

**Arkansas Library Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Friday, April 1, 2011  
Laman Public Library, North Little Rock, AR**

**Call to Order:** Vice President/President –elect Jim Robb opened the meeting at 10.10 a.m. A quorum was established.

**Roll Call and Minutes:** The roll call sheet and minutes were distributed by Secretary/Treasurer Michael Strickland. Vice President Robb asked for corrections to the minutes. Robb made a motion that the previous meetings minutes with any corrections be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

**President’s Report/Executive Committee, Jim Robb:**

Vice President Robb reported in place of President Shawn Pierce who was unable to attend the meeting. Vice President Robb reported that the Executive Committee had approved the budget for 2011. Although income for the association was down this past year, the executive board was still able to approve the expenditures that had been requested.

Robb asked each board member to consider ways the association could save money without cutting quality. The two main sources of income for the association are membership fees and the annual conference. The 2010 annual conference was not as well attended as hoped and had more expenses than hoped.

The 2011 annual conference will be held at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock for the second straight year. Robb encouraged board members to:

1. Get more people to attend
2. Encourage people to become members of ArLA
3. Re-structure the dues

**ALA Councilor Report, Ron Russ:**

Russ reported he had written an article which was a short history of the ALA Councilor position during the last 25 years (1986-present) for *Arkansas Libraries*.

Russ recommended to the board that ArLA renew its \$200 membership in the ALA’s “Freedom to Read.” The motion was seconded and passed.

**SELA Representative Report, Kevin Barron:**

Barron reported that he joined the SELA PR and Marketing Committee and the Online Searching Roundtable as well.

An online board meeting was held Thursday, February 24. He was not able to attend this meeting due to travel in preparation for the ArLA Board Retreat and was awaiting minutes of this online meeting.

SELA expects a surplus in 2011 of about \$5,000, largely due to cutting administrative services by \$3,000 and professional tax fees by almost \$1,000.

FYI, there are roughly 60 positions on the SELA Board.

He noted continuing in the tradition of having a SELA conference every other year, there would be no SELA conference this year. He also reported there was no news regarding the proposed membership changes that might include ArLA members becoming members of SELA.

#### **Executive Administrator Report, Barbara Martin:**

Martin reported that membership dues were coming in and that the membership was up compared to this time last year. We were budgeted to receive \$28,000 and had currently received \$20,000. The CD accounts were looking good this year too.

The annual conference was on track to be good with Holly Mercer's help. This year's expenses with the Peabody Hotel are expected to be higher than normal again. In an effort to contain expenses in 2012, Martin is soliciting bids from the Embassy Suites in Rogers and the Holiday Inn at the Springdale Convention Center. She is looking for space for 200 people with 6-7 meeting rooms and exhibit hall space for 40-45 exhibitors.

#### **Division Reports:**

##### **AASL, Cathy Toney:**

Toney reported AASL will have a booth at the AAIM Conference in Hot Springs on April 3-5, 2011. She also will represent the Arkansas chapter of AASL at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans on June 24-28, 2011.

The summer AASL Conference will be in Eureka Springs Conference Center Best Western Inn of the Ozarks on July 24-25, 2011. Tracy McAllister is conference chair/chair elect this year. Toney reported that McAllister has planned an outstanding conference with many authors and sessions; a Sunday night has been added as has a pre-conference on Saturday night for a roundtable discussion of the many issues that school librarians are facing. AASL would like to offer a free drawing for a free one year membership to ArLA. Toney proposed that ArLA provide a free membership to AASL for the drawing. Toney's motion was seconded and passed.

##### **ALPS, Melanie Allen:**

Allen reported that the ALPS Executive Council met March 4, 2011 at UAMS Library. They formed a Site Visit Committee to begin looking for locations for the 2012 and 2013

ALPS Spring Conference. They will be visiting the Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Airport in Little Rock within the next month. They also have a committee working on a Policies and Procedures Manual. They are hoping to have it completed before the conference in May.

The Council voted to rezone the Region map. Some library systems were split and were under two Representatives. Now, all library systems are represented by only one Regional Representative.

Our historian, Loretta Edwards, submitted the history of ALPS to the ArLA Centennial Committee.

The Conference Committee is still hard at work on the Spring Conference. We have extended our Conference Scholarship deadline to April 15, 2011. The Brochure/Registration Form has been mailed out. Conference information has been posted to the ALPS Google Group, Facebook and web site.

2012 will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> year of existence as a group.

**College & Universities, Daniel Page:**

CULD will have a joint meeting with ARKLink on April 22, 2011, at Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Public Libraries & Trustees, Ashley Parker:**

No Report.

**Reference & Instruction Services, Amber Wilson:**

No Report

**Resource & Technical Services, Jennie Ballinger:**

Ballinger said the RDA online conference at the University of Arkansas Little Rock Law Library went well despite the bad weather. She mentioned 14 individuals signed up and 7 were able to make it to Little Rock for the meeting. There will be access to these materials for 6 months.

**Special Libraries, Loretta Edwards:**

No Report.

**Roundtable Reports:**

**Youth Services Roundtable, Randi Eskridge:**

Eskridge is working on a Youth Services Preconference and regular sessions for our Centennial Conference.

**Government Documents Roundtable, Frances Hagar:**

Hagar proposed that a letter be sent by the ArLA President asking that funding be restored for the Statistical Abstract of the United States. The Roundtable members have written a letter to be sent to each Senator and Representative with this request. Motion seconded and approved.

