

New Hampshire Library Association Annual Meeting Minutes

**Capitol Center for the Arts
Concord, NH
November 2, 2006**

Vice President Annie Donahue called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m. President Doris Mitton is not in attendance due to illness.

President's Report: (From Doris' email)

The Local Government Center will now be a van stop for our Association. The Constitution and By Laws were reviewed during the August Board Retreat as well as the budget. Andrea Thorpe did an excellent job with the PLA busses for our members to attend the conference in Boston. A young adult line item was established in the budget for special projects.

This past year was a learning experience for me as president of the Association. I attended Legislative Day in Washington DC to help support the funding that comes to the New Hampshire State Library for van delivery and database subscriptions among other things.

The members of the Board that volunteer for the Association are a great bunch to work with. Their assistance has been greatly appreciated.

Vice Presidents Report: (From Annie's written report)

This year had been very positive and encouraging for me. I have been re-connecting with the NHLA Board after several years away from active participation in the Association. The men and women who are giving their time as officers and chairs of the various committees are a dedicated, enthusiastic group of people and I am thoroughly enjoying working with them all.

In my role as "newsletter nudge", I have mastered the art of nagging (although there are some in my family who would argue that I perfected that skill years ago)! After several miss-starts, we now have established a good working system with the staff at the Local Government Center to produce our quarterly newsletter.

In my role as Vice-President, I have focused on developing an exciting program for our annual Fall Conference. I have worked with a small group of volunteers to develop a program that offers a wide variety of current, topical issues for both public and academic librarians. I hope that everyone finds something in the day to take away and apply at their home library.

Cheers!
Annie Donahue
Vice-President NHLA

Secretary's Report: The motion was made by Catherine Redden to approve the minutes of the 2005 annual meeting as written. Second by Charlie LeBlanc. The motion passes unanimously by those in attendance.

Treasurer's Report:
(From Carl's written report)

Hello NHLA members:

The New Hampshire Library Association runs on a July 1st to June 30th Fiscal year. Below you will find a brief statement for the association's financial position at the end of our fiscal year in June 2006.

Balance Sheet as of 6/30/06

In Savings accounts:

READS	6769.57
URBANS	2505.49
CHILIS	30,344.42
NHLA	55,206.96

In the checking account:

<u>NHLA</u>	<u>2345.51</u>
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Total **97,171.95**

As with any treasurer's report, the dollar figures tell us much, but not all, about the important work of NHLA and its 3 sections, READS, URBANS and CHILIS.

Examples would include NHLA underwriting transportation to the recent Public Library Association conference in Boston (\$3500), MacDonald Fund continuing education mini-grants, 2 Winchell loans of \$1000 each, and 6 Rosalie Norris Scholarships of \$1000 each.

This past fiscal year READS held their very successful fall conference at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, NH, providing an exceptional educational opportunity for those who work in reference and adult services. CHILIS section made the state wide summer reading program both great fun and affordable for libraries of all sizes

purchasing materials in bulk and reselling them to members. In addition CHILIS funded \$3150 in scholarships and mini-grants to in support of children's librarianship and children's programming. URBANS continues to provide workshops and speakers that address the needs of the libraries in the state that serve larger, urban populations.

Many other examples could be cited. The NHLA treasurer is privileged to see an overview of all the activity conducted by the Association. I am constantly impressed by and thankful for the service of so many.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Heidenblad

New Business:

- A. The new READS Board was announced:
Claudia Mayer, President
Chris Hague, Vice President
Amy Thurber, Secretary
Lois Freeston Treasurer

- B. The new CHILIS Board was announced:
Pam Stauffacher, President
Marie Lejeune, Vice President/ President Elect
Nancy Lang, Treasurer
Maureen Graham, Secretary
Luci Albertson, Past President/ Nominating Chair

- C. NHLA Bylaws and Constitution Changes: All changes had been posted on the NHLA website for members to review prior to today's meeting. Most changes are clarifications and all are recommended by the NHLA Board. These changes include: the year of the NHLA board is now a calendar year so that the December meeting can be used as a transition month to include the old and new boards and a discussion about goals.
Motion made by Randy Brough to approve recommended changes to the NHLA bylaws. Second by Charlie LeBlanc. Motion passes unanimously.
Motion made by Catherine Redden to approve recommended changes to the NHLA constitution. Second by Charlie LeBlanc. Motion passes unanimously.

