

New Hampshire Library Association

Executive Board Meeting

March 2, 2010 at 2:00pm

Local Government Center, Concord

Present: Alison Zaya, Amy Graves, Ann Hoey, Carl Heidenblad, Diane Lynch, Judy Haskell, Kate Russell, Linda Taggart, Mary Ahlgren, Mary White, Randy Brough, Sarah Leonardi, Sean Fleming, Steve Butzel

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:04pm by President Judy Haskell.

Minutes: The minutes from the September 2009 meeting were approved by those present. The minutes from the December 2009 meeting will be amended to add Mary White to the list of people present; these minutes were also approved by those present.

Officer Reports

President's Report:

Membership Chair: Mary Ahlgren has agreed to be the membership chair.

Gaylord: Judy spoke with a Gaylord representative at ALA Midwinter about the current discount libraries receive. If we are interested, Gaylord will give a percentage of all sales from New Hampshire libraries to NHLA. Mary A. suggests that Gaylord tell NH libraries about this rebate, which Judy will suggest to them. Judy will try calling Demco for a similar deal.

Upcoming conference: The NH Library Trustees Association will have their annual conference on May 3 at the Portsmouth Sheraton.

Minutes: The draft minutes will be posted on the website after Judy reviews them.

Vice President's Report:

Fall business meeting: The Fall business meeting will be held on Thursday, November 4 at the Local Government Center. There will be three speakers: Jessamyn West – a day in the life of Jessamyn West; Beth Galloway – teen misbehavior; and John Stadler – children's book author/illustrator.

Questionnaire: Mary presented a draft of questions for a membership survey. Mary will edit the questions based on discussion from the group and bring it back for review.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Council: The council meeting went well; they reviewed the treasurer's manual. Randy motions to accept the manual. Mary A. seconds. Motion passed.

Audit: The accountant has finished the audit work and Carl would like us to approve the audit with the understanding that he send copies for review to the board. Steve motions to approve the audit. Sean seconds. Motion passed.

NH Charitable Foundation: We received a letter from the NH Charitable Foundation about the disbursement plan for the coming year. Disbursements will remain the same for 2010, but reductions are expected in 2011. Another letter will follow with more details about the future cuts.

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Secretary's Report: No report.

ALA Councilor's Report:

Steve reports on his visit to ALA midwinter, complete details will be posted on the wiki.

- The Advocacy office is asking states to do a snapshot project (See New Jersey's wiki for more information: <http://njla.pbworks.com/snapshot>). The snapshot project involves all libraries collection statistics on an agreed upon date. The goal is to use the information as a marketing tool to show the public how important libraries are.
- The Office for Intellectual Freedom director Barbara Jones reports that Privacy week is May 2 – 8, 2010. She also reports that new intellectual freedom manuals are being created.
- The Merit Fund is having its 40th anniversary. It is a humanitarian fund with the purpose of supporting librarians who are denied employment rights based on gender, race, etc.
- The Allied paraprofessional association (ALA APA) is trying to create a certification program for support staff. They were given funds to get started that came with benchmarks that have been difficult to achieve. The funding will be reassessed and hopefully a more realistic timeline will be put in place. Steve will post links for more information on the wiki.
- There is a library relief fund to help libraries in Haiti. Go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/iroactivities/haitirelieffund.cfm> if you want to donate.
- There is a petition circulating to create an ALA roundtable for retired librarians.
- There was a discussion about librarianship and traditional and cultural expressions (TCE) and how libraries are treating cultural historical documents. ALA seems to be saying libraries need to provide increased sensitivity to protect these types of artifacts. The concern is that libraries need to focus on all cultures rather than just a select few.
- A fund raising effort is in place to provide scholarships to people from critically needed ethnicities who are interested in librarianship (Spectrum scholarship program). The goal is to raise 1 million dollars, with half coming from the library community. Steve is open to any ideas for fund raising and hopes that everyone on the board is willing to donate.
- Annual ALA conference in Washington, DC in June. This year it will be combined with Library Advocacy Day and will include a library advocacy rally on June 29. Steve will post a link on the wiki for more information.
- The condition of US Libraries report was released by ALA in December. Steve will post a link.
- There was a press release on President's budget freezing library funding, which will require the primary source of income from the states. School libraries were omitted from educational funding. SLA has made press releases and letter templates available.
- ALA Midwinter will be in San Diego next year.

