLD Update – Petrie

They are in the final stages of planning for the event. The keynote will talk on trauma informed libraries. Encourage folks to attend and participate.

ARLD Update – Kocher

Everything is planned and set. Registration is open, and garden tours are confirmed.

Strengthening our Organization

Strategic Plan 90-Day Plan

Executive committee will meet to review the next 90 day plan. Rudick reviewed the current 90 day plan, only risk is MHQ hiring.

Develop Leaders

MILE Check-in – Bross

There are 21 applicants, so the event will carry on. There are 12 mentors currently, so more recruitment is necessary.

MILE participants will be contacted starting on the 15th.

Other

Approval of the February Minutes

The summary of the email conversation about the MLA Statement on Addressing Racism and Discrimination was not included in the board packet. Rudick will send them out via email.

Carlson made a motion to accept the February Minutes knowing that the summary of the email conversation will be sent; Kocher seconded.

All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Policy Review: Reimbursements – Carlson

Carlson noted that the MLA email address listed is no longer in use; it should be updated to the current MLA email address.

Carlson made a motion to make changes to the reimbursement policy; Newhouse seconded.
All were in favor and the motion was approved.

No further agenda items, we are adjourned.

Clark adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.