- D. NHLA Election Results:
Amy Thurber, President/ Vice President (3-year term)
Carl Heidenblad, Treasurer (2-year term)
Rob Sargent, ALA Councilor
Judith Haskell, NELA Representative
Thank you to all incoming board members!

Committee and Section Reports:

ALA Councilor

It has been my pleasure to be your Councilor to the American Library Association for the past six years. During this time, there have been many issues brought before Council including major legal issues such as the CIPA litigation, the Patriot Act implementation, and most recently TABOR legislation. Also, during this time, ALA established the APA to provide certification alternatives, to work on pay equity issues, and to provide staff development opportunities. Advocacy was a major theme for several presidents and excellent public relations materials were developed for use in libraries across the country. Internal organizational issues occupied much time, and discussions on defining what constituted a quorum for membership meetings were ongoing. Council passed a resolution enabling the participation of virtual members on committees and worked on developing a dues structure. Some of these issues will continue into future ALA Council sessions.

There were some unusual circumstances surrounding ALA Annual and Midwinter meetings from strikes of hotel workers, to the SARS scare in Toronto, and to the first major convention in post-Katrina New Orleans. There were minor inconveniences such as snow storms, transportation problems, and difficult cities for conferences. However, there were also wonderful experiences and beautiful cities—San Antonio and San Diego in January, San Francisco in July, Washington in pre-inauguration excitement, and Chicago anytime.

Being a part of ALA Council was both a wonderful and challenging experience. I met some great librarians dedicated to the advancement of libraries and librarians, dealt with major issues affecting libraries not only in New Hampshire but across the country, and met people from Alaska to Florida. We also got “bogged down” in some minor issues that took up too much time, but that is always part of the legislative process. I think all Councilors learned to work within the legislative framework and to address meaningful issues of concern to our constituencies.

My tour of New Hampshire Libraries has been my most enjoyable experience as ALA Councilor. The opportunity to visit the public libraries, small and large, new and old, city and town, has been wonderful. I must admit that I was overly ambitious—it has been much more time-consuming than I had at first imagined, but I am determined to continue the visits because I am learning so much. I have found the public libraries in New Hampshire to be run by dedicated librarians providing first-rate service for their communities in libraries from the mountain towns, to the seacoast cities, to the lakeside villages. All the librarians have been most gracious and welcoming to me, and I have enjoyed seeing their libraries and talking about the services they provide. I am most impressed by our libraries and the librarians who are so dedicated to the role libraries play in their communities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to represent all of you at ALA and for the opportunity to learn so much.

Diane R. Tebbetts

CHILIS TREASURY

The sitting CHILIS Treasurer, Linda Morgan, was unable to complete her term, due to ill health. Past President, Gail Drucker, graciously took over her duties for the remainder of the year. Working closely with Carl Heidenblad, NHLA Treasurer, we have been able to keep our accounts balanced and have realized a sufficient profit from materials sales to support scholarships and programs, particularly Summer Reading. The average balance on account has been in the vicinity of \$20,000 – 30,000.

CONFERENCES

The Spring CHILIS Conference was held in Laconia in March, and featured the Kids, Books & the Arts Showcase of Performers. Children's librarians from all over the state were able to preview performances and apply for subsidizing grants through this program. We also had Summer Reading Program artist Tracey Dahle Carrier on hand to sign her posters and books. This gathering was very well attended.

