



**New Hampshire Library Association Executive Board Meeting
June 21, 2011 / 2:00pm
Local Government Center, Concord**

Present: Mary White, Lori Fisher, Carl Heidenblad, Sean Fleming, Judy Haskell, Alison Zaya, Amy Lappin, Randy Brough, Diane Lynch, Sarah Leonardi, Barbara Prince, Annie Donahue, Amy Graves, Ann Hoey, Karin Heffernan, Mike York.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm by Mary White

Approve Minutes from the previous meeting: Randy moved the approval of the minutes and Lori seconded. All approved.

President's Report.

- **Correspondence.** Mary noted that as president she receives correspondence from individuals with a variety of concerns about libraries. She recently received a letter from a parent whose child caught a finger in a door. She had assured the parent that she would speak to our group about the about the importance of child safety.
- **Coop Visits.** Mary W., Andrea, Cab, Carl, Sarah and Judy have spoken to their coops. Mary asked those that spoke at the coops to send her a paragraph to distribute to membership late fall. Lori will be visiting West of the Merrimack in the fall and we are not yet certain when Mary Ahlgren will be visiting Suncook.

Treasurer's report. Sean noted that he is keeping more cash in the checking account than was previously done. This makes it a bit easier for him as he does not need to transfer funds as often this way. Sean handed out a sheet with a nice analysis of revenue and expense for the unrestricted funds. He had prepared this after consultation with our accountant, Lora Nanoff at Plodzick, Sanderson. This will affect the balance sheet. The balance sheet will show more in unrestricted and the MacDonald funds, and conversely, less in the restricted accounts. Sean also spoke with an investment banker from Citizen's. It should be possible to gain more interest using a product that is FDIC backed, with a return of 3 to 4%. Sean invited him to come to Concord to speak to the group. Sean has begun working with the accountant on the audit process and is hoping to have that finished by

early November, in time for the annual fall business meeting.

Specialist project. Cab is out so we will take up this item next meeting.

Small Libraries Summit. Steve Butzel was unable to attend so Lori Fisher spoke. The summit will be a two different days next year. The first day, April 2 will be for libraries serving communities of less than 1500 persons. The second day, April 16 will be for libraries serving populations of 1500-3000 persons. Dividing the summit up this way allows more than one individual from each library to attend. The summit will be held at LGC. Topics will include working effectively with trustees, a review of library law, and budgeting. Also covered will be tips on optimizing your collection, statistics, layouts, etc. Wrap-up will be a bit longer and include “bringing it home”, with lots of materials to take home. Terri Knowles will be a speaker, and the committee is putting together a panel of speakers as well. Lunch will be structured topic wise and include both library and non-library topics. The committee’s next meeting will be in September. The speaker and panels will be the same for both days.

Status of the Academic Section. Karin arrived later in the meeting, but the consensus was that following Aprils discussion we would leave this up to the section. If they wish to disband, they need to follow the process outlined in the section bylaws.

Conference. Neither Annie nor Diane is able to continue. Mary Ann Senatro will do programs. Myra will do exhibitors, and Darrell and Carol Roberts will continue on the committee. Jennifer will do AV, and Judy Haskell will continue to do registration. Mary Ann is working on the program evaluations. SERESC in Nashua was suggested as a potential site but SERESC doesn’t have space for both lunch and exhibits. While we receive considerable support from the LGC, that is not sufficient to completely support the conference and Erin at LGC needs a conference chair to act as the contact person. Erin has also let us know that she will be on maternity leave early next year. We’ve never been able to take advantage of their registration services because they have another long-term commitment at the same time.

Mary raised the following issues. (a.) Do we wish to have a spring conference next year? Or (b.) Shall we skip spring 2012 and do mini conferences, then come back to the spring conference on years opposing the small library summit?

Other ideas discussed included hiring a conference manager as well as the idea of a one day conference. NELA hires a conference manager. Mike York pointed out that Mary Ann Rupert managed our conferences in the 80’s. In 2008, the Maine Library Association hired a conference manager for \$3250. Karen asked what the group anticipated for impact on membership if we did not have a spring conference in 2012. The consensus was that the paid

membership would decline.

Mary W. proposed that we not have a Spring Conference in 2012, that we hold our next Spring Conference in 2013, and that we look for a paid conference manager. Alison felt that something needs be done in the spring. Judy noted that this year PLA is in Philadelphia (mid March) and that provides many opportunities. Lori noted that is time to take stock and bring in new blood. Amy Lappin noted that we don't want people to think we are going away.

Motion: Mary W. moved that we hold our next spring conference in 2013, that NHLA examine hiring a paid coordinator, and NHLA will look for a member willing to serve as Chairperson. Mary will post a piece on NHAIS requesting volunteers for a spring 2012 event. Judy seconded. The motion carried.

There was additional discussion regarding compensation for conference speakers. The consensus of the group is that we will continue to use the \$150 honorarium, and MacDonald funds may be used for this purpose.

