

**Arkansas Library Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, June 8, 2012
Central Arkansas Library, Main Branch, Little Rock, AR**

Present: Jim Robb, Michael Strickland, Shawn Pierce, Trish Miller, Sara Seaman, Bill Parton, Carol Hanan, Devona Pendergrass, Jamie Melson, Kara Propes, Latonya Jones, Jon Goodell, Carol Coffey, Hadi Dudley, Ashley Parker, Whitney Ivy, Britt Ann Murphy, Linda Evans, Holly Mercer and Lynda Hampel

Call to Order: President Jim Robb called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was established. Robb welcomed the board to a new venue – Central Arkansas Library Main Branch in Little Rock.

Roll Call and Minutes: The minutes were distributed. Corrections were noted. Melson made a motion that the previous meetings minutes with corrections be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

President's Report/Executive Committee, Jim Robb:

Robb welcomed the board to a new venue – Central Arkansas Library Main Branch in Little Rock. The Executive Committee meeting was a great brainstorm session. Some ideas are not ready to be presented to the board at this time. But one idea that was being strongly considered was moving from a bi-monthly to quarterly board meetings. In future, pre-conference sessions might focus more in educational programs that help with certification or meet other needs. Another idea was to have one person from the webpage committee assigned as a liaison to the other committees. They could help pass along information via the web page on what that committee is doing. Another idea was having each committee identify a specific project they are going to tackle each year. Robb would like more people to get involved and make better use of electronic communication.

Robb personally thanked ALPS for inviting him to speak and he enjoyed visiting with the group. He wished he could have spent more time visiting with them. He was hoping to visit with AASL in July but found out he was having to attend a meeting in Atlanta.

ALA Councilor Report, Ron Russ:

Currently planning the Arkansas Out on the Town Dinner, at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA. Hopefully we'll have something set soon. I participated in the Virtual Library Legislation Day during the week of April 23, 2012. Russ is working on a program for the ArLA Annual Conference in October about ALA Council. He also got a booth for the conference to disseminate ALA literature and membership ribbons.

If anyone is interested in the Arkansas Out On The Town dinner in Anaheim, please let Ron Russ know and he'll add you to the list.

SELA Representative Report, Kevin Barron:

There has been no activity of significance with SELA. The next annual conference is November 3-5, 2012 in Georgia.

Executive Administrator Report, Lynda Hampel:

Hampel reports that the Association is doing great financially.

Division Reports:**AASL, Tracy McAllister:**

McAllister reported they are still working on their conference. Some Arkansas librarians have already agreed to do several presentations. Suzi Grissom who is the regional director for AASL and Carl Harvey will be there. The main focus this year will be on membership to ArLA, membership to AASL and membership to ALA. They are trying to get school librarians to understand how important an AASL membership is and how they all work together. McAllister hoped these programs would help end the disconnect that school librarians currently feel. She thanked Ron Russ for his assistance getting materials for their table. They also hope to stress how important it is not to just come to the conference but also to participate in the organization. ArLA president Jim Robb planned to speak to the group via a 10 minute video presentation rather in person because he had to be in Atlanta, Georgia.

ALPS, LeTonya Jones :

ALPS celebrated its 20th birthday at its annual meeting. The keynote speaker was Scott Hughes. There were 121 registered. 30 of those were first time attendees. On Thursday, State Librarian Carolyn Ashcraft spoke during lunch. In the evening, past chairs were recognized followed by a dance. On Friday, Jim Robb spoke to the ALPS luncheon to close out the conference. Jones reported ALPS still had money coming in from the conference. The hotel bill has not been paid yet. It appears the organization will come out ahead about \$4000.

The mini-conference will be held in November 16 at Craighead County Public Library in Jonesboro. The conference is open to everyone.

College & Universities, Carol Hanan:

On April 20th, they had a meeting with ArkLink and discussed holding a joint meeting. They have Steven Bell, the president of ACRL to speak at the conference. There was also a discussion about having a dinner at ArLA for College and University members. They are taking suggestions for a place to eat in Springdale near the conference hotel.