Rindge Meeting House was the site of our Fall CHILIS Conference, which was quite successful. Featured speakers addressed the serving of young patrons of all ages, and included signing and yoga for babies, engaging middle school boys and drawing teens to the library. Our annual business meeting was also conducted at this time.

INITIATIVES

During the year 2006, the CHILIS Board proposed and initiated a project to align all the state book awards for children into a cohesive, orderly spectrum. Representatives from Ladybug, Cocheco, Great Stone Face, Isinglass and Flume committees were invited to a roundtable discussion to brainstorm what changes would be required to bring this about. It was a wonderfully cordial meeting of the minds, and excellent ideas came out of this. The first positive step was CHILIS' vote to underwrite printing of bookmarks for the Isinglass Award. All in all, it was concluded that we should not move too quickly when it comes to altering age spans for various awards and otherwise interfering with current guidelines. However, we did pledge to move forward in our support for all the groups concerned.

It came to our attention that the CHILIS by-laws were somewhat awkward and outdated, and thus the Board held an ad-hoc meeting in August to make necessary changes. While much of this was simple housekeeping, we did include, for the first time, recommendations for the qualifications of those seeking office on the Board. We also made an attempt to make this instrument more flexible in terms of when conferences should be held and the like.

The membership was alerted as to proposed changes prior to our annual meeting in October, and the motion passed with little objection. I shall file an amended copy of the CHILIS bylaws with the NHLA President in the very near future.

COMMITTEES

Great Stone Face

Adele Boeske has served as committee chair for the past several years and continues to be active in this capacity. The award recipient is determined by the vote of New Hampshire school children in grades 4-6. They are given a selection list of 25 books, chosen by a very diligent and dedicated committee who read and dissect every title before placing it in contention.

Summer Reading Program

Treasure Reading, the SRP theme for 2006, was indeed the most resounding success in recent memory. Libraries from all over the state reported how the pirate motif resonated with young patrons and their parents. Deb Hoadley, of Plaistow, is our current chair, and she has agreed to carry on for another year. Due to brisk sales of T-shirts and print materials, CHILIS was able to support the program without the aid of outside resources. While we have been bending every effort to obtain corporate sponsorship, it is imperative that we maintain a contingency fund adequate to cover costs if need be.

Next year's SRP theme will be *Reading Road Trip USA*, featuring the illustrations of New Hampshire author/artist Julie Brillhart.

Newsletter

Red Hot CHILIS News has a new editor, at long last! Nancy Lang, of Dunbarton, has done yeoman duty as our news gatherer and broadcaster for some time. She has honed her skills, so as to be able to post news and photos on our web site and in the CHILIS listserv. As of 2007, Kathy Marciniak, Children's Librarian at Fuller Public Library in Hillsboro, will stand in Nancy's place to keep us all informed of library happenings around the state.

NERTCL

Caroline Birr, of Atkinson, has been our long-time NERTCL rep, and she has served us well. Caroline was instrumental in encouraging a good number of NH children's librarians to attend the fall NELA conference in Burlington, VT in October of this year. 2006 marks the 100th birthday of NERTCL, a fact engendering many fine programs of interest to children's librarians, including a birthday party and a banquet featuring renowned illustrator Jerry Pinkney and his wife, Gloria Jean.

OFFICERS

The new slate of CHILIS officers was presented and passed by the body at our annual fall conference in Rindge. It is of note that I made an error in reporting the list to the

NHLA Board at the business meeting in October. The following is the correct list of CHILIS officers for the year 2007:

President – Pam Stauffacher (Concord Public Library)
Vice President / President Elect – Marie Lejeune (Rochester Public Library)
Treasurer – Nancy Lang (Dunbarton Public Library)
Secretary – Maureen Graham (Merrimack Public Library)
Past President / Nominating Chair – Luci Albertson (Bedford Public Library)

It has been indeed an honor and a pleasure to serve as CHILIS President over the past year. The CHILIS Board is a very enthusiastic and hardworking group, and marvelous to work with. I also wish to thank the NHLA Board for their warm welcome and gracious support.