NELA Representative's Report:

Alison posted a report on the wiki; read for more information.

Emerson Greenaway Award: NELA is accepting nominations which are due June 1.

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Open NELA Board Positions: There is an open call for candidates due by March 20 for Vice President/President-elect, Secretary, and Junior Director.

Conference Discounts: People who attended NELA last year can receive a 50% discount to attend the conference this year. People who attend a program sponsored by a NELA section will get a \$5 coupon for conference registration.

Old Business

Small Library Summit: Fifty-eight people have registered with room for approximately ten more.

New Business

Goals for 2010-2011:

The group reviewed the 2009 goals posted on the wiki. Discussion points include:

- Continuing education and the possibility of increasing the offerings
- Scholarships offered by NHLA and increasing advertising: scholarships are published in a national directory, on our website, and on Simmons website; sections also advertise appropriate scholarships. Mary W. asked Carl to check with the NH Charitable Foundation about changing the wording on the requirements from “resident of NH” to “work in NH”.
- Improving communications and online presence

New goals:

- Library Snapshot project
- Visiting co-ops
- Find someone to be conference chair

Snapshot discussion: The group was very enthusiastic about this project. Mary A. mentioned that many libraries already collect statistics a few set times each year and we might be able to target those dates. Steve mentions that we should treat this project as an event to get as many libraries participating as possible.

Co-op discussion: Judy will assign board members to visit various co-ops. Mary W. will compile a list of talking points to ensure each visit is consistent.

Conference chair discussion: The conference chair will not have to be responsible for everything; he/she will have people heading the sub-committees that make up the conference committee. Steve suggests finding ways to streamline the planning process, such as selecting a few site locations to rotate between. Steve would be interested in chairing the program committee.

Conference audio: There was some discussion about audio at conferences; they won't be recording this spring. Steve thinks people want to put audio behind a members-only wall rather than posting it for all access.

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Wiki & Website: If you have an account on the wiki you will receive an email when pages have been updated. Section reports should be posted on wiki before the meeting. Everyone is responsible for reading the reports prior to the meeting and printing the agenda or other desired documents from the wiki.

Steve mentions that there is interest in creating a content management system for the website.

EBSCO and Gale Controversy: Steve mentioned the current battle between the two vendors over rights to some popular magazines.

Section Reports

Section reports will be posted on the wiki. Section representatives will report to the group on high interest items.

Committee Reports

Advocacy: Sarah will work on gathering information about the Library Snapshot project. There was discussion about the Heller School and if we want to work with the students on a marketing project. The group decided it was not the appropriate time.

Intellectual Freedom: Diane reports that the Patriot Act was extended for one year.

Legislative: Randy reports that we have another new lobbyist. Teresa Rosenberger left and recommended a replacement from her old firm. Randy likes him and recommends we give him a try for the year. They are following Bill 478 which involves the use of RFID in consumer products and has a potential impact on libraries. Randy will get the board more information explaining the bill.

NH State Library Liaison: Ann Hoey reports that the State Library has to cut 2% by June. They are hoping the 2% will be covered by salaries from retired people. If not, it may affect the biography database, but they are working with the Department of Education to try to keep it. The Library has been told that there will be an 8% cut for the Department of Cultural Resources (which includes the library). They are trying not to impact the public libraries and also trying to not cut any more staff resources.

The next meeting will be held at the Local Government Center on Tuesday, April 20 at 2:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned 4:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kate Russell