

MOUNTAIN PLAINS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1999  
ADAMS MARK HOTEL, DENVER, CO

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In Attendance: Marilyn Hinshaw, President; Linda Rea, Vice President; Susan Awe, Recording Secretary; David Oberhelman, New Members Roundtable; Louise Treff-Gangler, Colorado; Melody Kuehn, North Dakota; Linda McCleary, Arizona; Paula Duffy, Montana; Brian A. Greene, Electronic Communications; Betty Dance, Utah; Verne Haselwood, Nebraska; Joe Edelen, Executive Secretary; Jane Hatch, State Agency, Cooperatives & Systems; Kathy Kaya, Academic; Dora Biblarz, Continuing Education; Rosario Garza, Tech Services; Judy Zelenski, PR/Membership; Alice Meister, Intellectual Freedom; Vicki Nozero, Gov Docs; Ara Anderson, Wyoming; Dana W. R. Boden, Preservation; Marquita Boehnke, Children's; Linda Deacy, Nevada.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- Welcome and Introductions: At 9:10 President Marilyn Hinshaw called the meeting to order. Marilyn welcomed everyone and asked that new representatives introduce themselves.
- Marilyn then asked for amendments to the Agenda. Hinshaw asked permission to move Judy Zelenski's report from the Membership Committee up to after the Vice President's report.
- The minutes of the September 18, 1999, Board Meeting were examined. After one change, Hatch moved and Kuehn seconded a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Approved. A short discussion on the possibility of amending and finalizing board meeting minutes by email was begun and will continue in 2000.

2. Officer's Reports

- President's Report: Hinshaw encouraged attendees to put more articles in the MPLA Newsletter and to encourage colleagues to write for the newsletter. Deadlines will be posted on both MPLA listservs. She presented a written report to the Board.
- Vice President's Report: In conjunction with Haselwood, Rea presented an update and a detailed Timeline prepared by the Convention Coordinator for the MPLA/NLA/NEMA Tri-Conference 2000. Program Proposal forms were passed around and are due by March 17, 2000. The Conference will take place at the Holiday Inn in Omaha, October 25-27. A convention website is under development at <http://reinert.creighton.edu/triconf>. Linda also presented a written report.
- Committee Report: Judy Zelenski for the PR/Membership Committee led a brainstorming session concerning why people join MPLA, why membership is declining, ideas for promoting membership, etc. Board members were each asked to select their three top ideas before the end of the meeting. (See Announcements).

3. Business

- Financial Report: Joe presented a written financial report current through November 30 on the new MPLA stationery with navy blue ink. Discussion followed. Hatch made a motion to accept the financial report as presented and Oberhelman second. Approved.
  - 2000 Budget: Joe also submitted the 2000 budget as prepared by Roann Masterson, Past President. This budget precipitated discussion of the staff evaluation process for MPLA. Kuehn made a motion to deal with the evaluations of staff at the October 2000 conference and thereafter to continue with fall evaluations as an annual evaluation process. Hatch seconded. Approved. This action will involve a change in the Manual of Procedure which will be considered at the next Board meeting. Awe made a motion to accept the 2000 budget as presented and Kuehn seconded. Approved. Haselwood moved that the 5% raise authorized for the Executive Secretary in June, 1999, be retroactive to January, 1999. Kuehn seconded. After discussion, Hatch called the question. Approved. Kuehn moved that the 5% raise that was approved after the June evaluation process be paid to the Newsletter Editor retroactively to January, 1999 as well. Anderson seconded. Approved.
  - CHANGE IN AGENDA: Continuing Education Committee, Dora Biblarz, needed to give her report before leaving. Biblarz initiated discussion by asking the Board to help set priorities for the group. Mentoring, marketing continuing education opportunities available in the region, and programs at conferences along with suggested ways to proceed were identified by the Board members.
  - My Cause.com Report: See written report. Slow-starting but still hopeful that members will and have done their shopping here. Email reminders going out.
  - PNLA Suggestion for a Joint Conference: Hinshaw asked the Board to consider a joint conference with the Pacific Northwest Library Association in 2008 or 2010. This discussion will continue at future meetings. Greene added that their web address is: <http://www.pnla.org>
4. General Reports
- Executive Secretary, Joe Edelen: Edelen reported that we have many t-shirts, polo shirts, and caps in storage. He also handed out an updated MPLA Officers' Directory.
  - Newsletter Editor, Heidi N. Duggan: No report.
5. Committee Reports
- Intellectual Freedom (IF) Committee: Alice Meister, co-chair, asked the Board to agree on the importance of sharing IF information and presented a Course of Action for Year One draft. Board members agreed that IF communications are essential. It was suggested that the MPLA-L listserv and website as well as the MPLA Newsletter be used to communicate with members rather than a separate print newsletter or handbook. The idea of an IF speaker at the annual conference was also welcomed. Rea moved to commend Jim Heckel and the IF Committee for all their work in making MPLA aware of IF issues this year. Hatch seconded. Approved.
6. Section Reports
- New Members Round Table: Oberhelman reported plans for NMRT hosting a social gathering, a formal breakfast meeting, a possible program, all in Omaha,

