Arkansas Library Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 13, 2012
Laman Public Library, North Little Rock, AR

Present: Jim Robb, Michael Strickland, Shawn Pierce, Trish Miller, Bill Parton, Carol Hanan, Devona Pendergrass, Jamie Melson, Kara Propes, Latonya Jones, Jon Goodell, Carol Coffey, Hadi Dudley, Ashley Parker, Whitney Ivy, Britt Ann Murphy, Linda Evans, Holly Mercer and Lynda Hampel

Call to Order: President Jim Robb called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was established. Robb noticed a few new faces and asked all board members to introduce themselves to each other.

Roll Call and Minutes: The minutes were distributed. Corrections were noted. Melson made a motion that the previous meetings minutes with corrections be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

President’s Report/Executive Committee, Jim Robb:
President Robb reported that there was a rather short Executive Committee meeting earlier this morning. He appreciated all of the great ideas that were expressed and gathered at the board retreat. The retreat helped create a list of potential projects and activities. Several board members and the committees will be very busy in the months ahead. Robb noted there were 26 members on the IT/Web page Committee.

On the budget, Robb said they were trying to make some changes in the way ArLA budget figures were reported. He noted some years there were surpluses and other years there were deficits. He was hoping to come up with a more balanced system. Robb’s philosophy was to estimate expenses high and income low. He asked the committee to realize that it had more money than simply this year’s to work with. That excesses from some years can be used to cover years with losses.

ALA Councilor Report, Ron Russ:
Russ attended a webinar on MembershipDirect, which is designed to help chapters manage renewals, reinstatements, and create welcome kits. The cost subsidy by ALA is still to be determined. Russ submitted a conference program to Holly Mercer for the ArLA Annual Conference in October. He also had ALA literature sent to Devona Pendergrass for the AAIM and AASL conferences.

SELA Representative Report, Kevin Barron:
No Report.

Executive Administrator Report, Lynda Hampel:
Hampel provided the board with three financial reports. The trial balance provides an overall picture of ArLA’s cash and other assets. The CD total is the same as it was in
February $65,435. AASL and ALPS have plus side balances and any shortages would be covered from their current funds. The scholarship CD has over $30,000 in it. As of April, ArLA's regular operating checking account balance is $102,894.

Hampel said the newly Revised Budget form that committee members had before them combined all the previous classes and simplified them into a smaller number of classes.

Hampel stated the third budget form has also been revised and simplified. It shows focuses more on showing the expenses as they compare to the money allotted for each category.

Division Reports:

AASL, Tracy McAllister:
1. Request – If someone would like to make a flier about the ArLA conference, McAllister would be happy to have those at the AASL table at AAIM. OR, you can always provide enough to be placed in the bags so that every attendee has information about this organization promoting and explaining membership. If we have ArLA ink pens or something else to put in those bags that would also be good. The AAIM conference is April 22-24, 2012.

2. Request – each year AASL give away a free ArLA membership at AAIM.

3. Request – each year at AAIM Conference give away a free conference registration fee to AASL.

4. Request – To change the name of Arkansas Association of School Librarians to Arkansas School Librarians Association. Here's why: AASL currently can stand for American, or Arkansas, Association of School Librarians. This can be very confusing for people when you are trying to distinguish between the two organizations.

Some activities since the last report:
AASL Conference Update- Erin Shaw, Conference chair, is doing a great job putting things in place for the school librarians' conference. Dates of the Conference are July 28, 29, 30 at Ozark Conference Center in Eureka Springs. Last year we started a Saturday night Dutch treat round table discussion at a local restaurant with approximately 25 SLMS attending to discuss issues within the library. Shirley Featherolf, with the ADE was in attendance and was very informative. We felt it was also good for her to hear from the school librarians their concerns on a more personal level since she is our liaison with the
Department of Education. This year will be our second Saturday night event. Carl Harvey, past president of American Association of School Librarians will be the Sunday night Keynote.

We have filed our papers for re-affiliation with the American Association of School Librarians. This paper work has to be done periodically to keep our affiliation.

McAllister was thankful to AAIM for advertising the conference and also promoting the membership in ArLA. They allowed her to post several times about the conference and the membership in ArLA, ALA and AASL. AAIM contacted her after the conference to write a review article for the journal. Erin Shaw has already been contacted and another article will be coming publicizing the 2012 AASL Conference. AAIM also provides a table for AASL free of charge at their conference for us to promote AASL and ArLA. I believe this year we will also have information at the table thanks to Ron Russ.

ALPS, LaTonya Jones:
The group is working hard and registrations, brochures for the upcoming ALPS Conference have already been mailed out and information posted on the website.

College & Universities, Carol Hanan:
No Report

Public Libraries & Trustees, Ashley Parker:
We have semi-finalized plans for a pre-conference at ArLA this year. We are going to be hosting a Genealogy for Beginners Workshop at ArLA. It will be designed for librarians who want to be able to answer at least basic genealogy questions or point them to some resources, even if they have no background in genealogy, they can use to help library users with genealogical questions. We will be providing transportation to and from the hotel to the Shiloh Museum. They will be providing the program and a tour of the museum after the program. The reason we decided to provide transportation was because there was a question about parking and people having problems finding the museum. It will be limited to 20 people due to space and will require $35 to reserve a spot. Charging for the workshop the committee hopes to prevent people saying they will show up and then not showing up and making sure all of the spots are filled. We will also be providing a sack lunch as well. I have been coordinating with my vice-chair and she will coordinate that event. She actually lives and works in the area. Parker expects her to do the follow-up.

Parker said she recently returned from a meeting in Houston, Texas where she was one of two Arkansas representatives appointed to serve on the National Network of Libraries of Medicine of the South Central Region. They have established a public library
advisory council to help them in their mission which is to advance the progress of medicine through public health by improving access to health information. It's a five state region. Each state is represented by the State Librarian and one other librarian in the state. Parker and, State Librarian, Carolyn Ashcraft attended the meeting. It was great meeting with lots of ideas. The first meeting primarily dealt with the needs of public libraries in general and then they discussed needs specific to Arkansas. They will be meeting primarily once a year with follow-up in between over the next three years. They gave information about grant opportunities and she can forward everyone the flyer they gave them. But they also offer free webinars that are train the trainer style. Some of them are not even directly related to health information. Some are technology oriented. They are going to take the ideas and plan on ways to improve their outreach to public libraries.

The South Central Region has more members than the other regions with a higher focus on serving public libraries. Libraries can join and get a free 5-year membership and access to lots of free health information. They will also provide speakers and trainers for workshops for free. They would pay the travel and other expenses while trainers provided training on databases such as PUBMED.

They also offer a fee-based Public Health Information certification.

Reference & Instruction Services, Amber Wilson:
No Report.

Resource & Technical Services, Linda Evans:
Resources and Technical Services Division will sponsor a program on Electronic Resource Management (ERM) at the Fall conference. We will have a panel of librarians that will give a presentation on how electronic resources are managed in their libraries. Discussion from the floor will also be part of the program. Anyone interested on being on the panel should contact Linda Evans.

The Information Technology Round Table and the Resources and Technical Division are also considering having a joint meeting and an additional program at the annual conference this fall. A program on the RDA and the new cataloging standards is being considered.

Special Libraries, Debbie Hall:
No Report

Roundtable Reports:

Young Adult Services Roundtable, Kara Propes:
The Youth Services Round Table has gotten off to a slow start. I have created a Facebook fan page in hopes of getting more people involved. We now have 7 likes. I would like to get the word out about the page so that we can start communication on