

Arkansas Library Association Executive Board Meeting of Friday, June 4, 2004

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

Board Members Present

President, Loretta Edwards
Vice President, Art Lichtenstein
Secretary/Treasurer, Sandy Olson
Past President, Dwain Gordon
SELA Representative, Ellen Johnson
Paraprofessional Division, Donette Smith
Reference Services Division, Jan Dixon
Resources & Technical Services Division, Mary Walker
Trustees Division, P.J. Williams

Others Present

Jennifer Coleman, Jamie Melson, Britt Anne Murphy, Barbie James, Dave Burdick, Ron Russ, Tracy Farmer, Necia Parker-Gibson, Kevin Barron, Carolyn Ashcraft, Diana Lott, and Chris Springer.

President Loretta Edwards called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. Birthday wishes were given to Art Lichtenstein. Art introduced Chris Springer, the new Information Literacy Instructor at UCA, and his guest. Minutes from the April 2, 2004 meeting were distributed. Art Lichtenstein moved that the minutes be accepted as presented, Ellen Johnson seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Loretta informed everyone that the Executive Committee did not meet in May because of schedule conflicts.

SELA Representative, Ellen Johnson: Received an announcement of the death of Charles Beard on 6/2/04. He was a longtime leader of libraries on the local, state, regional, and national level. Several years ago he and Carolyn Ashcraft made a tour of Arkansas libraries on behalf of library advocacy. He was one of SELA's staunchest supporters and will be missed greatly. SELA and North Carolina Library Association are working hard on their joint conference to be held Nov. 9-13, 2004 in Charlotte, NC.

AASL Division, Peggy Walters: Barbie James reported that the conference is planned on August 8th & 9th at the Hot Springs, Clarion Hotel.

Paraprofessional Division, Donette Smith: The month of May was a busy month for ALPS as it was the month of our yearly conference. The executive committee along with the conference committee met on May 10th to discuss last minute details. Our conference was held on the 17th, 18th, and 19th. On Tuesday the attendance was 106. According to the conference evaluations it was a very successful conference. We had 13 first time attendees, received 22 suggestions for a theme next year, and had several volunteers for next year's conference committee. The overall comments were very positive.

Public Libraries Division, Tracy Cline: We had 25 attend the Public Libraries Training at Crossett Public Library on May 6, 2004. Dollie Pruitt and staff at Crossett helped sponsor a really good program. Carolyn Ashcraft presented information on customer service. We are still working on a rotating schedule. The fall workshops will be announced later.

Reference Services Division, Jan Dixon: The division will now sponsor four programs at the annual conference, including two recently added: Business Reference Services Collection Issues: Strategies in Different Libraries; and Trends in Reference Services Across Libraries. For the update of the Guide to U.S. Map Resources, eight Arkansas Libraries completed the survey, more than for the previous years.

Resources & Technical Services Division, Mary Walker: The division will sponsor a session at conference titled: Cataloging books: tips for the beginner. This session will be an introductory to MARC fields and some basic cataloging tools. Kay Vincent of Amigos will present it.

New Members Roundtable, Diana Lott: We have added 11 new members since the April meeting.

Conference Committee, Frances Morgan: Dwain Gordon reported for Frances that the program is 99% set. Presenters will be providing most of their own equipment, there will be a shorter business meeting, and they are working on sponsorships.

Intellectual Freedom Committee, Kevin Barron: Will have a session at conference.

Legislative Committee, Dave Burdick: The Advocates for Arkansas Public Libraries group recently met for a 2-day seminar at Ferndale. AAPL exists to educate the public and the state's leaders about the value of public libraries in our communities. The current goal is to restore state aid to public libraries back to \$4.9 million per year. Public libraries are currently receiving \$2 million per year, although \$1.5 million is in category "B" this year, and it may not be fully funded.

Mary Dillard facilitated the Ferndale meetings. The meeting was held for the purpose of designing a plan to restore State Aid to the public libraries in Arkansas. One of the "action items" decided upon was that the group would establish a website to help disseminate information to other interested parties throughout the state. The website address is www.arkansaslibraries.org. Information about AAPL, the results of the Ferndale meeting, along with a link to the Himmel & Wilson Report is currently available. Soon AAPL will have a list-serve available for those who wish to keep informed about AAPL and its attempts to restore state aid to public libraries. Information about the list-serve will be posted on the website.

Jack Mulkey attended legislative day in Washington, DC on behalf of the association.

Membership Committee, Karen Richardson: The membership directory has been mailed. There are now 438 members and 28 Institutional members.

Nominating Committee, Art Lichtenstein: I have 2 nominations for Secretary/Treasurer (Jamie Melson has been nominated) and one for President elect. Nominations will continue being accepted up to 30 days before the election at conference. The President elect position must come from Schools.

Publications Committee, Ron Russ: Published the Summer 2004 Arkansas Libraries. Sent letters to potential advertisers for Arkansas Libraries. Added feedback form to the ArLA website. Modified the Executive Board Minutes webpage, so the minutes are now listed chronologically under year. Created webpage's for Public Libraries Division, Reference Services Division, Archive Ad Hoc Committee, Awards Committee, Constitution Committee, and Membership Committee. The publications committee recommends that we license the full content of Arkansas Libraries to EBSCO Publishing for current and future issues. Note: this agreement would be non-exclusive and would allow us to retain copyright. Benefits from licensing agreement would include greater exposure for our publication, added traffic to our website, and a small quarterly royalty check (currently estimated at \$25/quarter). This amount would grow as the amount of data accrues. Money can be used to help offset costs of printing the journal. The publications committee will give the contract to Jennifer Coleman to have the association attorney look over. Jennifer will come back to the board next meeting with recommendations.

PR Committee, Amanda Moore: Photos were passed around depicting the booth at the Literature Festival. The booth was very popular.

Scholarship Committee, Carolyn Ashcraft: Carolyn responded to the request from the Educational Assistance Council for information on the ArLA Scholarship. The Scholarship committee met on April 7th and has agreed upon a theme "40 in '04" as a special campaign to raise funds for the Scholarship Award. Letters will be sent to former scholarship recipients seeking information on their library service since receiving the award as well as asking them to contribute to the scholarship fund. The committee will present a program at the fall conference. In addition, the committee members are working on obtaining several special prizes that can be awarded during the conference. Individuals will receive one ticket for each \$5 contributed.

The deadline for the submission of the applications for the scholarship was set at September 1st. This information has been provided on the website and in the journal.

Arkansas Libraries, Necia Parker-Gibson: Would like to remind everyone that the journal is just 36 pages per issue, and everything that is submitted may not be able to be published. Would like to thank everyone for the encouragement and hard work of the staff.

Ad Hoc Archives Creation Committee, Karen Russ: Since the creation of the committee, we have been discussing four main items: 1. The location of the Archives (the Butler Center at CALS has been approached to serve as the official archive site). 2. The creation of an Archivist position within the Association (elected or appointed, term of office, location in the chair of command; publications committee, free-standing, board

position-voting or non-voting). 3. Possible types of materials that will be included in the Archives (all issues of Arkansas Libraries, minutes of board meetings, membership directories, programs for annual and division conferences, periodic snap shots of the web page). 4. The frequency with which materials will be collected and presented to the holding institution. The committee welcomes comments/suggestions about the process, particularly items that should be included in the Archives. Comments can be sent to Karen Russ, Chair at kmruss@ualr.edu.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

The next meeting will be held August 6, 2004 at CALS in the East Room.