

Arkansas Library Association Board Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2017
Laman Library, Little Rock, AR

1. President David Eckert called mee.ng to Order at 1:00pm.
2. Lynn Valetutti distributed the minutes from the 12/02/16 for approval. Ron Russ called attention to section 6 that “google” was misspelled and needed revision. David Eckert made a motion to approve the minutes and Rebecka Virden seconded it.
3. Valetutti distributed the most up-to-date 2016 Budget, which ended at December 2, 2016. The administrator did not make the final figures available yet.
4. ALA Councilor, Lacy Wolfe gave updates from the ALA Winter mee.ng. She announced that the ALA Executive Director was retiring and they conducted a vote to see if this replacement for this position required a MLIS degree. It was determined that a MLIS was required for the Executive Director position.
5. Executive administrator report – No report due to Ms. Hampel’s absence.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Rebecka Virden, ArLA Conference Chair, circulated copies of the 2017 ArLA Conference schedule. The conference will offer 56 sessions to participants in eight of the salon rooms.

Dwain Gordon, Awards Committee Chair, announced the names of the new committee members and inquired if the board needed to approve their appointments. It was determined that board approval was not necessary.

Hadi Dudley, Legislative Committee, discussed several proposed bills that effect library patrons and funding for schools. House Bill 1151 was highlighted which focused on special elections and House Bill 1111 which dealt with state aid to public libraries. House Bill 1111 had been submitted and approved and was waiting the governor’s signature. Please refer to report for full details of bills. Legislative Day scheduled for May 1 and 2, 2017 in Washington D.C.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Executive Administrator contract renewal President David Eckert called an Executive Session to order and non-board members left the room. Points addressing the concerns of our present executive administrator along with the results of her 2016 performance survey were distributed. There was discussion about the lack of good accounting practices, checks and balances, and inability to have accurate financials. There has been no improvement in her performance since the 2016 survey, which had been, used as a counseling tool. David Eckert motion to not renew the executive administrator’s contract. Rebecka Virden seconded it. The board came out of executive session and non-board members reconvened with group.

b. 2017 ALPS Conference Valetutti circulated conference financial projections along with reasons to not have a separate conference. There were concerns that not everyone would be able to attend due to building coverage issues. President Eckert stressed the need to be financially solvent and unified. Valetutti distributed another document that indicated the profit from running all three conferences would only yield \$ 468.00. David Eckert called for a motion to have only one conference. David Sesser made the first motion and Rebecka Virden seconded it. All were in favor except Devona Pendergrass.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. 2017 Budget Valetutti distributed a current summary of the checking account balance and transactions and the new proposed budget. There was discussion over accounting errors in the ledger. In reviewing invoices to be paid, Hadi Dudley noted that the Emerging Leader should only get \$1000 per conference. Bentonville Library has already paid for her trip so they will submit receipts for the \$1,000 reimbursement. Dwain Gordon made a motion to accept the 2017 proposed budget. Ron Russ seconded it. All were in favor except Devona Pendergrass.

b. Other New Business David Eckert presented two management companies: Best and Prime Management for review to replace the function of the executive administrator. There was discussion about the importance of moving forward quickly due to time constraints. After some discussion, the board decided to pursue Best Management Company in Little Rock since they were in state and did not have ala carte pricing. The cost of services with Best Management was \$3100 a month, which the board felt, was high. David already left a message to try to negotiate a lower rate. Lynn Valetutti made a motion to allow David to make an offer to Best Management for \$2800. Britt Murphy seconded it. Dwain Gordon made a second motion to allow David to offer up to \$3000 a month. Hadi Dudley seconded it. All were in favor of both motions.

Carol Coffey made a motion to change the name of the Informational Technology Committee to the Digital Services Roundtable. Devona Pendergrass seconded it.

9. Correspondence/Announcements –

Britt Murphy announced that she hired Janice Weddle as their Outreach and Instructional Librarian. She still has one open vacancy.

The mee.ng concluded at 2:50pm.

Lauren Robertson made a motion to adjourn and Ron Russ seconded it.