Logo: Discussion followed about proposed changes to the logos of the parent organization and the sections. Mary noted that this is an either / or situation. Changing to the new logos provided brand integration across the organization or that we can continue with our current more independent marketing. Discussion followed. CHILIS already has a logo that they like very much. Lori, READS want to go green. No one was excited about the lower case lettering. Judy asked - "who wanted to change the logos?" This was suggested by Kate Russell, our former secretary, using design students at her college. The thought was that it would improve our branding.

Motion: Randy moved that we retain our old logos and not implement the suggested logo changes. Amy seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the board.

Request for funding professional titles in the NHSL collection: Anne Hoey handed out a list of titles. Randy moved that we spend \$2600, Lori seconded. Mary White amended up to \$3,000 since Ann pointed out that Cab has some suggested titles that have not yet been submitted to Ann. Sean seconded. We briefly discussed entering into standing orders, but the consensus was that we weren't prepared to do that. There was a final motion.

Motion: Randy moved that we authorize the expenditure of up to \$3500 in professional materials for the New Hampshire State Library. Sean Fleming seconded that motion, and the motion was approved.

READS to go. There was a bit of discussion about whether or not we had approved this funding at our last meeting.

Motion: Randy moved that we fund additional Reads to Go kits for READS. Judy seconded. All were in favor.

Reports

Academic Section. Karin noted that the trend is towards year round college and also that online and distance education are increasingly important, and that these trends have importance for Academic libraries. ACRL recently held their conference in Worcester and the conference theme was collaboration. Karin said that this was an excellent conference.

CHILIS. Amy noted that the Summer Reading Programs are underway throughout the state. CHILIS will hold their Fall conference on Oct 20th. Keene Public Library is hosting. Avi may speak. (Murder at midnight won the Great Stone Face Award). Currently accepting nominations for vice president and that is the only open position on the CHILIS board.

ITS. No report.

READS. Lori spoke for READS – She was pleased with the READS sessions at the NHLA conference and there had been lots of positive feedback. READS Fall Conference will be October 7th at the Grappone Center. The focus will be on collection development, maximizing the effectiveness of collections and developing patron centered collections. Brian Herzog will speak. He is the author of the Swiss Army Library blog which is widely read. READS has board openings for a Vice President and also a Membership Chair. Nominations are in for READS award of excellence. Mary White praised the READS committees for presenting their “When to call the police” program, which was excellent.

URBNS. Randy noted that URBNS met on May 20th. They will meet again on Friday, June 24 in Portsmouth with former directors attending.

YALS. Anne noted that the YALS conference will be September 29th in Hampton.

Advocacy. Sarah spoke about Snapshot day. Packaging yet to take place, but we received more than 200 photos from 60 libraries. Also, Sarah has applied for a space at the upcoming fall Municipal Association conference.

Bylaws. No Report.

Center for the Book. No Report.

Conference. Annie noted that attendance was approximately 205+201 for each day.

Continuing education. Barbara. The committee of Mike, Randy, Ann, and Steve has been working with Barbara to offer 3, 6 hour long workshops. They need to limit registration to 1 person per library for these workshops. Since the three workshops offered this spring were quickly filled, with waiting lists, it was suggested we offer these same three workshops in the fall. Lori suggested that perhaps we might want to revisit this in the spring. Others felt that we should continue to offer this fall.

There was discussion of the merits of compensation vs. an honorarium. Mike York noted that the NHSL offered a flat \$350 compensation for many years when it did these types of offerings. Sean will bring a report about the financial picture for these workshops to the August meeting.

Motion: Annie moved that the committee prepare for the fall, and we'll finalize the expenditures at our August meeting. Compensation will continue at \$350 per class plus mileage. Judy seconded and the motion was approved. Expenditures would be from the Macdonald fund.

Intellectual Freedom. Diane reported on the renewal of the Patriot Act.

NELA. Alison reported that five NELLs applications have been received from NH.

State Library. Mike York noted that it had been a pretty tough week for the NHSL, as important House bills affecting the NHSL were in the final process of being passed. HB 2 would abolish the Dep't, but this did not happen. Section 277 dealt with the statewide van service. There was a degree of legislative confusion and the Senate went along with the house. A report to the house finance committee is due in November. This report will be used by the legislature to evaluate the importance of the Van service. While in one sense there is no immediate impact, the Van service was effected due to the reduced budget. Mike York had to lay off 5 people and while he did not cut any van drivers, 2 people whose primary positions weren't drivers were cut. But of course, they were important to maintaining the van operations. So, there will be cutbacks in service. Mike asked for help and patience. Randy, noted that they have always won in the past but this time it seems as though the Dept of Cultural resources is a target. Mike will keep us informed as will Randy as Legislative Chair.

Membership. Judy is getting ready for the business meeting. Please send

her your suggestions for officers. Voting needs to occur in the early fall.

Website. Amy Graves reported that the website is working. She has been waiting to see what the board wanted to do with the logos before working on several things.

Ann Geisel award. Annie noted that nominations for the Geisel award are sought. Please send your nominations to Judy Haskell.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted, Carl Heidenblad, Secretary