Respectfully submitted,

Luci Albertson
Past President, CHILIS

Intellectual Freedom Committee

The members of your intellectual freedom committee are: Joanna Baqqi, Selena Cate, Debbie Gilbert, Leslie Kimball, Diane Mayr, and Katie McDonough, with Mary Ahlgren serving as chair. We don't meet often, but do keep as up to date as possible with events relevant to our particular interests, around the state and beyond.

In April, the Ford Foundation gave scholarships to all state IFC chairs to enable us to attend a three day symposium on "Law for Librarians". As a result of that learning experience and its charge to "extend the knowledge," I have been a part of a program at the NELA Conference in October, along with several other NE chairs, called "Don't Get Sued: Meeting Room and Display Policies that Work".

In addition, several members of the NH IFC have worked with me to present the program "The Ps and Qs of Talking to the Press" at the NHLA Fall Conference. This also reflects some of the discussion at the ALA "Law for Librarians" event.

Librarians are often at the forefront of first amendment issues, and the work we do everyday reflects our commitment to citizens' rights to information. As means of access to information changes we must keep ourselves aware of what is going on, and discuss the issues regularly with colleagues. Our committee meetings are a great opportunity to do just that, so feel free to join us!

Mary Ahlgren, chair

Continuing Education Committee

This year the Continuing Education Committee chartered three buses for two days to take NHLA members to Boston to attend the Public Library Association. Over 150 people took advantage of the buses.

Three members applied for Adam & Jane MacDonald Mini Money Grants. All were funded. The committee hopes that more NHLA members will take advantage of the MacDonald Mini-Money Grants for continuing education courses.

Respectfully submitted by,
Andrea Thorpe

READS

The members of the READS Executive Board for 2006 were:

President: Sarah Leonardi

Vice President/ President-Elect: Claudia Mayer

Past President: Heather Shumway

Secretary: Amy Thurber

Treasurer: Tricia Quinn

Membership Chair: Steve Viggiano

Program Committee Chair: Pam Gjettum

Publicity Chair: Brian Hackert

Public Relations Committee Chair: Diane Arrato Gavrish

READS had another energetic year, producing three successful roundtable discussions on "The Nuts & Bolts of Book Groups." These discussions were held during the last week of March in Hooksett, Hanover and Rye.

A direct result of these roundtable discussions was the creation of new steering committee dedicated to the idea of initiating a new statewide book bag program for book discussion groups seeking new and popular, high-demand titles. The committee is working hard on this task and is looking forward to launching the program at the NH Libraries Conference in May.

Another new initiative started by the Board this year is a published column to appear in the NHLA newsletter entitled "On the job with..." Each column will profile a member of READS who works in different service area and region in the state. The goal of the column is to promote collegiality and to raise awareness of NH librarians' special interest and expertise.

Following last year's presentation of the first annual READS Award of Excellence, it should be noted with pride that our 2005 award winner, Eleanor Croteau, was profiled in

ALA's TechSource, in an article entitled "Smart Librarians." This year, the Board is please to report we again received a healthy number of nominations for the READS award, a true testament to outstanding service provided NH librarians to the adult community.

As requested by the membership at the 2005 Annual Meeting, once again the READS Executive Board addressed the section's bylaws. After careful review, we are proposing changes in order to clarify the nomination and election process, as well as the role of elected officers versus committee chairs.

