

North Dakota Library Association  
Post-Conference Executive Board Meeting  
October 1, 2010, 4:30 pm  
Alerus Center – Exhibit Hall 4 – Grand Forks

In Attendance:

President Rita Ennen, Tina Kuntz, Victor Lieberman, Konnie Wightman, Aubrey Madler, Marlene Anderson, Lori K. West, Theresa Norton, Chandra Hirning Sandi Bates, Laurie McHenry, Christine Kujawa, Eric Stroshane, Elizabeth Jacobs, Sarah Devereaux, Laura Trude, Curt Hanson, Shelby Harken, Kristen Northrup, Rachel White, Naomi Frantes, Kalan Knudson Davis, Kirsten Baesler, Beth Greff, Cathy Langemo, Bonnie Krenz, Phyllis Bratton, Toni Vonasek, Doris Ott, Kelly Steckler, Kathy Thomas

Not in Attendance:

Michael Safratowich, Mary Markland, Daphne Drewello

- I. Call to order
- II. Order of the Agenda
  - a. President Ennen read through the agenda
  - b. Harken moved to accept the agenda as read; Stoshane seconded the motion; motion carried
- III. Minutes
  - a. Pre-conference Board Meeting  
McHenry moved that we approve the minutes with insertion of wording regarding the retention of survey results as written in the Survey Policy by Baesler and Peterson. Trude seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - b. Electronic Minutes for June 1-September 29, 2010  
Discussion and acceptance of electronic minutes will take place through electronic discussion and voting. Hirning will send out the electronic minutes to amended Exec listserv for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Executive Board members.
- IV. Old Business
  - a. Rewording of Article 3 Section 1, Items A and B of the NDLA Bylaws
    - i. Topic was tabled during pre-conference board meeting in light of the Survey Monkey discussion
    - ii. President Ennen tabled topic again until the Nov/Dec board meeting
- V. New Business
  - a. Lieberman: ASL Section elected chair-elect candidate who will be on the ballot for the upcoming year.
  - b. Ad hoc transition committee.

- i. Bratton has asked to remain on the listserv so that she can read and post to the listserv. McHenry voiced her favor. Thomas: Currently, one NDLA member not on the Board is included on the Exec listserv; can read but not post. Any NDLA member can have read-only access to the Exec listserv.
  - ii. McHenry moves that because Bratton will be an integral part of 2011 Conference, she be allowed to remain on list with both read and post capabilities. Harken seconded the motion.
  - iii. Discussion
    - Krenz: If she'll be attending meetings, do we need a budget line?
    - Bratton: Normally Bratton does not ask NDLA for reimbursement due to a line item for travel in her college's budget. However, there may be a need for her to request travel reimbursement from NDLA due to campus budget cuts. President Ennen: Normally the conference chair reports at meetings, so with Bratton essentially filling that role, we would want her at the Board meetings. Greff: What's her position called? President Ennen: Ad hoc transition committee. We could put a line item in the budget for travel for that committee for this interim period.
  - iv. McHenry made a friendly amendment to current motion to extend to Bratton for 2010-11 Board year all privileges of any nonvoting Board member, including but not limited to a line item in the budget. Amended motion carried.
- c. Continuing Education Committee
  - i. Krenz: If the transition Bylaws change goes through, we'll be starting a new committee for Continuing Education. Would that person be expected to be at Board meetings? They'll take office starting with the December meeting, so would they also need a line item? Yes.
  - ii. President Ennen clarified that Continuing Education Committee is not tied to Bylaws change.
- d. Reminder to turn over materials to incoming board members (blue binders, perhaps files)
- e. SLAYS:
  - Due to confusion, SLAYS did not send Bates a list of candidates elected by the SLAYS group. In September 2009, SLAYS voted Gail Hyde and Krista Tiller to be on the slate of candidates for Chair Elect and Secretary Elect. However, SLAYS did not submit the names to Bates, and candidate for Chair Elect (Gail Hyde) decided to withdraw. This morning, SLAYS nominated a new candidate for Chair Elect, and SLAYS selected Leslie Gunderson. Looking for Board's permission to send to SLAYS members an opportunity to vote because it was missed during the General Election.
    - i. McHenry moved that Board approves a special ballot for SLAYS to put forth a special ballot for Chair Elect (Leslie Gunderson) and Secretary Elect (Krista Tiller) for the 2010-2011 year. Wightman

seconded the motion. So if approved, the ballot will be sent out by the Nominations, Elections, and Voting committee (Kuntz).

- ii. McHenry: We'd need to send out a letter and a test before we send out the ballots to SLAYS members. Bates: Send test to SLAYS only, limited to those who are members now (prior to Dec 31).
- iii. Motion carried.

## VI. Conference Debriefing

### a. Overall conference

Baesler: Heard comments that this was a fantastic conference in terms of the facility and sessions. It was a great professional experience.

Vonasek: Heard good comments. Impressed with number of members who participated, attended programs. Krenz: Will we be in the red or the black on the convention? McHenry: it will be in the red.

### b. Facilities

Trude: The facility worked well, and the electronic signs on the doors were very helpful. Lieberman: Meeting rooms did not have clocks.

Bratton: Any feedback about internet café? Some did not know there was one. Sometimes, could not connect to server. Norton said it was busy when she went by.

### c. Food

West: Heard positive feedback about the food. Bates: Buffet food allowed choices. Krenz: Beverages options were water or coffee. There was no juice available at breakfast, and pop was available for the Thursday lunch only. Langemo: Was it cheaper without beverages?

President Ennen: Food was 50% again as expensive as last year.

