

WASHINGTON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting
Dumas Bay Retreat Centre
June 6, 2008

Reported by Karen Highum, Secretary

Attending:

Jonathan Betz-Zall, ALA Chapter Councilor
Katie Cargill, PNLA Representative
Sally Chilson, 2009 Conference Chair
Heidi Chittim, WALE Chair
Kristy Coomes, Organizational Structure Committee Chair
Jennifer Fenton, WALT Chair
Phil Heikkinen, Strategic Plan Coordinator, Conference 2010 Chair
Priscilla Ice, Treasurer
Tim Mallory, VP/President Elect
Martha Parsons, President
Robin Rousu, Elections Committee Chair
Karen Highum, Secretary
Jan Walsh, Awards Committee Chair
Mary Wise, *Alki* Editorial Committee Chair
Jennifer Wiseman, Coordinator of Communications
Kristin Crowe, Executive Director
Jennifer Bisson, Scholarship Committee Chair
Mary Ross, CE Coordinator
Julie Miller, Assistant *Alki* Editor
Gail Goodrick, CATS Chair
Jennie Westlund, IGLU Co-Chair
Darlene Peacsall, WALT Webmaster
Lisa Oldoski, CAYAS Chair
Rand Simmons, SAM Chair, Federal Relations Co-Coordinator
Will Stuivenga, Member Services Chair, WLFETA representative
Elizabeth Laukea, Interest Group Representative
Graci Harpine, RIG Webmaster
Erin Gordon, iSchool Liaison
Barbara Menne, SRRT Chair
Margaret Thomas, *Alki* Editor
Bo Kinney, RIG Vice-Chair

President Martha Parsons called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

The agenda was accepted as amended.

Approval of Minutes

Karen Highum

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2008 board meeting as written.

Moved: Jonathan Betz-Zall

Second: Sally Chilson

Approved.

Treasurer's Report

Priscilla Ice

The board reviewed the standard reports (Balance sheet, IG Restricted funds, Budget year to date, and Cash disbursement journal online) and found the reports to be in order.

Motion: Move that WLA budget \$6000 for academic scholarships each year and that money be transferred to the scholarship fund at the start of each budget year; and that unspent money from the 2007-2008 budget year be transferred now. All scholarship funds will be disbursed directly from the scholarship fund.

Moved: Priscilla Ice

Second: Tim Mallory

Amendment by Mary Ross: change "academic" to "educational" scholarships

Approved as amended.

Priscilla mentioned that it would be good if the scholarship fund earned interest. She will talk to the bookkeeper at CMA to see if is possible to have the money available and earn some interest.

Tim Mallory: Because WLA is not 501-C3 donations are not tax deductible. A group will be formed to look into form a foundation.

IG rollover money:

Motion: Move that in the event that an IG's restricted funds balance is \$20,000 or more at the end of a fiscal year (July 31), any funds over \$20,000 will revert back to the WLA general fund.

Moved: Elizabeth laikea

Second: Priscilla Ice

Approved.

Motion: Move that WLA rollover each IG's allocated and restricted funds at the end of each fiscal year; these funds will revert into the IG's restricted funds account. If an IG disbands (without merging with another IG), all their funds will be transferred to the WLA general fund.

Moved: Elizabeth laikea

Second: Pricilla Ice

Approved.

Discussion about allocated funds (operational activities such as gift baskets and office stuff) and restricted funds (for big projects for the IG, such as educational).

Budget

Why there are two accounts: General budget from institutional membership dues: some libraries cannot contribute money that is used for lobbying. Legislative Action Fund budget: from individual membership dues.

Discussion of the budget line-by-line.

Motion: Move to approve the proposed budget as amended.

Moved: Pricilla Ice

Second: Jonathan Betz-Zall

Approved.

Strategic Plan Action items needing Board Approval

Phil Heikkinen

The strategic plan was discussed on Thursday afternoon. He will bring changed version to the next board meeting.

Old Business

Presentation of Draft Budget FY 2008-2009

Priscilla Ice

Motion: Move to approve the proposed budget as amended.

Moved: Priscilla Ice

Second: Jonathan Betz-Zall

Approved.

