

**Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Friday, April 22, 2016 (1:00pm)
Laman Library, North Little Rock, AR**

The meeting was called to order by President-Elect David Eckert at 1:05 p.m.

Present:

Executive committee: David Eckert, President-Elect; Nicole Stroud, Secretary; Jerrie Townsend, Past President; ALA Councilor, Lacy Wolfe

Executive administrator: Lynda Hampel

Division chairs: Sloan Powell, ArASL; Lisa Holiman, ALPS; Britt Murphy, CULD; Johnice Dominick, Public Libraries; Pamela Meridith, Reference Services; Janice Weddle, Special Libraries

Round Table chairs: Carol Coffey, Information Technology; Jay Strickland, Two Year Colleges; Brett Williams, Youth Services

Committee Chairs: Amber Gregory, Awards; Shawn Manis, Conference; Dwain Gordon, Future Conference Site; Lauren Drittler, Constitution; Anna Bates, Intellectual Freedom; Britt Murphy, Journal Editor; Rebecca Rasnic, Marketing; Carol Hanan, Membership; Cassandra Barnett, Public Relations; Debbie Hall, Scholarship; Ron Russ, Web Services

Visitors: Joanna Delavan, Rebeka Virden, Tammie Evans

Johnice Dominick moved to approve Feb 2016 minutes with corrections suggested by Dwain Gordon (correct spelling of "Stroud" / write the name of Future Conference Site committee in full). Janice Weddle seconded. Approved unanimously.

Executive Board Reports

ALA Councilor Report

Lacy has made arrangements to attend ALA in June. She also contacted Don Wood, ALA Chapter Relations Office Program Officer, in regards to the ArLA constitution changes. His recommendations were passed along to Lauren Drittler, Chair of the ArLA Constitution committee.

Executive Administrator Report

Lynda is assisting ALPS / ArASL as they gear up for their conferences. She brought padfolios and paperweights from previous conferences and offered them to anyone who needs gifts for a special meeting or guest.

Financial Report

Mindy noted that we are still ahead of where we were in memberships last year, but there will probably be a drop off toward the end of this year. Many people renewed early at the request of President Calhoun.

The scholarship committee already has half as much as we collected in all of last year. The fund balance is going up. She reminded that we be cognizant of budget issues as we approach our annual conference. The budget looks good now but we are nearing spending season. (See Mindy's report attached.)

Consent Agenda

President-elect Eckert reminded that pursuant to the consent agenda established by President Calhoun, we will not discuss reports that are informational only.

A motion to accept all the informational reports was made by Jerry Townsend and seconded by Carol Coffey. Approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

2016 Budget

Reference and instruction services request for conference funds: President-elect Eckert passed along President Calhoun's suggestion that requests for conference funds from committees, round tables and divisions should be directed through the conference committee in the future, rather than to the whole board / general budget. Pamela met with RISD and they decided to drop the request from \$1200 to \$506. The conference committee will handle their request.

Editorial Journal Ad Increase

Britt remains in favor of a journal ad increase (from \$125 to \$200). At our February meeting, Britt asked for the support of the public relations committee to help bring in ad revenue. Lynda did ad pricing research recently and learned that the Arkansas Libraries rate is a bargain, comparatively.

Official ArLA Logo

President-elect Eckert's marketing department produced six possible new logos. After some discussion about which logo is preferred, it was decided to keep logos #1 and #3, ask for changes to #5, and bring back for a vote at the June meeting. (See proposed logos attached.)

NEW BUSINESS

ArLA Support for Carla Hayden (nominee for Librarian of Congress)

Pursuant to ALA's request, 49 state library associations so far have voiced formal support of Carla Hayden's nomination for Librarian of Congress. A motion for ArLA to sign the letter of official support of Ms. Hayden was made by Debbie Hall and seconded by Dwain Gordon. Unanimously approved.

Conference budget requests

This issue was discussed under old business. There is no need for a vote. Please note that committee/round table/division budget requests will go through the conference committee from now on.

E-Voting

President-elect Eckert noted that if we have to choose between e-voting and paper voting; we can't do a combo. He offered his library's surveymonkey.com account for e-voting purposes for this year. This would allow ArLA to give it a trial run before spending any money. One of his staff members would facilitate setting up the ballot/s. His library pays \$228 per year for the select plan. We can have

computers available at our annual conference so people can vote for ArLA officers/constitution changes on site if they didn't have an opportunity to vote on their own computers.

Additional details about surveymonkey:

- When a vote is conducted, everyone gets a link via email. Once you click on the link you have to vote; you can't leave and return to the voting site. Surveymonkey sends individual links to each person, so it is impossible to vote twice with one link.
- You can set a deadline for when voting ends.
- Lynda would upload a list of eligible voters' email addresses to survey monkey.
- It was suggested that all candidate bios and issues would be detailed in the vote email, because once you click to vote you can't go to a new browser window to look up info about candidates. Once you leave the surveymonkey site you can't return.
- Surveymonkey counts votes automatically.
- It was suggested that ArLA could pay for the service for just one month (leading up to conference) instead of paying for the whole year. President-elect Eckert mentioned that we may want to use it for a variety of votes throughout the year, for example, board voting. Other potential uses suggested: annual member surveys and conference evaluations.
- Ron Russ asked if the current constitution would prohibit e-voting for any reason. The constitution was reviewed, and it was discussed that e-voting could be considered "absentee voting" as described in the constitution.
- With regards to voting during the annual conference, Debbie Hall mentioned that the state library has laptops that can be used. It was also suggested that tablets could be used for conference e-voting.
- Lynda asked for someone to write up how e-voting will work, so she and Shawn can include this information on conference registration forms.

