

**New Hampshire Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
June 17, 2008, 2:00 PM
Local Government Center, Concord, NH**

Present: Amy Thurber, Annie Donahue, Carl Heidenblad, Sue Hoadley, Ann Hoey, Sean Fleming, Betsy Holmes, Sarah Leonardi, Rob Sargent, Christine Hague

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM by President, Amy Thurber.

II. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 18, 2008 board meeting were approved as submitted. The minutes of the May 21, 2008 board meeting at the Spring Conference were approved with one correction: the CHILIS Librarian of the Year is Cora Jo Ciampi.

III. Officers Reports:

A. President – Amy Thurber: Amy is working with Becky Clerkin and Rob Sargent on designing the postcard that will be sent to the membership on transitioning to the paperless newsletter.

Past president – Annie Donahue: Nominations for the Anne Geisel award are due in August. She is also preparing the slate of officers for next year. Carl Heidenblad and Sue Hoadley said yes to second terms as Treasurer and Secretary. Annie said many of the people she approached said they could not make that kind of commitment right now, and asked the board members for recommendations.

B. Vice-President/President Elect – Steve Butzel: No report (absent).

C. Treasurer – Carl Heidenblad: Treasurers Report. Carl has drafted a "Profit & Loss vs Actual Budget." Annual income is about \$95,000; expenses about \$36,000. The Spring Conference expenses have been broken down under line 6100.

Two figures check-marked:

1) 4070 Miscellaneous Income should be approximately \$3,644.72 more – the amount of our check to the IRS. The IRS said the Form 990 was missing, but our accountant did prepare it and sent it, etc. However, the

check was returned. It should be sent by certified mail in the future for better accountability.

2) 6205 Continuing Education – this figure is old and may have been posted by mistake. Carl is working on correcting it.

Ann Hoey asked if we actually made \$30,000 on the Spring Conference. She was concerned that, as a non-profit organization, we shouldn't be...making a profit! Annie Donahue said we don't have the final accounting yet. Carl Heidenblad added that bills are still coming in. Annie said these are really false numbers at this point and assured the board that members were charged as little as possible for the conference. Rob Sargent remarked that, on the other hand, it was good to know we can sustain a conference on our own.

Sarah Leonardi asked about the accounting of scholarships. Carl said that's done by fiscal year.

D. Secretary – Sue Hoadley: No report.

E. ALA Councilor – Rob Sargent: The Annaheim Conference is next week. The two main issues on the agenda are 1) Floods in Iowa – how can ALA help?, and 2) Should ALA issue a resolution to Cuba to free 23 librarians.

F. NELA Representative – Judy Haskell: See report (absent). Three NH applicants were accepted for NELLs this year. Judy invited two board members to come to NELLs, held in Andover, MA, to greet the attendees.

IV. Old Business:

A. Paperless Newsletter. Amy Thurber said they are working “full steam ahead” to get the postcards out. Rob Sargent submitted draft instructions to Steve Butzel for the September meeting, with the goal of finalizing them by the November business meeting. Information will also be disseminated through the regional coop groups.

B. Section Development.

1. Academic Section. Annie Donahue has been working to reinvigorate the academic section. She introduced Betsy Holmes as the new section representative. A recent NHLA member, Betsy works in Collection Development and Government Documents at St. Anselm College. Katherine Ryan from New England College will co-chair. Annie noted that as an existing section, they were required to have a minimum of

10 members, update their bylaws annual, and submit a copy to the Secretary. They are currently reviewing bylaws and procedures to become an active NHLA section. They are also hoping to hold a social function in fall to drum up more membership.

2. YALS. Ann Hoey reported the section had elected officers. The bylaws will subject to approval by the executive board, and acceptance of the new section by the membership on the fall ballot.

V. New Business:

A. Bylaw Amendments. Will the change in the Newsletter require a change in the bylaws?

B. NELLS. Already covered in NELA representative's report.

C. Correspondence. Thank you letter received from from Rosalie Norris Scholarship recipient Lisa Richards. She is completing her MLS.

VI. Section Reports

A. Academics: No longer vacant! Betsy Holmes, new section representative.

B. CHILIS – Ann Hoey: Ann reported that CHILIS is looking to fill some board positions and the website is migrating. The 2008 Summer Reading Program is getting started and the artist for 2009 has been selected. The fall conference will be held in Littleton on October 16.

