

MPLA Executive Board Meeting

August 3, 2022; 4:00 PM Mountain Time

MPLA/MLA/PNLA Tri-Conference meeting plus Zoom videoconference
Missoula, Montana

PRESENT (indicated by **)			
Name	MPLA Position	Name	MPLA Position
**Brenda Hemmelman	President	Jennifer Williams-Curl	Communications Co-Chair
Stephen Sweeney	Past President; Admin. Committee Chair	**Amadee Ricketts	AZ State Rep
**Judy Kulp	Executive Secretary	**Elena Rosenfeld	CO State Rep
**Whitney Hilley	Recording Secretary	**Maribeth Shafer	KS State Rep
**Frances Brummett	Bylaws Committee Chair	**Rachel Rawn	MT State Rep
**Roy Degler	Webmaster	**Randi Monley	ND State Rep
**Mary Ann Thompson	Awards Committee Chair	Michael Straatmann	NE State Rep
**Melanie Argo	Newsletter Editor	Erin Wahl	NM State Rep
**Annie Epperson	Archives Task Force Chair	**Luise Davis	NV State Rep
**Mary Soucie	Membership Committee Chair	**Gloria Farmer	OK State Rep
**Shanna Smith-Ritterhouse	Communications Co-Chair	**Melanie Argo	SD State Rep
**Leslie Langley	LI Committee Chair	**Sherrie Mortensen	UT State Rep
**Robin Hastings	Professional Development Chair	**Judi Boyce	WY State Rep

AGENDA

Welcome and Call to Order. *Brenda Hemmelman, President*

The meeting was called to order at 4:09 PM MT

Introductions

The Board members in attendance introduced themselves.

Approve/Amend Agenda

Mary Soucie made a motion to approve the agenda. Amadee Ricketts seconded. All approved.

Minutes of April 13, 2022, Board Meeting. *Whitney Hilley, Recording Secretary*

No amendments to the meeting minutes were put forward. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Action/Discussion

- * MPLA 2021 Accounting Review. *Stephen Sweeney, Lesley Langley*
 - o This agenda item was tabled until the next Board meeting.
- * MPLA Statement on Book Banning. *Brenda Hemmelman, Stephen Sweeney*
 - o Brenda proposed that MPLA join other library associations in drafting and posting a statement on book banning on the MPLA website. The newly drafted MPLA Access to

Information statement was sent to the Board members in advance. Concurrently, she proposed removing MPLA's statement on Covid.

- Randi Monley made a motion to approve the MPLA Access to Information Statement and to post it on the MPLA website. Rachel Rawn seconded the motion.
- During discussion of the motion, it was decided that the statement would be placed on the website first. The link to the statement will then be shared on social media and via the MPLA listserv.
- All voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

* System Administration Information. *Roy Degler, Webmaster*

- Roy announced that he will be moving the MPLA website over to a new hosting service. At the same time, he will move the MPLA email over to Gmail. He also asked that those leaving their Board position please clean up their existing MPLA inboxes, as there is limited space. He asked that they do this by the Board meeting on Friday, August 5th when those account will be transferred to the incoming Board members. He also asked that Board members unsubscribe to any unwanted vendor email lists that they may be receiving via their MPLA email. Once we make the move to Gmail, there will be more space, but the email history will not move over to Gmail.
- Roy also asked the Board members to look over the new website that he is developing and please send feedback to him at webmaster@mpla.us. The new site will make site administration easier. He is aiming for the new website to be ready by October. He also announced that Brandon Katzir from Oklahoma State University will be starting as the new assistant Webmaster for MPLA.

* Past Presidents Advisory Council. *Brenda Hemmelman, Stephen Sweeney*

- Brenda explained that the Past Presidents Advisory Council is already listed in the MPLA Manual of Procedure (MoP), so it is official. She stated her determination to get the group active during her presidency.
- Judy Kulp suggested that Jean Hatfield may be a good person to help get the Council going. She was one of several past presidents who had met and discussed this idea years ago. Additionally, she added that the current immediate Past President of MPLA is the chair of that council. Stephen Sweeney has agreed to stay on as the current past president.
- No Board action is needed on this topic today. Brenda will reach out to Jean Hatfield. One of the Council's priorities will be working with the State Representatives.

* Membership Committee Proposals. *Mary Soucie*

Mary Soucie presented the following recommendations from the Membership Committee, all of which were included in the Membership Committee Report sent to the Board:

- Membership call for committees and elections
 - The Membership Committee recommends that we solicit volunteers directly from the MPLA membership at large to serve on committees and or to run for office.
 - Brenda added that she has edited the MoP to include officers and the terms of service for each MPLA Committee members. She also has emailed committee

members rolling off committees to thank them for their service and encourage their future participation.