As a final note, I would like to thank the Executive Board for all their hard work over the year. I would especially like to thank Claudia Mayer and Amy Thurber for their willingness to take on additional responsibilities with the Program Committee and the READS-To-Go book bag initiative. A special note of gratitude is also due to Tricia Quinn who is finishing her term as READS Treasurer. Tricia has been a steady source of wisdom and guidance through her years of experience with READS Executive Board. Thank you as well to the libraries in Hooksett, Hanover and Rye, as well as the Local Government Center, for the use of their facilities for our programs and meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Leonardi, READS President

NHLA Membership Committee

For 2006, NHLA has 557 members of which 74 are new. We have 64 life members. In the sections, we have 166 CHILIS members; 129 READS members; 14 URBANS members; 23 Academic members; and 73 Small Libraries members (a free section with no existing structure).

Take pride in being an NHLA member! Renew and recruit. Watch for your 2007 renewal letter coming in early December. Copy the form and encourage your colleagues to join, too. NHLA is your organization – where you can continue your library education, connect with your counterparts and contribute to the voice for libraries in New Hampshire.

Marilyn Borgendale, Michele Garneau, Joanna Baqqi

Urban Public Libraries Consortium

Members of the Urban Libraries Section of New Hampshire Library Association are libraries in the state serving a population of at least 18,001 and are certified libraries as defined by the standards established by the New Hampshire State Library. The top two administrative positions in the member libraries are eligible to represent the libraries at Urban's meetings.

The organization's objectives are:

1. To provide increased communication and information exchange among urban public library administrators.
2. To promote mutual understanding of library issues and problems statewide and nationally, and to address those issues.
3. To promote the marketing of the library as a resource for community development and civic infrastructure.
4. To achieve operational economies through cooperation.
5. To encourage development of professional management and leadership skills, and to apply those skills to librarianship.

2006 officers are:

- Chair: Janet Angus Merrimack
- Vice Chair: Michelle Sampson Milford
- Treasurer: Mary Ann Senatro Bedford
- NHLA Rep: Sue McCann Portsmouth

The meeting topics, dates and locations for 2006 are:

Date	Topic	Location
Jan	No meeting due to weather	
Feb 24	Goal setting for 2006 and tour of the renovated and enlarged Laconia Public Library	Laconia
Mar	No meeting due to PLA	
Apr 28	NELINET workshop on Blogs, RSS and Wikis	Merrimack
May 26	Policies relating to new technologies	Milford
Jun 23	PLA – the aftermath: what have you/will you use from the conference in your library and tour of the new Portsmouth Public Library building (under construction)	Portsmouth
Jul-Aug	No meetings	
Sep 22	Downloadable audio books	Bedford
Oct 27	Special populations	Keene
Nov	No meeting	
Dec 8	Successful programs	Nashua
Jan 26 '07	Goal setting for 2007	Concord

The consortium, along with member libraries, sponsored and paid for a full day NELINET *Blogs, RSS and Wikis* workshop for staff of Urban libraries. The workshop was held at the Bedford Public Library in May.

The Urbans bylaws were amended to reflect current practices of the organization at the May 26th meeting.

The Urbans will sponsor a program at the Spring 2007 NHLA Conference, as they have done in the past.

Sue McCann, Portsmouth, developed an Urbans website, which is part of the NHLA website at <http://nh.gov/nhla/urbans.htm>

Cathy Beaudoin, Dover, is collecting information for the Urban Libraries Annual Salary Survey. The Excel spreadsheet form is online at <http://nh.gov/nhla/urbrpts.htm>. When data is collected the spreadsheet will be updated online.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue McCann
Urbans Representative to NHLA

Ways and Means

I am very excited to have been appointed in August to the position of Chair of the Ways and Means Committee. For the upcoming year, I hope to be able to give NHLA more flexibility in setting goals, by providing the means to do so with fundraising efforts. At this point plans to raise money include a raffle at the Fall Conference, a fundraising effort in which NHLA and Barnes and Noble will collaborate, and a campaign to ask NHLA members to contribute money to the organization beyond their membership dues for specific projects. Thanks for your support of NHLA.

Sean Fleming
Lebanon Public Libraries

Meeting Adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dianne Hathaway, Secretary