

Executive Board meeting minutes for July 31, 2007

Tuesday, July 31, 2007 at 9:30 a.m., President Ara Anderson called the Executive Board of the Wyoming Library Association to order. Present were Ara Anderson, Brian Greene, Cynthia Twing, Shari Haskins, Jamie Kearley, Paul Piddle, Laura Grott, Sandi Barstow, Laura Grott, Erin Kinney, and Cheryl Wright. Leslie Boughton joined the meeting at 9:45.

Old Business: Brian Greene said that things are finally coming together for the 2007 WLA convention and he should have the program posted by the end of this week. Nancy Pearl will be the key note speaker and will also present a program. Will Hobbs and Lorcan Dempsey will also speak. There will be no opening session. Rather Nancy Pearl will speak at 8 a.m. on Thursday morning, September 13. A business meeting will be held between 2 and 4 p.m. on Thursday. The legislative luncheon will also be held on Thursday. Section meetings will be held between 3:30 and 4:30 on Friday and a closing session will be held at 4:30 on Friday. Brian will present the program to the Program Council so he can make sure everything is in place.

It was proposed that exhibit passes be issued free to non-attendees wishing to view the exhibits. After discussion Jamie made the formal proposal and Brian seconded. The motion carried.

New Business: Bylaw changes – The main issue is does WLA wish to vote for bylaw changes online. There are presently emails lists of WLA members and sub lists of Section members. Ara said that we presently have a Blog though no one is using it. Paul Piddle commented that the Sections concerning bylaw changes are confusing and at odds with each other. Brian thinks that eventually we will have to move to online voting as we have too many people who are left out as they cannot attend conference. Ara suggested that the proposed changes be posted and the membership be informed of said postings. Laura suggests that perhaps a proxy vote should be included if we do not go online, which probably won't be possible this year because of logistics. The Bylaw Committee thinks that the vote on changes needs to be done face to face with discussion. Many people felt that most members don't wish to take up conference time in business meetings. The formal proposal for electronic voting would have to be made to the membership 30 days before voting could take place.

Brian and Erin offered to do a parliamentary procedure search to see if there is anything against electronic voting. If something fails the Executive Council needs to know why. Brian commented that there may not be a way to pass all of the proposed changes in the bylaws at this time.

Ara proposed that all bylaw changes be posted online and then at the conference she could call for a vote and any discussion could be done at that time.

Program Council and Standing Committees: Jerry Krois and Kathy Carlson of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee now joined the meeting to discuss proposed changes to Section 1, parts A and B. Jamie Kearley commented that if we implement the bylaws changes, then Sections will have to change their bylaws.

Discussion followed concerning past Section Chair should be involved in conference planning, as well as immediate Section Chairs and Chairs Elect. That way there would be 3 people involved instead of only 1.

The proposed bylaw change to article VI, section 1, part B is that the chair of each Section appoint a Program Committee member, whether that member is the chair elect or someone else, and that 3 at large members be appointed by the President no later than September 1. This proposal was passed by the Executive board with one dissenting vote.

The proposed change for section C is that the President will initially appoint 3 members at large. Two of these members will serve a 2 year term and 1 will serve a 1 year term. The President shall make new appointments as terms end. The appointments shall be made prior to November 30 of the year in which this bylaw change takes effect. The proposal was passed

The proposed change for section D was passed with no discussion.

We voted to accept the nomination committee changes. It was a change from 6 members to 4 members. Each President of the Association shall, at least nine (9) months before the annual meeting, appoint two (2) members to this committee who are representative of the organized Sections of the WLA. The length of term for this committee shall be two (2) years

Legislative Committee: Article VI, Section 3, part B - Kathy commented that an ad hoc group of experienced members could be added to the committee to answer questions and mentor new members. Others commented that 6 years was a long time for one member to serve on one committee. Section 3, part B passed as written after the last sentence was deleted.

Nominations and Elections Committee: Article XI, Section 1, part A – the changes to this section were approved with no discussion.

Article X, Section 3 Quorum – the quorum was changed from 15% to 10% of the membership in good standing of the Association. This change was passed with no discussion.

The Paraprofessional information was sent to the bylaws committee and they agreed with the changes so it will now go before the Paraprofessional Section and be voted on by that section. The exec board voted to accept the final changes and

sent them to Erin to put on the para-pro page of WLA home page.

Proposed changes to the ALA Counselor's position:

ARTICLE VIII Section 2. Representation in the American Library Association (ALA)
A Councilor to represent the WLA in the American Library Association (ALA) shall be elected in accordance with ALA by-laws by all voting members of the WLA. The term of office shall be for three (3) years, and shall begin AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE (marked through at the start of the mid-winter American Library Association conference) that follows the Wyoming Library Association election for the office. If a vacancy occurs, the WLA Executive Board may appoint a qualified person to fill this position until the next Wyoming Library Association general election

After much discussion on the pros and cons of the Strategic Plan, it was put aside for further discussion at the next Executive Board meeting, which will be held at 6 p.m. on September 12, 2007 in the Sinclair Room at Little America.

Respectfully presented by
Cheryl Wright
Recording Secretary