Conference 2008 statistical report

Karin Ford

Conference 2009 update

Sally Chilson

Planning for conference 2009 is proceeding smoothly. So far the transition from Gail to Melby, Cameron and Anderson, has been a bit of a distraction simply because it is different from how we have done things in the past, and how we have outlined responsibilities in the conference manual. Gail gave the advice to focus on content at this point, so that is what we are doing. Heidi Chittum is working on ironing out the details of the second keynote speaker (Paula Poundstone has agreed to be a keynote speaker), as well as being in the beginning phases of getting program proposals underway.

Conference 2010 site selection update

Phil Heikkinen

Although the WLA Board approved Lynnwood as the site for WLA Conference 2010, concerns about the facility and location remained. Perhaps even more important, at the April WLA Conference a number of us discussed concerns about holding our conference only about three weeks after the PLA Conference 2010 scheduled in Portland, Oregon.

I started considering the possibility of a joint conference with PNLA, as in 2004 in Wenatchee when PLA hosted its conference in Seattle. PNLA's 2010 Conference is already confirmed for Victoria, BC, with The Fairmont Empress set as the main venue. I received an enthusiastic show of hands about a conference in Victoria at the WLA Annual Conference Award Luncheon in April, 2008; and all other potential attendees that I've talked to have said they love the idea of going there.

Along with the attractive location, the date 4 ½ months after PLA and advantage of sharing the conference with PNLA are clear pluses. However, people have suggested negatives such as the need for a passport or enhanced driver's license, extra expenses and logistics regarding travel, expensive lodging (I believe the conference room rate there is about \$210, compared to about \$150 in Lynnwood), and the concern about attendance in a PLA year despite being four months later. Also, of course, the economic climate in 2010 is an open question.

I have talked and emailed with Michael Burris, the PNLA Conference 2010 Coordinator. He says that PNLA would love to share the conference with us. A complication is that he is in transition to a new job at a public library in BC, and when I last talked with him wasn't sure he would continue to coordinate the conference. Also, I have not yet heard back from him about his conversations with his contact at The Empress about accommodating WLA's anticipated 300 to 350 attendees, though I hope to by the time of our June 5 WLA Board meeting.

I've had online discussions about the conference options with a few public library directors, along with WLA Board members. On the whole, I think the weight of opinion is about 2/3 in favor of the idea of the joint conference.

Motion: Pending successful arrangements with PNLA and the venue(s) in Victoria, I move that the WLA Board select Victoria, BC, as the site for a joint WLA-PNLA Conference from August 11 to 14 in 2010.

Moved: Phil Heikkinen
Second: Sally Chilson
Approved.

WALE Conference 2008 update

Heidi Chittim

2008 WLA Conference:

WALE sponsored a successful pre-conference workshop with Presenter Bernadette Peters. The workshop was maxed out and it received very high reviews.

2008 WALE Conference:

Plans for our 2008 conference to be held Oct. 2nd - 4th at the Red Lion in Olympia are moving along right on schedule.

Our programs and speakers have been booked and we are in the process of sending out contracts.

Registration should be online by June 1st.

Troy, our web master, is adding information to our web page as it becomes available.

Our next on site meeting will be in August.

CE Assessment Project Update

Mary Ross

The 2008 conference wrap-up consumed most of my available time. I summarized the pre-conference evaluations and sent copies to the presenters and to the sponsoring interest group chairs. Invoice vouchers were sent to all the presenters and have been submitted to treasurer Katie Cargill for payments of honoraria and reimbursements of expenses.

Based on the evaluations, we had very successful pre-conference programs on a wide range of topics. I recommend that WLA continue to offer pre-conference programs that provide certification credits for those attending and that we continue to promote programs based on certification credits.

For the third Travel Grant cycle, deadline of April 30, I received 13 applications, more than twice what has been received in the two previous cycles. I summarized and prioritized the applications and I am waiting for a final decision from the CE Council on the successful applicant.

FUTURE

I recommend a discussion between WLA and the WA State Library about the possible impact of changes to the CE grants funded by LSTA. (From the WSL Web site) "The focus of the Washington State Library Continuing Education grant program has narrowed in order to comply with guidance provided by the agency which provides our federal funding, the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This will affect our ability to support some types of training."