- This is a recommendation, so does not need Board approval.
- Presidential perk
 - The Membership Committee suggested that MPLA allow non-members to be able to serve as President and provide free membership to those individuals for the first of their three years of their term. This was proposed to increase membership.
 - After discussion, it was determined that if MPLA were to implement this change, the Bylaws would need to be amended since currently they state that the President must be a member in good standing. Bylaws changes require a vote by the membership and at least a 60-day notice prior to the vote.
 - This proposal will be brought back to the Membership Committee for future discussion.
- Institutional memberships
 - The Committee also proposed changes to the current institutional membership. The first change is that organizations with MPLA institutional memberships will receive 3-6 individual memberships, dependent on their level of membership dues, which they can assign to employees within their organizations. Mary clarified that the memberships stay within the organization and can be reassigned if a chosen employee were to leave the organization. This is based on a similar model used by the Association for Rural and Small Librarians. Currently, MPLA Institutional Memberships come with 1 voting membership.
 - The second proposed change to Institutional Memberships is that any employee of an organization with an institutional membership may attend the MPLA annual conference at a membership rate. This proposed change would hopefully generate more conference income.
 - The last change proposed was to conduct an annual drawing of institutional memberships. The winner of this drawing would receive 1 free year of individual MPLA memberships for all their employees.
 - After discussion, Mary made a motion to a) approve changes to the institutional memberships wherein organizations with institutional memberships will receive 3-6 individual memberships, based on their level of dues, to give out at their discretion to their employees and b) allow employees who work for organization with institutional memberships to attend the annual conference at a membership rate. Elena Rosenfeld seconded the motion.
 - Mary clarified that the number of individual membership that an institutional member would have, would be based on institutional membership levels already set in the MoP. These levels are based on institutional budget.
 - All voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- Vendor sponsors
 - The Committee would like support from the Board to explore creating a vendor sponsorship program. Vendor sponsors of MPLA would be given the opportunity to present informational, not marketing, sessions to the membership on their products. Judy confirmed that we do not currently have a vendor sponsorship. The vendor sponsorship could also extend to in-person

presentations or sponsored events at Conferences and/or the Leadership Institute.

- Hearing Board support for this idea, the Membership Committee will discuss and explore this idea further.
- Dual memberships with State Associations
 - The Committee proposed that a discount be given to those members who have both state library association and MPLA Association memberships. It might be complicated logistically. There may be different renewal calendars, rolling memberships and different systems. It was proposed that a couple of individual state representatives may try to pilot the programs for their states. Judy is happy to work on the logistics with these state representatives.
 - Mary Soucie made a motion that MPLA enter into negotiations with the Utah and Wyoming Library Associations, with Kansas Library Association as a backup, to offer a dual membership discount with the state associations. Randi Monley seconded the motion.
 - All approved the motion. The motion passed.
- * Budget & Membership Statistics. *Judy Kulp, Executive Secretary*

Budget and membership reports were sent to the Board in advance. Judy reported that MPLA is holding steady financially, especially since we have not had a conference this year. Brenda does not yet have an update on income MPLA is receiving from the current conference. It is likely with the current membership push that we will see an increase in our income.

Committees

Individuals with * have additional discussion or information items. All other reports will be accepted electronically without discussion.

Administration– *Stephen Sweeney*

Awards – *Mary Ann Thompson*

Bylaws and Procedures – *Frances Brummett*

Communications – *Shanna Smith-Ritterhouse*

- * Leadership Institute – Update on 2023 Institute. *Leslie Langley*
 - Leslie reported that they are taking applications for open positions for the 2023 Institute. They have 7 slots available and there are several MPLA states that do not have enough representation in the participants/ applicant group, so special interest will be made regarding that. In the past, the state reps have helped select the participants. This year, selection will be done by the Leadership Institute Committee. They will put application information on the website and the Facebook page. This year, the Institute had to raise the rates to make it sustainable and there has been no push back on that decision. The Committee will meet again in August and report back at the October Board meeting.
 - The deadline for applications is October 1, 2022. Nebraska, Utah, North Dakota and Nevada need more applicant representation from their states.
 - Brenda and Judy both recognized Leslie for volunteering her time to coordinate the Leadership Institute this year.

Membership – *Mary Soucie*

Nominating Committee – *Stephen Sweeney*

Professional Development – *Robin Hastings*

- * Program Council – Update on Conference. *Brenda Hemmelman*
 - Brenda reported that she has not received updates on the Conference budget and will share with the Board when she does. The conference hotel budget is on track. They are saving \$1,000 on speaker fees.
- * Archives Task Force – Update on Archives Transfer. *Annie Epperson*
 - Brenda thanked Annie Epperson, Roy Degler, Eileen Wright and the rest of the taskforce for their work. Roy reported that Sana Masood and Ben Hedges at Oklahoma State University will do the scanning work for the project. Annie reported that the Taskforce started with 43 boxes of MPLA materials and, after weeding, ended up with 3 boxes and 1 flat folio. She showed the board some highlights from the collection. The Taskforce's action plan and timeline going forward will be added to the MoP. The Taskforce will also update the information on the MPLA website regarding the Archives.

State Representatives

Individuals with * have discussion or information items. All other reports will be accepted electronically without discussion.

Arizona – *Amadee Ricketts*

Colorado – *Elena Rosenfeld*

Kansas – *Maribeth Shafer*

Montana – *Rachel Rawn*

Nebraska – *Michael Straatmann*

Nevada – *Luise Davis*

New Mexico – *Erin Wahl*

North Dakota – *Randi Monley*

Oklahoma – *Gloria Farmer*

South Dakota – *Melanie Argo*

Utah – *Sherrie Mortensen*

Wyoming – *Judi Boyce*

Final Announcements

- * The MPLA meetups scheduled during the Conference were announced.
- * Mary Ann Thompson reported that there be reserved seating for MPLA awards winners.

MPLA will also be going first during the Conference Awards Ceremony.

- * The MPLA vendor table is in need of volunteers. Board members can fill in shifts when able.
- * The Membership Meeting and the next Board meeting (of the new Board) will be on Friday, August 4th at 4pm at the Conference. There will also be a Board meeting on October 12, 2022 via Zoom at 10 AM CT.

Adjournment

Brenda adjourned the meeting at 5:39 PM MT.