South Dakota Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
February 6 2023 (10:00 a.m. CST/9:00 a.m. MST)

The meeting was called to order by President Jamie Formanek at 10:00 a.m. CST.

Roll Call:
Board Members and Committee Chairs present:

Board Members and Committee Chairs not present:
George Seamon, Katherine Eberline

Others Present:
None.

Changes/Additions to agenda:
Krista requested the addition of an item to discuss a transfer of funds from savings to checking this spring. Kelly requested discussion of a pre-conference workshop idea. Shari proposed discussion of legislative news and the proposed HB 1163 that would impact South Dakota Libraries. Motion by Krista second by Shari to accept the revised agenda. Motion carried.

Consideration of Minutes for the November 8, 2022 meeting:
Motion by Shari, second by Melanie to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Report of Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Krista Ohrtman:
Krista shared that her report was distributed to the board via email and linked on the website under documents. The Association had previously received an approximately $2,500 penalty notice due to problems with the 2019 federal tax filing. The issues with the tax filing have now been resolved. Going forward SDLA will work with the professional accounting firm KMWF, which does our audits every three years, to complete the tax filing. While preparing membership statistics this month Krista noticed a dip in our personal memberships. Most of those who didn’t renew their membership were those in their first year of membership. The first half of the lobbyist bill has been paid and the checking account has a little less than $3,000. Krista suggested moving cash from savings to checking to ensure there are funds to pay the second part of the bill in March. Krista also noted she will be out of the country for 2 weeks starting tomorrow.

Report of President, Jamie Formanek:
Jamie reported that three speakers have been confirmed for the conference in September. These were Julia Lyon author of A Dinosaur Named Ruth, Jerome Kills Small from the Nebraska Speakers Bureau, and an emotional intelligence author presentation. SDLA does not currently have a lot of proposals for conference this year and needs more session presenters. Jamie asked sections and others to encourage anyone who may be willing to present to submit a proposal.
Kris O’Brien asked how many speaker slots the school section needed to fill. Six to ten sessions were the estimated number of sessions.

For correspondence, Jaime reported that Lobbyist Eric Erickson is currently presenting on pending bills and was not able to attend today’s meeting. Eric is hoping to be able to offer a more complete report on the legislative session after today. In regards to HB 1163, he is pushing for local control rather than state level. If the bill doesn’t get killed, he will need at least two librarians to testify. Shari summarized the January 30th voluntary meeting that discussed proposed legislation of concern. The meeting covered talking points that Eric could share and example policies that libraries already have in place addressing the types of concerns covered in the bills. Shari also talked with Elizabeth Fox from the Library issues Committee who is ready to step in and assist if needed.

Daniel noted that HB 1163 is listed on the South Dakota Municipal League weekly legislative update as one they are watching also as it may impact municipal public libraries.

Melanie asked about a suggestion SDLA partner with North Dakota and Every Library who are opposing a similar bill in that state. As Eric has a strategy in mind, no one has pursued this option further at this time.

Melanie noted that MPLA has an Access to Information statement that was in the last couple of editions of the newsletter.

Lobbyist Update
Not Present.

Report of Vice President/President Elect, Sarah Jones-Lutter:
Nothing to report.

Report of Past President, Shari Theroux:
Nothing to report.

Reports of Standing Committees:
Nothing to report.

Report of Sections:
Academic/Health/Special Libraries, Jennifer Williams-Curl:
Nothing to report.

Public/Trustee, Katherine Eberline:
Nothing to report.

School/Library Media, Kris O’Brien;
Kris reported she had some groups reach out to her. A letter of support was provided to one group that wants to have Des Moines be the location of a regional organization. Jean Kirschenman has been appointed as the third member of the School Section Board, joining Doris Ann Mertz. A group of researchers from three different public universities reached out asking for support for a survey on evidence-based practice. By supporting their proposal we would get access to some of the research results.
Support Staff Section Chair, Joshua Easter:
Josh reported they are working on SDLA Branch Out. Madison is hosting and Josh will be talking to Watertown leadership about hosting again. Piere can host and Josh is talking to Rapid City. They are currently figuring out dates in August that would work. They are also discussing recording sessions so people will have access to the different presentations. Josh will work with Krista and Kelly on setting up registration once the details have been finalized, hopefully, this month. Also, if anyone wants to do a presentation, they are still seeking more to go with those already proposed. An overview of what Branch out is was also provided for those who were not familiar.