Public Libraries & Trustees, Ashley Parker:

No Report

Reference & Instruction Services, Amber Wilson:

No Report.

Resource & Technical Services, Linda Evans:

No Report

Special Libraries, Debbie Hall:

No Report

Roundtable Reports:

Young Adult Services Roundtable, Kara Propes:

The Young Adult Services Roundtable membership has increased from 45 to 46. They are chatting a little bit. Propes tries to put something interesting up periodically. She is also suggesting meetings at different locations around the state to meet for dinner, etc... Lolly Greenwood of Fayetteville Public Library wanted to host the Young Adult Services Roundtable. Propes is going to check on the Annual Conference agenda and then get back with Greenwood.

Government Documents Roundtable, Kathy Seymour :

The Arkansas Consortium of Government Documents Librarians participated in a visit to the Clinton Presidential Museum and a special tour of the Clinton Archive on Thursday, April 19th.

The Government Documents Roundtable staffed a table at the Spring meeting of the Arkansas Genealogical Society (ASG) on April 21st. In addition to distributing materials on researching family history from numerous federal agencies, our representatives spoke to over 80 people. They have been invited to host another table at the AGS's 50th anniversary conference in October. Thanks to Karen Russ and Frances Hager!

On June 19th and 20th, there will be two free government documents workshops held at the Arkansas State Library. Using Federal Data for Economic Development workshop will be held 10am-3pm on the 19th. And at 10am-3pm on the 20th will be E-Government for Librarians workshop. (Flyers to be distributed at board meeting and are attached to e-mail message).

Information Technology Roundtable, Carol Coffey:

The unConference will be held on Friday, June 29, 2012, in the Darragh Center at CALS. Plans are for emails publicizing the unConference to begin going out this week. The general outline of the unConference will remain the same as it was last year.

Please nominate a friend to serve on the IT Round Table by sending an email to ccoffey@cals.org. All meetings are held by email.

New Members Roundtable, Shawn Pierce:

The current number of members is 481. New members we have 43 for the year. Pierce suggested that the board consider a possible virtual membership meeting for ArLA in the future.

Two-Year Colleges, Sara Seaman:
No Report

Committees:

Awards, Jamie Melson:

Melson currently has a total of 9 nominations but not every category is covered. Plus she needs to check on the membership status of each nominee, especially those left over from 2011. In the past couple years there has been no nominees for the academic award. There will be an academic nomination for this year. The deadline for nominations is August 30.

Conference, Holly Mercer:

No Report

Constitution, Bill Parton:

Parton reviewed sections of the Constitution noted in past Board discussions for potential changes. He said the committee would offer three new proposals concerning ArLA's SELA Membership, Arkansas Libraries Editors Voting Rights and the Association changing from a single Webmaster to a Web Committee with a chair in an upcoming board meeting.

Intellectual Freedom, Devona Pendergrass:

No Report

Legislative, Hadi Dudley:

Hadi Dudley reported on her trip to Washington, DC, as ArLA's Legislative Committee Chair.

More than 350 librarians and library advocates attended the National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) in Washington, DC on April 23-24. Our Arkansas delegation of seven included: Carolyn Ashcraft, Arkansas State Librarian; Leisha Callan, library user/advocate and former board member for the Arkansas River Valley Regional Library System; Kelly Chaney, educator at Cabot Public Schools who recently completed her Media Science degree at the University of Central Arkansas; Hadi Dudley, Director at Bentonville Public Library; Heather Hays, Reference Librarian at Bentonville Public Library; Donna McDonald, Director of Arkansas River Valley Regional Library System; and Katrina Wiederkehr Oskoui, Arkansas native, residing in Maryland and current University of Maryland MLIS graduate student.