C. READS – Chris Hague: (See report.) Chris added that the postcards are ready for the READS awards of excellence. READS is also looking for board members. They are considering expanding subcommittees for future board members and going out to the coops to recruit members. She wants to do more outreach, especially with the two-tiered system of libraries in NH – limited staff, etc.

Sarah Leonardi asked if the small library group at the conference provided any feedback. Chris said, yes it was very helpful. But, it was more of a director's roundtable; they feel their first duty is to their patrons. Amy added that they needed to have a duty to themselves, too. Chris asked the board to share any ideas with her.

D. Urbans – Mary Ann Senatro: (See report. Absent) The Urbans met in April to discuss the Spring conference and shared ideas from PLA.

VII. Committee Reports:

A. Advocacy – Vacant

B. Bylaws – Vacant

C. Conference – Annie Donahue: The committee met earlier today. There are some billing problems with conference center, so no final figures are available right now. Feedback was good, but only about 164 evaluations were returned from over 300 attendees. One third wanted a combined conference. Other comments: more vendors (there were 30 vendors -- 28 paying); too much time for lunch; too much time between sessions; website not as useful as it could have been – provide more information; no recycling at conference center. They learned as went along this year – and will take advantage of that. Annie was very pleased with work of committee – they worked hard and produced a good conference. The committee will meet again at the end of August to get an early start. Next year's site is Attatash. The 2010 site will be selected in September.

Ann Hoey asked how to encourage more feedback. Annie said she tried last November and at this conference, but no strong response.

Betsy Holmes suggested using an online tool like Survey Monkey. A donation to a book fund or something like that might be an incentive to participate.

Ann Hoey added that the State Library's automation "vendor day" got hundreds of responses within a couple of days. But, that was a hot topic.

Chris Hague said it was a question of how to get their attention. Annie suggested a post card in the mail or on the van? Rob added this is how business is conducted these days. Sean Fleming said there will always be a contingent of people who are not happy. At his library the staff was happy with separate conference. As Sarah Leonardi said, those with strong feelings self-select and respond. Carl added there was value in going to the coops. How about input from CHILIS and READS? Has anyone talked to NHEMA?

Ann Hoey said she was very pleased with conference. The hired speakers, key note speaker, luncheon speakers – did well. The Great Stone Face award winner was a luncheon speaker. But, the vendors are not happy with split conferences. Not easy for some of the conference participants, either. The Great Stone Face award is an NHLA award, but the schools are the ones who promote the books and awards, and the

voting takes place in schools. And, CHILIS has two conferences in March and October.

Rob Sargent stated that separate and distinct organizations should have separate conferences.

D. Continuing Education – Barbara Prince: (Absent) Sarah Leonardi said the form has been revised. There is a question of whether to pay for mileage.

E. Intellectual Freedom – Mary Ahlgren: No report. (Absent)

F. Legislative – Randy Brough: No report. (Absent)

G. Membership – Tracey Lauder: No report. (Absent)

H. Scholarship – Sarah Leonardi: (See report.) Sarah noted the thank you letter received from Lisa Richards.

I. Ways and Means – Sean Fleming: \$600 was raised from the raffles. Sean added that people asked where the money is going.

VIII. Newsletter Editor – Rebecca Clerkin: No report. (Absent)

IX. Webpage Coordinator – Steve Butzel: No report. (Absent)

X. Liaison Reports:

A. Center for the Book – Andrea Thorpe: No report. (Absent)

B. NHAIS – Steve Butzel: No report. (Absent)

C. NH State Library – Ann Hoey: Ann reported that the – downloadable Audiobook consortium will be purchasing ipod-compatible materials. The State Library's windows are scheduled to be renovated, so no fall classes will be held there.

D. NH State Library Advisory Council – Katherine Hillier: No report. (Absent)

E. Trustees Association – Ann Fabrizio: No report. (Absent)

XI. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Sean Fleming and seconded by Rob Sargent. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Next Meeting of the Board: September 16, 2008, at the LGC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue A. Hoadley
Secretary

[All reports should be sent to Amy Thurber by the second Tuesday of the month of the board is scheduled to meet.]