

Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting, Feb 4, 2005

Those present were: Art Lichtenstein, President; Diane Hughes, Vice-President; Jamie Melson, Secretary/Treasurer; Loretta Edwards, Past President; Barbie James, Constitution Chair; Jil' Lana Heard, AASL Chair; Kareen Turner, ALPS Chair; Bob Razer, Archives Chair; Mary Walker, Technical Services Chair; Renee LeBeau-Ford, Conference Chair; Britt Anne Murphy, Associate Editor; Kaye Talley, Scholarship Chair; Jerrie Townsend, Two-Year College Chair; Lynn Calhoun, Information Technology Chair; Marilyn Schulte, ALA Councilor; Ellen Johnson, SELA Councilor; Jennifer Coleman, Executive Director; Lisa Johnson, Public Libraries Vice-Chair.

President Art Lichtenstein called the meeting to order at 10:15. Meeting was delayed due to traffic problems with President Bush in town.

The minutes from the December meeting were reviewed. Marilyn Schulte moved to approve the minutes. Ellen Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jennifer Coleman presented the financial report. Jennifer recommended that the Division reports be watched carefully. Be sure to write down total income and expenses. Diane Hughes moved to approve the financial report. Kareen Turner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

In lieu of the President's Report at this time in the meeting, Art gave the floor to Jennifer Coleman. Jennifer explained to everyone her reasons for wanting to pass on her responsibilities to someone else, whether it's another firm or an individual person. She has been the Executive Director since 1996. Art expressed his gratitude to Jennifer for what Coleman Management has done for the association and will discuss a strategy for where to go from here under the new business section of the meeting.

Reports:

SELA Councilor—Ellen Johnson: This is a great time to join the Southeastern Library Association (SELA), our regional library association. Committee assignments are being made, and it is possible to be active in SELA whether you travel or not. However, since the next joint conference with a member state will be in Memphis (April 5-7, 2006), there should be an opportunity for more of our members to attend, and it should be an excellent conference. (Membership forms were passed out at the board meeting to use/share). This should also be a good time to run a membership form and information in Arkansas Libraries. Additional information and forms are available on the SELA website (<http://sela.jsu.edu>).

ALA Councilor—Marilyn Schulte: see printed report.

AASL Division—Jil' Lana Heard: The AASL Summer Conference will be held July 31-Aug. 1 at Arkansas Tech. University. The dinner speaker will be Mr. Ken Stamatis from Harding University speaking about "Literacy Lab and the School Library Media Specialist". The dinner will be in the East Dining Room at Arkansas Tech. with the rest of the conference being held in the Ross Pendergraft Library. We are currently forming committees and preparing a preliminary budget. Our application for national AASL affiliation has been submitted. Bound to Stay Bound Books contacted me and is offering two \$500 scholarships for two AASL members to use to attend the National Conference

in the Fall held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Details and forms are being mailed to me and then I will get the forms out to the membership to submit.

College and University Division—Donna Daniels: no report.

Paraprofessionals (ALPS) Division—Kareen Turner: We held our Leadership Exchange on Jan. 7, 2005 at Torreyson Library, University of Central Arkansas, Conway. The new officers for the Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals are as follows: Chair—Kareen Turner, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Chair-Elect—Brenda Van Dusen, National Park Community College, Hot Springs; Secretary/Treasurer—Lynaire Hartsell, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; and Past Chair—Donette Smith, North Arkansas College, Harrison. Due to Jamie Melson's resignation from the ALPS Executive Council, Betty Strmiska and Sandra Hooper, both from UCA, have volunteered to share Region III Central. The conference committee met after the Leadership Exchange. We have gotten our teaser postcards done and they will go out this weekend for our Spring Conference in Eureka Springs May 16-18. We have our concurrent sessions filled and are beginning to prepare the registration forms and brochures for the same conference.

Public Libraries Division—Lisa Johnson sitting in for Phyllis: no report.

Reference Services Division—Laura Downing: no report.

Resource & Technical Services Division—Mary Walker: no report.

Special Libraries Division—Betsey Martin: no report.

Trustees Division—Donna MacDonald: no report.

Information Technology Roundtable—Lynn Calhoun: no report

Children's Services Roundtable—Ruth Hyatt: A State Library survey of Children's and YA programming state wide has given our roundtable the names and current programming status of the children's and youth staff at most of our libraries. We will be using this information to hunt them down and secure their increased participation in the roundtable and other co-operative opportunities—by any means possible, including confectionary. We are hopeful that increased communication among programmers for Children and YA will lead to larger numbers participating in the roundtable, in the conference and the Association. I know that it will improve the quality of programming and services for children and YA's statewide.