Monday, Apr 23: The group attended Advocacy Training by ALA and the evening Reception. Donna McDonald presented a Legislator w/ ALTAFF Award. Tuesday, Apr 24: The group visited all legislative offices, and met with three Legislators and three staff.

The group had good meetings where participants discussed LSTA funding, School Libraries and Workforce Development. Additionally, the group discussed technology in

libraries, information literacy and libraries as community gathering places. Senator Pryor has placed LSTA funding in his Appropriations Request.

Dudley prepared an article for *Arkansas Libraries*.

Arkansas Legislative/Advocacy Initiative

To follow up on our previous discussions regarding Arkansas Library Advocacy with State Legislators, Dudley again spoke with Carolyn Ashcraft, State Librarian. Ashcraft will likely have a proclamation special event late Summer or early Fall. Though it is short turn-around time, a library advocacy piece could coincide with the State Library event. The other option is to wait until the newly elected officials take office. Ashcraft recommended working directly with our elected officials, on a local level, to garner support for a library event.

Per Holly Mercer and Phyllis Burkett, there is interest from Arkansas Advocates for Public Libraries to be involved with an event. The AAPL group meets again August 9th. Ashcraft recommended private fundraising, not through ArLA or AAPL, but separately, to pay for refreshments and other event expenses. At this time, there is not a distinct funding source for a legislative / advocacy event.

Library advocacy in Arkansas could be a successful partnership between ArLA, AAPL and ASL, if we can determine an appropriate funding resource, plan a good event and prepare specific, consistent messaging to promote Arkansas libraries. In the next few weeks, Dudley will schedule a telephone conference with committee members to determine a course of action.

Membership, Shawn Pierce:

The current number of members is 481.

Nominating, Patricia (Trish) Miller:

Miller reported they had gotten a slate of candidates together for all the open positions and verified that they were eligible and committed to serve as officers for 2013. Bios of the candidates were requested and its out on the website already. New nominations forms are on the ArLA website and accessible through two locations – Conference Registration and Forms. The committee is working on a ballot and hopes to have that available soon. Lynda Hampel is going to oversee manning the ballot box again this year.

Nominations will continue to be accepted until September 16th. And even though they have until the 16th to nominate people, both the nominee and the nominator will have to be verified as ArLA members. Lynda is going to give the committee a membership list to prevent non-members from voting. The committee will help Lynda cover the table.

Jim Robb suggested to the committee having an informal candidate forum. This would give the membership a chance to meet and ask the candidates questions. The committee will be working on a schedule that would allow each candidate a few minutes to speak to the group.

Planning Committee (Ad Hoc), Jim Robb/Trish Miller:

Robb reported things are not moving as rapidly as he originally hoped but lots of progress is still being made. He said there will be a session at conference on the benefits of having an ArLA membership. The new ALA president has committed to coming and they will be doing a couple sessions with her. Brainstorming sessions with the executive committee have been great for producing new ideas and providing direction for the future.

Public Relations, Ashley Parker:

No Report

Publications Committee, Kathy Davis:

No Report

Scholarship Committee, Daniel Page:

No Report

Arkansas Libraries, Managing Editor, Whitney Ivy:

No Report

Associate Editor, Britt Anne Murphy:

No Report.

Webmaster, Jon Goodell:

Goodell appreciated all the items people have been submitting for the website. He asked the board to let him know if they had any problems with the website. He met the web design committee and they discussed a re-design of the ArLA website. Goodell said they would repeat what they did last year by having the Conference website become the main website a month or two before Annual Conference.

Archives, Bob Razer:

No Report

Unfinished Business:

Robb asked to consider having quarterly board meetings with the final meeting of the year being the General Business Meeting at Annual Conference and a ceremonial passing of the gavel held before the entire membership. The new board could meet the Tuesday afternoon following the conference. No action was taken and the recommendation was tabled to be re-considered at a future board meeting.

New Business:

None

Adjournment:

Melson made a motion at 11:38 a.m. to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Strickland
Secretary/Treasurer