**Information Technology Roundtable, Jon Goodell:**

During the ArLA Board Retreat Jon Goodell and Loretta Edwards indicated to Barbara Martin that the IT Round Table will facilitate and manage technology needs for the September 2011 ArLA Conference. Specifically, we will identify member libraries that are able to lend projectors, laptop computers, and related technologies for presentation rooms and will organize staff support for those technologies.

Goodell has no news to report regarding the Friday, July 29, 2011 Collaboration UnConference other than the committee still plans to have it.

**New Members Roundtable, Connie Zimmer:**

No Report

**Two-Year Colleges, Tina Bradley:**

No Report.

**Committees:**

**Awards, Jamie Melson:**

No Report.

**Centennial Planning, Karen Russ:**

**Dinner to honor Past Presidents** – Russ happily reported that the calendar sales have covered the cost of dinner for all past presidents and one guest for each of them. The dinner will be held at Cajuns. Tickets for other members of the Association who wish to attend will be \$35.00. Barbara Stripling, Director of Library Services, New York City School Library System, and former member of the Arkansas Library Association has agreed to be the keynote speaker for the evening.

**Funding** – Discussions are underway with numerous library vendors to obtain support for the Centennial events. Russ mentioned the committee had nearly \$2000 in confirmed vendor donations with several more in the corporate chain of command. Now that the dinner costs are covered for the past presidents, they were aiming to cover the travel costs of the speaker for the dinner and decorations.

**Conference Decorating** – The Centennial Committee is working with the Conference Committee to decorate the registration desk and all presentation rooms with birthday balloons and possibly some additional items.

**Conference, Holly Mercer:**

Mercer proposed that the board get rid of the non-member rate and the non-meal option and have the conference fee include all meals.

After some discussion, Mercer made a motion that the registration fee be \$200 for ArLA members and \$275 for non members. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mercer also made a motion that the one day registration fee be \$100 for ArLA members and \$150 for non members. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mercer also proposed that out-of-state and non-member presenters be given a one day pass that included the meals on the day of the presentation. The motion was seconded and passed.

Jamie Melson proposed that the full-time student rates be raised from \$25 to \$35 and include the meals. Motion seconded and passed.

**Constitution, Bill Parton:**

Parton distributed a draft of his revisions which were based on board discussions at the retreat. Parton said that, in the dues area, he included three (3) different alternative plans labeled A, B, and C. My goal in each was to make the plan revenue neutral, though data calculations from Barbara's office might shed better light on this and might also suggest some different amounts.

**Intellectual Freedom, Devona Pendergrass:**

No Report

**Legislative, Donna McDonald:**

No Report

**Membership, Connie Zimmer:**

No Report

**Nominating, Jim Robb:**

No Report

**Public Relations, Virginia Perschbacher:**

Perschbacher met with Karen Russ, Chair of the Centennial Planning Committee, to discuss publicity needs for the Conference in February. A preliminary news release announcing the

Centennial Conference will be sent to Arkansas media outlets in August. A copy of the 2011 Arkansas Media Directory has been purchased by the Association's Executive Administrator.

**Publications Committee, Kathy Davis:**

Laura Speer reported that the journal is out to the printer and should be sent out soon, if it's not already there by April 1.

**Scholarship Committee, Diane Hughes:**

Hughes reported since the December, 2010 board meeting the committee have filled orders for eight license plates. To date, they have received and filled requests for 25 license plates. They still have 32 plates left to sell. Plates will be sold at the upcoming ALPS and AAIM Conferences.

Hughes also mentioned the committee was ready to update the Scholarship applications and set a submission deadline for the 2011 scholarships. Hughes recommended Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup> as the deadline. Last year it was August 10<sup>th</sup>.

The scholarship committee would also like to recommend that ArLA sponsor up to two librarians who want to, and qualify to, participate in the American Library Association's Emerging Leaders Program. Sponsorship by ArLA would include \$1,000 for each of the two candidates, \$500 for expenses to ALA Mid-Winter Conference, and \$500 to the 2012 ALA Annual Conference. Attendance to both of these two conferences is required of the candidates.

The committee has met, discussed, and voted online to be responsible for the solicitation and selection process for up to two applicants for the 2012 ALA Emerging Leaders class. Criteria and a rubric would be established and used to select the recipients. However, we feel that the funding for this program should NOT come from the scholarship fund but from the general ArLA fund. Money for this project could be requested and appropriated for these two positions next fall when we are submitting budgets for 2012.

Hughes made a motion that the scholarship committees with \$2000 funding from the general fund in 2012 sponsor one librarian to the American Library Association's Emerging Leaders Program. The sponsored librarian must attend ALA and ArLA. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Arkansas Libraries, Managing Editor, Laura Speer:**

No Report.

**Associate Editor, Britt Anne Murphy:**

No Report

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**Webmaster, Ron Russ:**

Russ asked for volunteers to be administrators for the ArLA Facebook Page and Anna Edwards and Holly Mercer volunteered. He also asked for a volunteer to run the ArLA Conference website and Lisa Li volunteered to do so. Forms for the ArLA Conference have been added to the News and Events page and AASL Conference information has been added to the AASL Page. Russ has been experimenting with Drupal, to see if it might be suitable for redesigning our website in the future.

**Archives, Bob Razer:**

No Report

**Unfinished Business:****New Business:**

None

**Adjournment:**

Vice President Robb moved adjournment at 1:00 p.m. The motion was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Strickland  
Secretary/Treasurer