A motion to move toward electronic voting for 2016 was made by Dwain Gordon and seconded by Britt Murphy. Unanimously approved.

College & University proposed conference activities

Britt Murphy stood in for Philippe Van Houtte today. At the recent CULD meeting, members discussed bringing Ann Campion Riley to the annual conference, at a cost of \$750. CULD is also interested in hosting a preconference on the new ACRL framework. This is a very important issue at present. It could be a big draw for getting academic librarians to the annual conference, including out of state librarians. Someone from ACRL would conduct the workshop at a cost of \$2500 plus travel/lodging. ARKLink may be willing to subsidize the cost. CULD would charge attendees to cover preconference costs not covered by sponsors.

The quoted cost is based on an expected audience of 40 or less, which would require only 1 trainer. Lynda said conference rooms at the Marriott are set up for 30 people, so we may have to negotiate for bigger space. If it would cost too much to hold this event at the Marriott, Britt suggested moving it to a local library. It was also suggested to start the training later in the morning on Saturday (Nov. 12) so people don't have to spend Friday night at the hotel.

Cassandra suggested opening the event up to high school librarians. Even though they have their own framework/standards, it would be helpful for high school librarians to learn more about the college framework to foster relationships.

President-elect Eckert suggested that continued discussion be directed to the conference committee.

Reference and Instruction Services Division: Dropbox

RISD met on Friday. They discussed using Dropbox for their records. They would like to create a RISD folder under the ArLA Master. It was agreed to allow subfolders for committees/round tables/divisions who want one. Nicole offered to assist RISD if there are any questions.

Constitution Updates

Lauren stated that per AR nonprofit law, we need to operate under “bylaws” rather than a “constitution.” So, the document the constitution committee is drafting will ultimately be renamed bylaws.

Debbie Hall suggested deleting the sentence “votes may be cast in person or at annual conference” to eliminate any conflict with e-voting. Any other suggestions/concerns can be forwarded to Lauren Drittler.

Membership

Carol reported that as of Wednesday there are 522 members, 100 of which are new members. Lynda explained why her membership list is longer than 522; some whose memberships have just expired but who are likely to renew by conference are not deleted from her list. Concern was voiced about membership numbers dropping off this year, because it is believed Jud Copeland paid for quite a few of his students to be new members. It's unclear how many of his students may have joined, or how many of these might renew on their own.

Flood plain legislative issue

Nicole read portions of an email from John Paul Myrick regarding special language added to HB1052 that would prohibit libraries from being located in flood plains.

Cross Trustees:

I learned early this morning from my sources in Little Rock that Senator Ronald Caldwell has introduced an amendment to House Bill 1052, the bill which funds the Arkansas State Library and provides us with our state aid. His amendment would change the Arkansas Code to prohibit libraries from being located in flood plains. A copy of his legislation is attached.

I am very upset over this motion, and not only because it is directed at us specifically. It changes library law for the entire state as a whole. If you think about eastern Arkansas, many of the cities and towns lie below the 100 year flood plain. This would prevent those cities/towns from ever doing anything with their libraries if they wanted to or had to move. The amendment does not even define floodplain, whether it is the 100 year floodplain, the 500 year floodplain, or what. I am upset that this is not the normal means for changing the Arkansas Code, and that it is tacked onto a funding bill being considered during this fiscal session (not during a regular session, when it would be the appropriate time to change the law). I am upset that this was only given to the Special Language Subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Budget just yesterday. I am upset that Caldwell did not consult with myself, his local Library Board, or with State Library officials on this matter. I am also upset that it contains language which, in such situations, takes the placement of libraries out of the hands of local boards, Quorum Courts, and City Councils and puts it in the hands of the state's Legislative Council. It is obviously a “back door” means of killing the Wynne library project.

I am making attempts to contact other legislators, insiders with political pull, the Arkansas Library Association, the Association of Arkansas Public Libraries and others that might can help with this matter. As I understand it, this action can be knocked down by the full Budget Committee when this bill is considered, or it could be line-item vetoed by Governor Hutchinson. I imagine the Arkansas Association of Counties, the League of Municipalities, and the lobbying groups of architects and the construction industry is not going to be happy to hear about it as well.

I have received a call from the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette in relation to this matter seeking comment. I will very cautiously comment tomorrow, stating that I am dismayed in that other libraries will be impacted, and sad that Senator Caldwell chose not to discuss this matter with us, considering that means of mitigating any flooding issues have already been identified and are in the works, including the possibility of substantial funding from the federal government to correct the matter.

This email is to apprise you of the situation. Caldwell is your Senator, and I will leave it up to you as to how you address the situation. I imagine many in the community will be very upset to learn of his actions. I will report more to you as I know more.

JP

Mindy explained that "special language" is a way to carry forward unspent state aid. It is a typical backdoor. Since funding has to be done every year, legislators will attach this "special language" to a funding bill and it by proxy becomes law. It's a tool legislators use all the time, but it is a way of getting a change through without going through the full legislative process. Once things come out of committee they really don't get put back in again

President-elect Eckert suggested asking Hadi to draft a statement and/or possibly get something out on Engage so we can easily contact our legislators about this issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Pamela Meridith shared that the Reference and Instruction Services Division meeting last Friday was a great success. There were 20 attendees and a great guest speaker. The reference division is active and ongoing.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerrie Townsend and seconded by Debbie Hall.

The meeting was adjourned by President-Elect Eckert at 2:21 p.m.