

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2007,
Little America, Cheyenne, Wyoming

Wednesday, September 12, 2007, 6:30 p.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, Mary Jayne Jordan, Richard Landreth, Mary Rhoads, Mary Gillis, Debi Morley, Jamie Kearley, Paul Pidde, Laura Grott, Sandy Barstow, Laura Grott, Erin Kinney, and Cheryl Wright. Lesley Boughton joined the meeting at 6:45.

Approval of minutes of July 31, 2007: Brian Greene moved that the minutes of July be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

Financial Report: Laura Grott went over the financial report with the board. Money is still coming in from conference fees. Right now the amount collected stands at about \$20,000. If anyone has any questions they may contact Laura. Any member of a section can call Laura and find out how much money the section has available. Fewer people are joining sections and the question of the advantages of belonging to a section was discussed.

Section Committee Reports:

Sandy Barstow, ALA Councilor, has posted her report to the website:
<http://www.wyla.org/>

Richard Landreth, MPLA Representative, has posted his report to the website.

Jamie Kearley, [Academic and Special Library Section](#) Chair, will post her report after the Section meeting on Friday.

Mary Rhoads, Chair Elect of Children and Young Adult Section, has posted her report. She has been contacting section members about Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP). She also went over the section budget. Sending 3 members to the CSLP conference would cost high end \$3500. She would like to set up a scholarship to send at least one person to this conference by setting aside an amount of money from the Children/Young Adult Section budget.

Paul Pidde, WLA Paraprofessional/Support Staff Section Chair, will submit a report after his section meeting on Friday. He reported that Erin Kinney has helped the Parapros set up a blog although they are not seeing much activity on it as yet.

Debi Morley, Chair of Public Libraries/Trustees Section, will submit a report after her section meeting on Friday. She also reports that several sections went together for an

excellent spring meeting.

Mary Jayne Jordan, School Library Media Personnel Section Chair, will post a report after her section meeting. She also commented on the good information received at the spring meeting.

Cynthia Twing, Chair of the Legislative Committee, has submitted a report that is posted on the WLA website. Her committee is moving forward with the endowment legislation. Many letters of support from county foundations and commissioners and library friends groups have been received. Senator Hank Coe of Park County will sponsor the bill and also try to enlist legislative support for it. She also commented that Marian Schultz does a very good job as our lobbyist. The bylaws committee will vote on changes at the committee meeting. Garnering more WLA support for foundations needs to be addressed. Surveys to measure who are members of sections and why or why not are needed, as well as what kind of support members are expecting from the state library.

Lesley commented that she hopes to have a survey completed by October or November of this year that will allow the state library to make data driven decisions. They will go to each county using a team approach.

The Financial Auditing Committee has posted their report to the website.

Laura stated that she would like more training on Quick Books and also on doing changes that she needs to make to the General Ledger.

Old Business:

The strategic plan has accomplished its first goal of advocacy. Several sections including, children, school, public and paraprofessionals came together on April 20 and 21 of this year in Casper for a midyear conference. Jen Grady of ALA spoke on personal advocacy. Brian would like to propose that this be made an annual event. Perhaps training on electronic resources could be the focus for 2008. Jamie suggested that perhaps the survey will bring for a real need or theme for a spring or midyear conference. Friday could be used for section and/or committee meetings with training on Saturday. This could be a magnet event. Ara suggested 2 topics or magnets might be more appealing. Resource sharing issues with breakout sessions might be timely.

Promotion of professional standards will be created after the Workforce Study is completed, with standards produced by September of 2009. These could be mandatory or voluntary but they would need to involve the state librarian, UW, and ALA-APA along with others on an ad hoc committee. Negotiation assistance after the Workforce Study is complete and after the standards have been dealt with needs to be discussed. How will this be done and by whom?

The Wyoming Leadership Institute will meet on Thursday, September 13 at 9:30 a.m. at Little America.

The WLA president should attend the Director's Retreat to reiterate the importance of staff attending the WLA Conference. Growing leaders is an ongoing commitment. Ideas may come out of the Leadership meeting tomorrow. Mentoring of chair-elects and an annual end of conference orientation meeting were two suggestions. Debi suggested that the Leadership meeting might be the place to discuss the roles and goals of the sections. Laura said there should be positive feedback given to people expressing an interest in sections and committees. It was also suggested that chair-elects be asked to attend the pre-conference executive board meeting.

To allow more people to attend conference some of the suggestions were: getting the support of directors, getting library volunteers to cover for employees attending conference, closing the libraries so staff could attend conference, training substitutes, and educating library boards on the importance of staff attending conference. Over 260 people have registered for this conference and vendors were turned away for lack of space.

Strategic Plan:

The membership committee needs to focus on the qualifications necessary for scholarships for attending LLI and WLA conference.

Legislative Initiative – Understand the why and how. The WLA lobbyist and Legislative Committee need to have communication on all levels including the website, email, face to face and programs

Goal – A bill for earmarked monies. Who – state librarian, UW, ALA-APA

Advocate library districting. Who – lobbyist and membership working together. This would be an ongoing undertaking.

Brian moved to accept the strategic plan as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

Conference 2008 will be held in Casper on October 2-3. Conference 2009 will be held in Laramie on October 1-2.

New Business:

Jamie moved that we endorse the ALA resolution against the use and abuse of National Freedom Letters. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ara adjourned the meeting at 8:50 to go into executive session pursuant to Wyoming statute 16-4-405 (a)(x). The meeting was reconvened at 9:55. Jamie moved that Laura Grott's contract be renewed and that she be given the training she needs including more training in Quick Books. The motion was seconded and passed. Ara adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cheryl Wright
Recording Secretary