and possibly a listserv. A roommate matching service was also suggested. Written report also submitted.

- Government Documents: Nozero said the section is working on a program for the conference.
- Children's and School: Written report including program evaluations from Big Sky. Section is working on a conference program to appeal to school and public librarians.
- Academic: Kaya had a written report with the Call for Papers for the Professional Forum with guidelines included.
- Technical Services: Garza brought a written report.
- State Agency, Cooperatives & Systems: Hatch presented a written report.
- Public Library & Trustees: Written report.
- Preservation, Archives and Special Collections: Boden presented a written report and spoke about the Gerald R. Ford conservation Center in Omaha.

#### 7. State Reports

- North Dakota: Melody Kuehn added to her written report that NDLA is leaving an administrator agreement contract and looking for a new executive secretary. They would appreciate hearing what other states do.
- New Mexico: No report.
- Nevada: New representative, Linda Deacy, reported that Nevada is undergoing several administrative changes in the state library and internet challenges.
- Action Required: Nebraska: Verne Haselwood asked that each state representative send him a request for a number of flyers on the Omaha conference for their state library conference packets, if their state conference takes place before October, 2000. Please include the dates of the conference. Haselwood also presented a written report.
- Montana: Paula Duffy brought a written report.
- Kansas: No report.
- Colorado: Louise Treff-Gangler brought a written report and reported that the CLA website is being redesigned.
- Arizona: Linda McCleary filled in for new representative, Jane Kolbe and presented her written report. Arizona is gearing up for the joint conference with MPLA in 2001.
- Wyoming: New representative, Ara Anderson presented a written report.
- Utah: Betty Dance also brought a written report.
- South Dakota: Written report.
- Oklahoma: No report.

#### 8. Announcements

- Edelen told the Board that he could set up listservs for any size group they needed, quickly and easily.
- Top four ideas for increasing membership:
  1. Develop presentation packets to help state representatives and others talk about MPLA and include printable parts on the website.
  2. Free membership to be given away by MPLA Board members.
  3. MPLA sponsorship of program sessions held at state conferences in the region and to be planned and coordinated by the state rep within the state.

4. Institutional membership to include a free membership (or several) for a staff member, distributed by the Head of the institution. This idea would require guidelines developed by the Membership Committee as the Board did not want the Head to use the membership(s) personally but to use it as a staff development tool.
  - o Hatch made a motion that Board members be given the free membership to distribute to a colleague who has never been a member of MPLA but lives/works in the MPLA region. Boden seconded it. Approved.
9. Next meeting: April 8, 2000 Denver

Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. by acclamation.

Respectively submitted,  
Susan Awe  
Recording Secretary  
December 15, 1999