Arkansas Library Association Board Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2017

Laman Library, Little Rock, AR

1. President David Eckert called meeting to Order at 1:00pm.

2. **Minutes**-Lynn Valetutti called for any corrections to the minutes from the 02/24/17 meeting. Carol Coffey noted that the minutes needed revision to reflect the correct name change for the Information Technology Roundtable. The change should reflect Digital Services Roundtable not committee. Hadi Dudley made a motion to approve the minutes and Britt Murphy seconded it.

3. **Budget**-Lynn Valetutti distributed the balance sheet and profit/loss statement received from Prime Management. The transition process is almost complete including the closing of the Bank of the Ozarks checking account. The ArLA checking account is now at Region's Bank. The post office box mail was forwarded to Prime Management and a 1-800 number is being obtained. Prime Management identified additional problems with old accounting practices and record accuracy.

4. **ALA Councilor** -Lacy Wolfe discussed the LMIS funding and petitions sent to congressional representative and senators for support of the continued funding. There are no representatives from Arkansas promoting the continuation of the funding at this time. Earth day is April 22, 2017 and there are scheduled celebrations in Little Rock and Fayetteville. Lacy shared that Ivanka Trump had received backlash for her praises of library services since LMIS is not on the proposed blueprint budget.

5. **Committee Reports** – Reports were deposited Dropbox for review.

6. **Items of Business**-
   a) **Scholarship** – Ashley Burris. There was discussion on the status of the CD held at Bank of the Ozarks. It was determined that the CD will be deposited into a savings account at Region's Bank when it reaches maturity. Ashley motioned for approved of the transaction and Devona Pendergrass seconded it.

   b) **Awards**- Dwain Gordon- Proposed changing the eligibility of the awards in all categories to require 5 years of experience and a five-year waiting period to be re-eligible for awards. In addition, he proposed implementing vendor and rising star awards. After much discussion, Dwain made a motion to approve the Rising Star Award; Ashley Burris seconded it. Criteria for the award included working in libraries less than five years, active membership in ArLA, and exceptional customer service. In addition, Britt Murphy made a motion to give the Rising Star Award recipient one year of free membership. Rebecka Virden seconded it. The board did not approve the Vendor Award and eligibility change requirements.
   SELA membership- Dwain proposed that ArLA rejoins SELA. No dues are associated with membership. Crystal Gates offered to be the ArLA delegate; Laman Library will pay for her

conference expenses. Potentially, ARLA and SELA could hold held a joint conference in 2019, which would produce extra revenue. The SELA organization would get a percentage of the conference profits based on the number of its members that attended. There was discussion on the pros and cons of this venture. Lynn Valetutti made a motion to join SELA and Lauren Roberston seconded it. Devona Pendergrass and Ron Russ opposed it. There was no decision on the joint conference at this time.

c) **Email Voting**- David Eckert. It was determined that criteria will be established for email voting procedures especially for critical decision-making. The parameters will include limited voting and discussion time.

d) **Policy on issuing official statements** – Judy Calhoun. David requested a motion to give authority to the Executive Board to make position statements in critical situations. These statements will mirror the policies presented by ALA. Lauren Robertson brought the motion to the floor and Devona Pendergrass seconded it.

e) **Legislative Update**- Hadi Dudley. Hadi introduced guests David Johnson, newly appointed co-chair, and Courtney Fitzgerald from our new Engagement program. HB 1111, the Revenue Stabilizing Law for state funding for libraries approved 4.6 million dollars in column A and one million non-guaranteed funds in column B. Carolyn Ashcraft, Director, ASL, wrote a detailed explanation about the budget, which will be added as an addendum to the Legislative report. President Trump released his Budget Blueprint on March 16, 2017 for reform, which cuts LMIS funding. Hadi advocated for everyone to contact his or her legislative representatives to fight this proposal. A series of Engage messages circulated throughout the state to librarians on this topic.

f) **Website Update**- Ron Russ discussed migrating our current Website over to Wild Apricot. This Web program would give our site more functionality such as PayPal, bundle registration and database maintenance for membership. The cost is approximately 70.00/month for 500 members. Part of the cost could be absorbed from allocations in the telephone budget since phone service rates decreased. The site could be ready for conference registrations starting in June. Judy Calhoun made a motion to approve the transition to Wild Apricot and Ron Russ seconded it.

g) **Manual Update** - Lauren Drittler Robertson. The revisions to the manual are complete except for the award changes approved today. Lauren requested a vote to have the manual approved. Ann Bates made a motion to approve it and Judy Calhoun seconded it.

h) **ArLA application facelift**- the topic was tabled until a later date.

i) **Other Business-**
Rebecka Virden updated Dropbox with the current list of the 56 scheduled conference breakout sessions. In addition, vendor's fees and costs did not increase from last year. The hotel rates for the conference are $ 135.00/night, which includes a continental breakfast and happy hour.

Lynn Valetutti gave an update about the records and materials retrieved from storage. The organizational files were given to Prime Management; archival materials will be given to Robert Razer; and Rebecka Virden will receive the leftover conference materials.

The meeting concluded at 2:46pm.
Hadi Dudley made a motion to adjourn and Ron Russ seconded it.