

Minutes: Arkansas Library Association Executive Board Meeting
(Submitted by Secretary-Treasurer, Sandy Olson)

Board Members Present

President, Dwain Gordon
Secretary/Treasurer, Sandy Olson
SELA Representative, Ellen Johnson
ALA Councilor, Marilyn Schulte
Reference Services, Don Batson
AASL Division Chair, Diane Hughes
Paraprofessional Division Chair, Sandra Hooper
Special Libraries Division Chair, Betsey Martin

Others Present

Jennifer Coleman, Sarah Santos, Ron Russ, Bettye Kerns, Britt Anne Murphy, P.J. Williams, Jamie Melson, Kevin Barron, Frances Hager, Bob Razer, Donette Smith.

President Dwain Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:10. He announced that congratulations were in order for Ellen Johnson on being elected as a council member to the American Library Association. He then introduced Bob Razer and asked Bob and Jennifer to explain the situation with the PAC.

Bob Razer said that the PAC is organized incorrectly and the reason is that the wrong forms were given to them to fill out. They have not re-registered for this year because they are awaiting a decision by the board as to how to proceed. They should probably be registered as something other than a 501C3 and cannot spend or raise money until a decision is made. There are two options. They can do all the paperwork and hire an attorney to change to a 501C6 status or register as a lobbyist and change the PAC I D number. Ellen Johnson moved that Bob Razer pursue registering as a lobbyist and closing the PAC. Also that the Executive Council investigate changing to a 501C6. Marilyn Schulte seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED

The minutes of the last meeting were distributed and a motion was made by Diane Hughes to accept them. A second was made by Marilyn Schulte. MOTION PASSED.

Bettye Kerns, Legislative Report: The Public Librarian Funding Act, the Privacy Act, and School Librarians Administrative Act for the State of Arkansas all passed. Federally, LSTA funding was increased, ASEA funding requested an increase, and the E-Rate will remain the same. Bettye was contacted by a New York attorney with the ACLU and representing American Booksellers about access to magazines and blinder wraps. There is the potential that they may ask the Arkansas Library Association to support the suit.

President Gordon announced that a teenager from Pleasant Plains was the winner of the American Library Association's Drive to Read campaign.

Treasurer's report submitted by Jennifer Coleman. Diane Hughes moved that the report be accepted, Ellen Johnson seconded. MOTION PASSED.

SELA Report, Ellen Johnson: Ellen represented the Arkansas Library Association at the Southeastern Library Association (SELA) leadership conference on May 16 in Atlanta. The conference was held at the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel and Conference Center. All twelve member states were represented. This was a working conference. Committees met and plans were discussed regarding the biennial conference to be held during the fall of 2004 (jointly with the North Carolina Library Association). The conference will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the North Carolina Library Association and the tenth anniversary of the last SELA/NCLA joint conference. Much hard work is going into the conference and it promises to be a very good one.

ALA Councilor, Marilyn Schulte: Not going to ALA in Toronto. No other report.

AASL, Diane Hughes: The 2003 AASL Summer Conference (August 3 & 4) plans are right on schedule. The registration forms have been distributed and also placed on the AASL web page. As of June 5th, the committee had received 30 registration forms and 9 vendors had committed to the conference. EBSCO has donated \$500.00 toward the continental breakfast and SIRS has donated a set of books. Ron Russ has been working with us in creating web pages for our division. We would like to be able to provide information about AASL's Mission Statement, Policies and Procedures but have been unable to locate any current information. AASL is co-sponsoring with Children's Services Roundtable to bring Karen Wannamaker back to ARLA this year. She is a well-known speaker who always fills a session room when she presents at any conference. A budget of \$800.00 is being requested.

Diane Hughes moved that a total budget of \$800.00 be approved for the Karen Wanamaker program consisting of \$400.00 for AASL and \$400.00 for the Children's Services Roundtable. Marilyn Schulte seconded. MOTION PASSED.

College and University Division, Carol Macheak: No report.