Two-Year Colleges Roundtable—Jerrie Townsend: no report

Government Documents Roundtable-- ? : no report.

New Members Roundtable-- ? : no report.

At this point in the meeting, since there were only two Roundtable chairpersons present, Jerrie Townsend was chosen to be the primary vote for the Roundtables with Lynn Calhoun being the secondary if Jerrie is not ever present.

Archives Committee—Bob Razer: Contact is being made with members of the 2004 Executive Board to request their Board documents and any Division or Committee papers as applicable for the Archives. Discussions are underway with the Executive Director's office to transfer ArLA records stored in the office (but no longer needed by the office for current operations) to the Archives.

Awards Committee—Sandy Olson: no report.

Conference Committee—Renee LeBeau-Ford: The Conference Committee is forming and should have their first meeting shortly. At the last Executive Board meeting there was much discussion about the conference. We will be working with one of those ideas to make the conference more of an “instructional/educational/workshop” kind of event. The vendors have not been especially happy the last few years and we will explore ways of allowing the vendors/exhibits to be more a part of our conference. We are looking into having an event at the Clinton Presidential Center. All and any suggestions and comments will be accepted.

Constitution Committee—Barbie James: no report.

Executive Committee—Art Lichtenstein: already given.

Finance Committee—Jamie Melson: already given.

Intellectual Freedom Committee—Kevin Barron: no report.

Legislative Committee—Dave Burdick: Bob Razer gave a brief update on some of the bills that are currently sitting in the state legislature. There are reports of possibly increasing state aid to public libraries by restoring 25% of the previously 50% cut to public libraries; one bill is dealing with the intellectual freedom issue. Some discussion from the board followed.

Membership Committee—Karen Richardson: Barbie James gave a brief report for Karen. Karen has mailed out the membership forms and letters.

Nominating Committee—Diane Hughes: She let everyone know that she is soliciting names from the Public Libraries field for Vice-President/President-Elect next year.

Publications Committee-- ? : no report

Public Relations—Amanda Moore: Sent report asking: Do we want to have a booth again at the Arkansas Literary Festival? If so, I'll pay the expenses. If we do want a booth, does anyone have any brilliant ideas for a theme? Last year, we simply had a photographic collage of libraries from around the state. The Festival is April 14-16.

At this point the board voted to have a booth at the Arkansas Literary Festival. Jerrie Townsend moved with a second from Marilyn Schulte. Motion carried. It was also voted to reimburse Amanda up to \$100 for the booth rental. One person had an idea of Turn off the TV, Read a Book! but the board was really just going to leave that up to Amanda since it was so successful last year. It was also discussed among the board members that since people were offering to give money last year, if we could find some cheap library related theme t-shirts, those would probably sell easily.

Scholarship Committee—Kaye Talley: no report.

Arkansas Libraries Managing Editor—Necia Parker-Gibson: Sent report stating that the Spring issue is gone to the printer but she would really like to stress the deadlines for future issues.

Arkansas Libraries Associate Editor—Britt Anne Murphy: no report.

Website—Ron Russ: Sent report asking for \$170.00 for the ArLA Website this year. The bill for the web-hosted account was due in January and has been paid. The breakdown of the \$170.00 was \$120.00 for the web-hosted account and \$50.00 for the 3 domains.

Unfinished Business—none

New Business—Art discussed the different options for finding a replacement for Coleman Management and then gave the board the option that the Executive Committee recommended. Bob Razer recommended that Sherrie Walker also be contacted since she is a previous Executive Director of the Association. The board discussed other areas that Coleman has covered that will have to be discussed with the new executive director. Art will chair the search committee along with Bob Razer and Renee LeBeau-Ford. Jil' Lana Heard moved with a second from Marilyn Schulte for Art to contact Sherrie Walker to gauge her interest and, if agreeable, will talk with the search committee and negotiate duties and salary. If not, then the search committee will proceed to the next step to conduct a full-blown search. Motion passed.

At this point, since some members were not aware of Jennifer's resignation before the meeting, Art read Jennifer's letter of resignation to the board.

Diane Hughes moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:50, Kareen Turner seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Melson
Secretary/Treasurer