

North Dakota Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Friday, September 26, 2008
4:15 pm

Meeting called to order by President Bratton.

Members present: Mike Safratowich, Doris Ott, Naomi Frantes, Rachel White, Al Peterson, Kelly Steckler, Kirsten Baesler, Christine Kujawa, Karen Anderson, Bonnie Krenz, Kathy Berg, Mark Holman, Victor Lieberman, Donna James, Lori West, Beth Postema, Marlene Anderson, Shelby E. Harken, Laurie L. McHenry, Johanna Bjork, Travis Schulz, Zach Packineau. Guests present: Harmony Higbie and Aubrey Madler, 2008 Grassroots Grant award recipients.

Members absent: Theresa Norton, Michele Azar.

Order of the agenda: Review Minutes from 09/24/08; Old Business – Conference wrap-up; New Business – Dispositions of Resolutions, Kirsten Baesler on Measures 1 and 2, Dickinson conference theme and Local Arrangements chair, Grand Forks and future conference hotel arrangements, President's word to Committee chairs, DakotaBookNet.com, word from the Finance Committee, next Executive Board meeting.

Minutes

Bonnie Krenz moved and Shelby Harken seconded the motion to approve the minutes as distributed with the following changes: "Johanna McClay" to "Johanna Bjork," throughout document; "Ramkota" to "Days Inn Grand Dakota Lodge," page 3; "is sent" to "sent," page 5. Motion carried.

Old Business

President Bratton mentioned that she heard many favorable comments about the conference; however, the only setback was the hotel's internet connection. Donna James mentioned the continuing education aspect of the conference was also well-received. She had seven students who enrolled online for continuing education, and at the conference had 40-50 students enrolled for continuing education. Donna James also said there is a definite need and value for continuing education.

Beth Postema commented on the hotel's wireless internet connection and it simply was not enough and caused different problems for presenters, vendors, and attendees. Kirsten Baesler said preparations will be made in order to avoid similar problems in Dickinson 2009. Victor Lieberman mentioned the possibility of video-conferencing, its quality, and its cost-effectiveness. Postema said we may have to go off-site for this and it should be reconsidered for pre- and post-conferences due to the potential impact on vendors.

Beth Greff informed the Board of a mix-up at the hotel involving seven or eight Grand Forks school librarians who attended the entire conference for continuing education credit: those from Grand Forks had their rooms for Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Although the librarians had their confirmation numbers and reservations, they were informed by hotel staff that they would have to vacate the rooms Friday morning and find other accommodations with no help from hotel staff. Greff also said hotel staff took no responsibility for the matter, citing a

“computer problem.” Also, two attendees from Medical Library Association from Chicago had to share a room with Karen Anderson because the hotel had no other rooms available for the conference.

Back to technology, Baesler mentioned the hotel in Dickinson is building a new meeting room facility for their hotel and is expected to be completed by summer 2009. Baesler also said Rita Ennen will follow-up with the hotel’s technology capabilities. Al Peterson said the hard drive of the new section at the Seven Seas hotel had crashed which caused problems during the conference. Ultimately, this was the hotel’s problem. Baesler said any hotel we choose could be well-equipped but an incoming line to the hotel may be insufficient to meet the high demand of our technological needs. There were also various issues with document formats and flash drive accessibility, which President Bratton described as the “usual quota of technology problems.” Postema said the Local Arrangements Technology Coordinator works very hard during the three day conference and mentioned the idea of NDLA purchasing its own presentation equipment which would include three or four digital projectors and appropriate cables.

Cathy Langemo mentioned possibly contracting with a local computer technology firm to remedy technology issues during the conference. President Bratton said this is something for the Local Arrangements committee to look into. Doris Ott proposed the possibility of informing presenters ahead of time of the software available at the conference and we suggest bringing a backup. Lieberman mentioned doing this in an information packet we can send to presenters. Finally, President Bratton suggested to forward technology concerns to President-elect Laurie L. McHenry.

New Business

Dispositions of Resolutions

President Bratton said several were self-explanatory.

However, it was decided that the resolution from the Public Library section involving the \$200,000 and \$300,000 would be sent first to Governor Hoeven so the amounts would be included in his budget. Also, a copy would be sent to the incoming Chair of Appropriations Committee of the state legislature and to the Public Library section members to forward to their local legislators. Krenz and Postema said all of the Harley French librarians (including administration, clinical campus staff, Dean Wilson, and the new UND President) should be informed of the resolution passed at the 2008 conference. The Skills resolution would be sent to Senators Conrad and Dorgan. The resolution about Lawrence Pekis and Associates would be sent to the Governor’s Commission on Education and Improvement. The Partnership resolution is reserved for the Executive Board to begin work with the Education and Technology Council. President Bratton asked for anything else in this batch of resolutions which should be carried forth. Lori West mentioned the NMRT resolution regarding continued funding for electronic resources. President Bratton said that resolution comes from two NDLA sections and would be included.