ALPS Division, Sandra Hooper: The Arkansas Library Paraprofessional Division met May 19th – 21st for their annual spring conference at DeGray Lake Resort. There were over 100 paraprofessionals and librarians in attendance. ALPS members voted to change the wording of the constitution to include a clear process for nominating and electing officers. After looking at our evaluations, I found that we received very high overall ratings for the conference. Our next meeting will be July 11th at UCA.

Reference Services, Don Batson: Busy working with ILIAD.

Special Libraries Division, Betsey Martin: This division submitted a conference program request form for the annual conference for: "Library Advocacy Training – Becoming a voice for your library". The program will use materials provided by the American Library Association and will guide participants through the basics of being a good

advocate. The seminar will introduce winning strategies for better communication with legislators and the press. Betsey Martin will lead the presentation.

Trustees Division, no representative: Discussion about the structure of the division.

Two Year College Roundtable, Joni Stine: Members are in the process of putting together a basket to be featured at “Baskets Galore” during the upcoming Arkansas Library Association conference in Fort Smith. Several two-year college library directors will present a program featuring their respective libraries during this conference. “In the spotlight: Arkansas Two-Year College Libraries” is the topic of this presentation. Webmaster Ron Russ has added a link from the TYCRT web page to the roundtable’s monthly online newsletter, “Keeping in Touch”.

Government Documents, Sarah Santos: No report.

New members, Barbie James: There are 449 renewed members, 45 new members. Letters were written to all 45 new members. There are currently 26 institutional members.

Awards Committee, Frances Hager: The meeting for April was cancelled. Too many members could not attend. Awards information to be included in the June issue of Arkansas Libraries was sent to committee members via email for approval. The awards information was submitted to Shawn Pierce for inclusion in the June issue of Arkansas Libraries.

Constitution Committee, Carolyn Ashcraft: Discussion of agenda item, proposed changes to the Constitution concerning “standing committees” and discussion of changes to Policy and Procedures Manual concerning frequency of the journal publication.

Article VI. Administration and Organization

Section 4. Committees of the Association

- A. Standing committees of the Association shall perform the duties prescribed by the Association’s Manual. The Standing committees are: Awards, Conference, Constitution, Education, Finance, Intellectual Freedom, Legislative, Membership, Nomination, Public Relations, Publications, and Scholarship.
- B. The number of Association standing committees on which a member may serve is limited to one with the exception of those committee memberships, which are made up by the virtue of the office held.

Proposed Changes:

- A. Standing committees of the Association shall perform the duties prescribed by the Association's manual. The Standing committees are: Awards, Conference, Constitution, [*delete Education*], Finance, Intellectual Freedom, Legislative, Membership, Nomination, Public Relations, Publications, and Scholarship.
- B. The number of Association standing committees on which a member may serve is limited to *three* with the exception of those committee memberships which are made up by the virtue of the office held. *The number of Association standing committees a member may chair is limited to one with the exception of those committee memberships which are made up by the virtue of the office held.*

If proposed changes to the constitution are approved by the membership at the Annual meeting in Fort Smith, the changes would be reflected in the Constitution and Bylaws and in any corresponding sections of the ArLA Policy and Procedures Manual. Carolyn also asked that titles be added to the winners of the Arkansiana Awards lists.

Item for Discussion: There has been informal discussion concerning the need to change the publication of *Arkansas Libraries* from bimonthly to quarterly. The frequency of our publication is found in the ArLA Policy and Procedures Manual, NOT in the Constitution and Bylaws. If the Executive Board approves the change, it will not require a vote of the membership. If the Publications committee wishes to recommend this change, they should make the motion to the Executive Board. Sandra Hooper moved that the board accept the changes recommended by the Constitution Committee Chair. Diane Hughes seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Conference Committee, P.J. Williams: The 2003 Conference committee has met twice since the last Arkansas Library Association Board meeting (April 25 and May 23) and has the following update to its earlier report:

Speakers: In addition to our booking of Doug Kelley (author of *The Captain's Wife* and the 2002 "If All Arkansas Read the Same Book" author) to speak at the Monday Luncheon, we have made arrangements for Mara Leveritt to speak at our Tuesday Luncheon. Ms. Leveritt is the well-known Arkansas investigative journalist who has written *The Devil's Knot*, the 2002 true-crime account of the trial of the West Memphis three. (NOTE: According to Amazon.com, this book is planned to be released in paperback at about the time of the conference). Carol Brey, the president-elect of the American Library Association, will also be on hand to talk about the issues affecting libraries and an update on the (Big) ALA Conference. The mayor of Fort Smith, Mr. Ray Baker, has consented to welcome all of us to the city and, possibly, give us all a pardon from hanging if necessary.