Madler: Appreciated the hardy breakfast. Greff: Do we have anything on the registration form or speaker form for people to indicate they want vegetarian options?

President Ennen: We had hoped that buffets would allow for enough foods that were not meat. The Alerus does not offer vegetarian entrees.

West: A vegetarian seated at her table found the Alerus staff to be accommodating; they brought him a salad. Thomas: It used to be on the registration form. Some attendees cannot eat foods which contain wheat.

Bates: It's difficult to accommodate all food needs.

McHenry: The way Alerus had their menu and choices set up made it very difficult. You choose a package, and then within the package you make choices. Food was \$21,000, including gratuity. Bates: We were not allowed to bring in outside food

### d. Hotel

Trude: Heard positive comments about the hotel.

### e. Sessions and Events

Baesler: Liked the walk-run and that it was held onsite. An event such as the walk-run would be a great way to contribute to our specific funds.  
President Ennen: Heard that several people hope we do it every year.

f. Section Meetings and Overall Scheduling

President Ennen: What about having speakers speak while we were eating? Harken: What did speakers think about that? Anderson: That is fine as long as speakers know ahead of time and attendees know.

Vonasek: Might be helpful in the future to have SLAYS and Public Library Section meetings not at the same time. Lieberman: Would like to second that but sees that there may not be a solution. This was the second year that we've been meeting during breakfast time, and that's just the way it has to happen, but that makes it harder for people to attend; it's early and difficult to get to. We moved section meetings to the meal times because we were pressed for time and slots, but it might be taking a toll on the attendance at the business meetings. President Ennen: Challenges are to get meetings slotted into rooms, to make it possible for members to attend meetings of all sections they want to attend, how to put section meetings in schedule opposite presentations (If meetings would be held at the same time as presentations or sessions, presenters would not be able to attend section meetings, and people would attend sessions instead of section meetings.) Greff: With local or area school librarians driving to/from the conference on a school day, there is added difficulty to attend business meetings. We should try to determine which sections are complete opposites so as to decrease likelihood of an attendee facing multiple section meetings at the same time. Bratton: We lost the meeting times when we decided to go to "no conflict" times for the vendors. Krenz: What if we scheduled an hour 3 times so that some would be at sessions, others at vendors. McHenry: Someone suggested 1 or 2 general session instead of 3 with the presentation of resolutions ahead of time. Krenz: There could be one general session to start conference, one to finish up on Friday. Lieberman: it seemed like there were some procedural things which required 3 general session meetings. McHenry: We found that we did not have to read the resolutions twice. Lieberman: Supports idea of 2 general sessions instead of the time for 3. President Ennen: It worked well doing vendor time the way we did this year. Giving 30 minutes in between sessions allowed time for people to finish up with a session and to get set up for upcoming presentations.

g. Vendors

Bratton: Vendors were happy and liked the space they had. They liked that people came and talked to them and said they had a lot of business. The vendors commented that they liked the vendor bingo. Greff: In years past when there was a vendor social on Wednesday night, a lot of the

vendors really liked the social walkthrough. Maybe we should look into going back to holding a vendor social prior to the first day of regular conference.

h. Speakers and Scheduling of Speakers/Awards

Langemo: Thursday speaker was potentially offensive. We need to be sure to select speaker who are appropriate to the audience. Hirning concurred. Krenz: A major benefactor in attendance was offended. Topic of freedom of speech is important and needs to be addressed, but perhaps in a different way. Bates: It's difficult to appease everyone's sense of happiness. It's valuable to have someone who addresses us professionally rather than just to entertain. West: Has been to banquets when she has not enjoyed the speaker (motivational speaker, or no knowledge of librarianship.) Kujawa: His talk was a great reminder in our field that if you don't like it, you don't have to view it or listen to it. Thomas: Is a speaker even necessary? What about a social time followed by the awards? Someone mentioned that without a speaker, we would save money. Kujawa: Perhaps that money could be spent getting bigger named programs or authors. Lieberman: Appreciates that we bring in speakers and presenters relevant to our profession. It's helpful that we even have a strong reaction—that we remember that other people have strong reactions even if we do not understand why they find something offensive. Baesler: Recounted personal experience. Reminded her that what people are exposed to can shape their paths, open new ways of viewing the world. Krenz: In the future, if we have someone controversial, we should reverse speaker with awards so that award recipients receive awards first and may be able to leave prior to the speaker's presentation. Bates: Maybe we could present awards at the luncheon instead of when the keynote speaker is here. President Ennen: Is there a reason why Flicker Tale awards cannot be combined with other award presentations so that the Flicker Tale winner can be the speaker? Then the Friday lunch (other meal) would be a speaker giving a professional talk. Bratton: People do come to hear a nationally-known keynote speaker. Thomas: Years ago, we sometimes had the keynote speaker at the opening session, so we could have one at our first General Session or at the first lunch.

i. Ideas for future conferences: Conference Wiki

Bates stated that she would love to see a conference wiki to show the best practices or lessons learned. The wiki could be updated as registrations come in. Participants of the wiki could build a list of "I need a...I can bring a..." Norton stated that committee made a wiki for the conference manual. It hasn't been heavily used. Madler stated that a wiki is a good idea, if it's used. With a conference she attended before, every registrant had access to the conference wiki, perhaps with specific levels of access. It was easy to use and a helpful way to get in contact with other members.

- VII. Next Meeting – President Ennen will be sending out possible dates for the Nov/December meeting.
- VIII. Adjourned at 5:45 pm. Harken moved; Stroshane seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Chandra Hirning  
NDLA Secretary

*Approved during November 29, 2010, meeting of Executive Board*