President Bratton asked Baesler to present on Measures 1 and 2, which will be on the November ballot. Firstly, Baesler said traditionally the Executive Board submits a resolution and then calls for the general membership for a vote. However, this action seemed too late and the proper course of action would be to vote that the Executive Board goes on record in opposition to Measure 1 and Measure 2. After this vote, Baesler would contact Stuart Saveko, Executive Director of the Partners to Protect ND’s Future, saying the Executive Board has gone on record

and NDLA is opposed to Measures 1 and 2. Baesler then asked for a motion from the Executive Board. Shelby E. Harken moved that NDLA go on record as opposed to Measure 1 and Measure 2 and we forward that information to the Partners to Protect ND's Future. James seconded the motion. President Bratton asked for further discussion.

Krenz asked about the financial aspect and mentioned the conflict of using membership dues for political purposes. President Bratton said we need to be very clear that we support informational efforts without coming out and saying "Vote this down." President Bratton was also concerned with the wording. Postema said as a private professional organization, NDLA is under an entirely different group of rules, as opposed to a municipally-funded or state-funded institution.

Without a financial contribution, Baesler said NDLA would join the Coalition alongside North Dakota Farmer's Union (NDFU) and North Dakota Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDREC). Naomi Frantes said she was new to the issue and wanted to do more personal research before voting. President Bratton said Frantes was welcome to abstain from the vote.

Ott said she had additional information: the Office of Management and Budget is very concerned by this and if these two measures pass, the state's surplus is gone and the governor's budget would have to be rewritten for all state agencies. Baesler mentioned others groups who were part of this coalition: AARP of North Dakota, American Federation of Labor–Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), North Dakota Public Employees Association (NDPEA), Professional Fire Fighters of North Dakota (PFFND); she also said these groups are all paid members to the Coalition and they are all people who receive public services and public funding to provide those services.

Krenz proposed that the motion be tabled until Wednesday, October 1, so Executive Board members would be able to research the topics on their own and then vote to go on record as opposed to Measure 1 and Measure 2.

2009 Conference – Dickinson

No theme has been selected and McHenry has asked for suggestions to be forwarded and emailed to her. Rita Ennen and Cheryl Tollefson have been designated as Local Arrangements committee chairs. President Bratton also expressed that if members had questions and issues with technology for the next year's conference, Ennen and Tollefson were to be contacted directly.

2010 Conference – Grand Forks

No hotel has been selected as the location of the conference was determined on Wednesday, September 24; discussion revolved around the selection of Canad Inn. McHenry said she would contact the hotel so NDLA would get on their calendar early. Marlene Anderson suggested contacting other hotels for future conferences in the different cities. Baesler mentioned an email conversation with SDLA regarding a tri-conference with MPLA, which may be held in South Dakota. Future dates of NDLA conferences were confirmed: September 23-26, 2009, Dickinson; September 29-October 2, 2010, Grand Forks; September 21-24, 2011, Minot. Victor Lieberman moved to approve the conference place and date locations for September 29-October 2, 2010 in Grand Forks and September 21-24, 2011 in Minot. Harken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee Chairs

President Bratton asked current committee chairs to remain in office until she has time to appoint successors.

DakotaBookNet.com

Anderson received a call from Andrea Collin from Clearwater Communications (“Good Stuff” and “Dakota Gold” layout and design). Clearwater Communications began their website to sell books, dakotabooknet.com, and asked to sell NDLA’s cookbook on the website in exchange for a quarter-page ad in the “Good Stuff” each time. The quarter-page ad runs \$25 in four issues, totaling \$100. Through the site’s PayPal account, all shipping and handling and other fees are included and the money comes back to NDLA. Anderson strongly recommended that we go forward with this: the site accepts credit cards and the site is another outlet to distribute and sell our publication with almost no work on our part. On the website the cookbook is listed to sell at \$20, and after the cookbook is sold out there would be no second edition printed. President Bratton asked for a motion. McHenry moved that we sell the cookbook through dakotabooknet.com in exchange for them being allowed to advertise in the “Good Stuff” four times a year until the cookbooks are gone. Al Peterson seconded the motion. President Bratton asked for further discussion. Lieberman wanted to clarify the ad was quarter-page in size. Kathryn Thomas wanted to know how many cookbooks were left and Safratowich did not have exact information on hand. Anderson said we are halfway through the inventory. President Bratton called for a vote. Motion carried.

Word from the Finance Committee

Krenz explained that after new officers would be added to the Executive Board email list, she would send the forms for 2009 budget, including travel to and from Executive Board meetings (between now and the next conference) and mailings. This led to discussion on the meeting to revise the conference planning manuals on November 7th. Safratowich mentioned we would need a motion of the board to cover expenses if traveling for Executive Board meetings. President Bratton entertained a motion to cover expenses of people traveling to Bismarck-Mandan for the revision of the conference manuals. Krenz moved that NDLA cover traveling expenses not covered by the employee’s institution, per the normal reimbursement policy. Safratowich seconded the motion. President Bratton asked for further discussion. Motion carried.

December Executive Board Meeting

Friday, December 12 was chosen as the date and Monday, December 15 selected as a snow date. The meeting will be held in Jamestown with the exact location to be announced. The March meeting may be via IVN and Donna James may set up this meeting; the June meeting will be held in Dickinson. President Bratton asked for other matters to bring to the Board. Rachel White said she will take items from members which needed to be placed in the NDLA archives.

President Bratton adjourned the meeting at 5:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Zach Packineau