Programs: I would like to thank the representatives of all of the Divisions, Round Tables, and Committees who turned in Conference Program Requests. At this time, we have 40 programs internally developed. In addition to the presentations of many of our colleagues, we will be hearing from Karen Wannamaker, Professor Kathy Latrobe of the University of Oklahoma Library School, Professor

Uche Ewelukwa of the University of Arkansas Law School, Tom Wing of the Fort Smith National Historic Site and Brian Meadors, attorney in the Cedarville Harry Potter case. There will also be 6 programs presented by Amigos.

Publicity: Watch for updates on the 2003 Conference page on the ArLA website as the planning progresses.

Intellectual Freedom Committee, Kevin Barron: The committee met in April and made plans for the revision of the Intellectual Freedom manual published by ArLA and also discussed conference programs. In conjunction with the Conference Committee, we will sponsor a program regarding the Harry Potter case at Jessieville that was recently successfully completed. In conjunction with the Public Libraries division, we will sponsor a basic introduction to intellectual freedom in the library, dealing with such issues as how to handle police requests for information, censorship requests, and so on. We will also sponsor a roundtable discussion of the Patriot Act, involving a FBI agent, technology expert, and librarians. We are also recruiting more members for the committee.

Nominations committee, Loretta Edwards: Nominations for President-elect are Karen Russ and Art Lichtenstein. Marilyn Schulte has been nominated for ALA Representative.

Publications committee, Ron Russ: The publications committee recommends that *Arkansas Libraries* be changed from a bimonthly journal to a quarterly journal starting with the first issue of 2004. The ArLA manual will need to be changed to reflect the new frequency. The part impacted is Section 2 ALA Organization, Publication. Under this proposal the section would read, "*Arkansas Libraries* (a quarterly journal) is the official publication of the Arkansas Library Association."

For the past several years it has been increasingly difficult to get submissions for the journal. This has made it more difficult to put out a quality product. Current costs for *Arkansas Libraries* are approximately \$2300.00 (printing & mailing).

Benefits of changing publication: Reduced costs in producing the journal – a savings of approximately \$4600.00. Additional time to assemble issues. Opportunity to encourage the submission of more in-depth and/or scholarly articles. Additional time for soliciting articles/advertising.

Don Batson moved that the board approve the recommendations of the publications committee for a changed publication schedule. Ellen Johnson seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Work is continuing on the web page template. Some of the items that are on the template include: links back to the ArLA Main page, list of current officers (with contact information) and email link to unit's local webmaster (among others). Developing legal disclaimer and guidelines to deal with copyright issues for ArLA website. Added AASL web page to ArLA website. Working with CULD on their new division website.

Shawn Pierce has resigned as Editor of *Arkansas Libraries*. A search is going on for a new managing editor.

Public Relations, Karen Richardson (reported by Carolyn Ashcraft): Public Relations materials will be available at conference.

Scholarship committee, Jamie Melson: We have received 2 applications and the deadline is now only a week away. I've also ordered 100 calendars to be sold at the fall conference. If ALAPAC has to drop the basket auction, the scholarship committee will be very happy to pick up the basket and run with it.

Discussion was held on the matter of who the voting members of the board are and optimum board size. Regardless of whether everyone can vote, we accept discussion from everyone.

Sandy Olson reported on the outcome of inclusive language being used by the American Library Association after the COPE III congress, and encouraged the Arkansas Library Association to follow suit.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

The next meeting will be on August 1 at CALS East Room.