It is important that WLA members anticipate how these changes will affect funding for conference attendance.

I also plan to work on a budget proposal for a more formalized CE needs assessment process.

Dues Task Force update

Will Stuiivenga

Motion: Move to raise the reciprocal voting membership in WLMA by \$5 to match the WLMA dues rate of \$40.00.

Moved: Jonathan Betz-Zall

Seconded: Jennifer Wiseman

Approved.

Scholarship Committee

Jennifer Bisson

We had a great conference and got a chance to meet with all 3 of our scholarship winners, and all 5 of our conference grant winners. Everyone, was very appreciative and just a stellar group.

WALT

Jennifer Fenton

WALT hosted several programs at the OLA/WLA conference. Plans are being made for a fall workshop co-sponsored by WLFFTA. The workshop is about using storytelling to get your ideas across. WALT would like to use the restricted funds currently in the WALT budget to fund the workshop.

Appointments Update

Martha Parsons

Martha appointed iSchool student Erin Gordon as WLA Board iSchool Liaison.

WLFFTA Report on Upcoming Fall Events

Carol Schuyler

The dates for the fall "Forums" have been set. The eastside "Forum" will be held on Saturday, October 4th, at the North Spokane Branch Library of the Spokane County Library District. The Westside "Forum" will be held on Saturday, October 18th, at the King County Library System's Service Center in Issaquah. Friends and Foundation members want time to share opportunities and challenges. In addition, we will have presentations on online book sales and advocacy for school libraries.

WALT and WLFFTA are co-sponsoring a workshop featuring Evelyn Clark on November 8th.

Website Update

Jennifer Wiseman

85% of the web documents have been moved from old website to the new website. Tomorrow she will do a training to show IG chairs how to edit documents on the new website.

New Business

IG Coordinator

Elizabeth Laukea

Motions re: IG Accounts were discussed and passed during the Treasurer's Report.

ALA Emerging Leaders

Jonathan Betz-Zall

Legislative Issues Discussion

Tim Mallory/Steve Duncan

Steve Duncan talked about the last legislative session and what's ahead for the library community. It was a great session for libraries—positive visibility, especially the school library issue. The Budget included money for the transition of the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library. Need to work on getting people to think of libraries and early learning. Issues haven't gone away—governance, funding, relevance of libraries is important—use laptop to show legislators what you can offer, opening their eyes.

• WLA Endorsement of Glen Olson

Motion: That WAL endorse the appointment of Glenn Olson to the LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board and the Select Committee on Pension Policy.

Moved: Tim Mallory

Second: Jennifer Wiseman

Approved.

- LPC Role in Sunshine Committee proposed Public Records Act

Motion: That the Legislative Planning Committee be authorized to act on WLA's behalf to provide testimony, written or oral, to the Attorney General's Office Sunshine Committee on proposed Public Records Act exception repeals or amendments that relate to libraries, library users, and library staff.

Moved: Tim Mallory

Second: Pricilla Ice

Approved.

State Library CE Grants

Jan Walsh

Jan handed out information about the LSTA funding changes. Mary Ross will look at WLA's response to this issue and how it will affect attendance at conferences.

Martha Parsons will create a task force to look into a response. CE Funding Task Force.

State Library taking over the Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

Jan announced that they retained over half of the existing staff during the transition from SPL to the State Library. They are working to split the building between city and state. July 1st is the transition date.

PNLA report

Katie Cargill

Katie encouraged everyone to come to the 2008 PNLA Conference, which will be held on August 6-8, in Post Falls, Idaho.

WLA Housekeeping, Information/expectations for Board Members/Yearly Planning Time-line/Set Board Meetings for 2008-2009

Martha Parsons

September 12, 2008: Highline Community College

December 5, 2008: location to be announced later

2009 Library Legislative Day

April 15, 2009 in the afternoon at the Spokane Conference

June 4-5, 2009 Board Retreat

FUTURE DATES:

WALE Conference 2008, "Capitalize Your Career," October 2-4, Red Lion, Olympia

Conference 2009: "Impact & Influence," April 15-17, 2009, Red Lion Inn at the Park, Spokane

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Approved (date): _____

Karen Highum, Secretary

Martha Parson, President