

Minnesota Library Association
Board Meeting
Friday, August 16, 2019
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Present:

Leslie Johnson (Executive Director for MLA), Kirsten Clark (President), Ryan McCormick (Past President), Patti Bross (President-Elect), Jonathan Carlson (Treasurer), Ria Newhouse (Intellectual Freedom Chair), Jim Weygand (MLTA Chair), Lisa Motschke (Secretary), Angie Petrie (PLD Chair), Hannah Buckland (ALA Chapter Councilor), Ann Hokanson (Legislative Chair), Amy Mars (ARLD Representative)

Guest: Sam Walseth (MLA Lobbyist), Jami Trenam (Legislative Committee incoming Chair)

Absent: Deborah Bifulk (Member at Large), Megan Kocher (ARLD Chair)

The meeting was called to order by Clark at 10:01 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions – Clark

Approval of Consent Agenda

Clark made a motion to approve the consent agenda and all attachments; Carlson seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Bylaws Change Vote – Clark

Continued discussion about what bylaws changes will be brought to membership at the Annual Meeting including adding the Continuing Education Committee, and editing sections related to the changes to the Friends and Supporter category.

Bross made a motion to update the bylaws and submit this to the membership for approval; Clark seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Further discussion on what other changes will need to wait including major changes to Appendix A. Carlson noted several minor edits for continuity and clarity. The website and bylaws will need to be updated and come into alignment.

Bross will send out updates to the documents. Clark and Johnson will coordinate to get this to the membership 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting (Monday, August 19).

No motion was called.

Code of Conduct Review – Clark

Discussed any needed changes to the code prior to the Annual Meeting. None were noted, but discussed logistics in the event of a situation.

In addition to the code, phone numbers of the Presidential Trio and MLA Executive Director were provided to attendees. Hokanson recommended we have a single phone number that would be answered by MHQ. They would then contact the Presidential Trio to convene to discuss.

MHQ/Executive Director Update – Johnson

There is a new membership director but they are still searching for an events manager.

Approval of Financials – Carlson

Budget Check-In

July 2019 financials included in the meeting packet.

1. Total Assets: \$255,835.24
2. Total Revenue YTD: \$178,458.32
3. Total Cost of Sales YTD: \$34,253.45
4. Monthly Expenses for July: \$15,187.10
5. Total Expenses YTD: \$106,046.90
6. Showing YTD Net Income/(Loss): \$38,157.97 net income

There was a jump in dues in July, due to the Conference being earlier in the year (\$3,624 over this time last year).

Carlson made a motion to approve the financials; Bross seconded.
All were in favor and the motion was approved.

RFP for Audit

This coming year will be our third audit with the same company. Note in the budget that states the audit starts in January, so an RFP for a new vendor would need to go out very quickly.

We are audited every two years.

Carlson will send the RFP from 2015 to the Board to better understand the needs.
Johnson will pull the contract with our current auditor to see our term agreement.

Engage and Educate Members

2019 Conference Update – Clark, McCormick, Bross

Programs, keynotes, food, are set. The land acknowledgement is being finalized. There are more vendors than in the past. 410 people have already registered; had anticipated 575.

Awards Committee Update – McCormick

Committee is appointed and they are nominating for the Above and Beyond & Lifetime Achievement awards.

Strengthening our Organization

Strategic Plan 90-Day Plan – Clark

Reviewed Q2 document, but it hadn't been updated. Johnson will send out an updated Q2 document.
Reviewed Q3 document.

Website Costs Updates – Johnson

We will save \$7000 by going with the basic package, which includes the project management costs.

Membership Committee Report – Bifulk

Bifulk was unable to attend. Her written report will be sent out with the August Minutes if available.

Activate Library Advocacy

MLA Board Statements & Surrounding Policies – Walseth and Trenam

Legislative Forum is completed, where they discuss the platform. Membership typically votes on the platform at the Annual Meeting. The Board reviewed the "MLA-ITEM 2019 Legislative Summary" document.

Regarding statements made by the Board, Walseth can provide guidance on a case by case basis if issues arise, but there is no hard and fast rule. A recent topic was brought forward by ARLD about the naming of Bde Maka Ska.

The question is when does MLA make a formal statement vs recommend members bring their ideas to their Legislators? When recommending membership brings their concerns forward, MLA could create basic talking points on issues that could be pulled when needed. It would be provided to membership as a toolkit. MLA could do more air traffic control to mobilize membership for state and local lobbying.

Legislative Update – Hokanson and Trenam

We are going into a bonding year, and that will be the focus of the Legislature. There are proposals from the House and from the Governor. Bonding dollars can be difficult to administer and have a \$1 million max plus a local match.

The format of the Forum changed this year. There is nothing in the MLA bylaws that says we need to vote to adopt the platform at the MLA Annual Meeting. We can present it as information to the membership. The opportunity to provide feedback comes in the form of the Legislative Committee meetings.

Other

Policy Review: Travel Policies – Clark

Carlson noted redundancy in the final paragraph, and it will be updated for clarity.

Carlson made a motion to strike the third to last sentence from the policy; Clark seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Annual Meeting Overview/Prep

Clark will update the presentation from last year. We will present on the Strategic Plan, bylaws changes, and legislative process.

Clark adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.