Report of ALA Councilor, Danielle De Jager-Loftus:
Danielle reported that the New Orleans LibLearnX was Friday, January 27th to Sunday, January 29th, and she attended virtually. There were 2,653 attendees of which 1,711 were regular members. Danielle attended the ALA Bylaws Convention which was set up to finalize ALA Bylaw changes. Plans for revisions have been ongoing for almost 10 years. There is a steering committee on organization effectiveness working on the changes since 2018. A package called forward together has been put together which Danielle looked at beforehand. Daniella voted in support of the forward together package. Twelve articles did not have any amendments suggested. Articles that did have amendments were concerned with the make-up of the executive board and policy-making power. A new working group will be put together to put the changes in the ALA policy manual.

Saturday was the Allied Professionals Association ALA Council meeting which voted to approve the extended timeline for simplification of membership news and revision of core competencies of librarianship. The changes include more social justice, more reference to library workers instead of librarians, and also a resolution establishing a policy monitoring oversight for the Executive Board.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee put out a nice six-page report that Danielle plans to make an article about for the Bookmarks Newsletter. There was a report from the Committee on Diversity who have a new subcommittee on condemning and ending white supremacy. Other reports included the Policy Monitoring Committee and the Freedom to Read Foundation. Krista confirmed that the South Dakota chapter has joined the Freedom to Read Foundation.

Danielle suggested we might think about donating to the Merit Fund that was put in place in 1970 to provide support to librarians who have been denied employment rights or impacted by discrimination.

Report of MPLA Representative, Melanie Argo:
Nothing to report.

Report of the Bookmark’s Editor, Kelly Henkel Thompson:
Kelly reported that she continues to post regularly on the Facebook page and SDLA website page. The conference page for Rapid is constructed and ready to be updated as more information becomes available. Regular email updates have been going to the membership, especially the weekly legislative updates. The next issue of Bookmarks is being worked on and will come out mid to late February. Kelly asked for people to send her any updates or articles they had for the next issue. Session proposal requests will be going out repeatedly to the membership. Branch Out information could also be shared if Josh has anything he wants to send out. Kelly shared that SDLA has been approved for a non-profit Canva subscription.
Report of the Federal Relations Coordinator, George Seamon:
Nothing to report.

Continuing Business:
Kris asked about the results of the survey that was discussed at the last meeting. Krista and Jamie reported that the survey had not gone out yet, but they will get it out to members shortly. The report on the last conference has been placed in the local arrangements folder.

New Business:
SDLA Listserv
Motion by Krista to move $4,000 from savings to checking to cover upcoming early-year expenses, second by Kris. Motion carried.

Kelly reported that she works with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact to discuss open educational resource initiatives in South Dakota. Annually they have money to spend on furthering knowledge within the region. Kelly suggested we could use some of that money to get a professional pre-conference workshop by the Open Educational Resource Network out of the University of Minnesota. Kelly offered to investigate organizing that for free. Jamie thought this would be a great idea for the preconference as she has not received anything back from those she has reached out to so far.

Josh mentioned that Kathleen from the State Library mentioned the possibility of doing a NASA at my library pre-conference presentation. Josh will connect Kathleen and Jamie to discuss further. Krista suggested it would be ok to have more than one preconference workshop that people could select.

Krista suggested a registration option for just pre-conference this year as it had been requested. Krista also hopes to have information from local arrangements soon about the meals so that the cost can be set for registration. Jamie supported a pre-conference only registration option and indicated she wanted at least two preconference sessions.

Jamie discussed the conference theme of “Role for Initiative: everybody in” which is designed to encourage people to take the initiative into new things and to focus on encouraging members to take the initiative to get involved in SDLA.

Open Comments
Nothing to report.

Next meeting
The next meeting will be in April 2023 and held via Zoom

Adjournment:
Motion by Melanie second by Jamie to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by Jamie Formanek at 10:57 a.m. CST.