

NLA Board Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2019
1:30pm - 4pm
Nebraska Library Commission

In Attendance: Evonne Edgington, Lisa Mount, Becky Baker, Devra Dragos, Janet Greser, Laura England-Biggs, Vicki Wood, Jayne Germer, Anneka Ramirez, Rebecca McCorkindale, Meg Mering, Scott Childers, Donna Kruse, Rod Wagner, Laura Treinen, Michael Straatman, Ginger Jelinek (guest), Todd Schlechte, Bailey Halbur, Tim Lentz (virtual), Matt Kovar (virtual), Joanne Neeman (virtual)

Welcome and orientation for new NLA Board members from Michael Straatmann, along with introductions, began at 1:33 pm. If any board members have any questions, please seek assistance from Michael or Ginger Jelinek (Executive Director).

Business Meeting

A. Call to Order - Michael Straatmann 2:06pm

1. Announcements
 - a. [Consensus voting](#) will be used for this meeting, in lieu of Robert's Rules of Order.
2. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Vote: all yes (green cards).
3. Approval of [minutes from September 27, 2019](#) board meeting
 - a. Vote: all yes (green cards).
4. [President's report](#) - Michael Straatmann
 - a. Michael reported that the 2020 conference committee is working on meeting in January. Conference will take place Oct 7-9, 2020.
 - b. The 2021 conference was scheduled to take place at the La Vista Embassy Suites Conference Center; however, the contract for that conference was unsigned. Due to the contract making that option fiscally unfeasible, the executive committee is working on ideas for a different location, potentially the downtown Omaha Hilton.
 - i. Becky Baker made the comment that many members find driving and parking in downtown Omaha difficult. Michael noted that this is just a test location, and in the future there is the potential for a smaller model to be rotated into the conference location schedule.
 - c. NLA conference in 2022 & 2023 will be both be in Kearney due to scheduling conflicts.
 - d. The 2024 conference is tentatively a MPLA and NLA combined conference.
 - e. Advocacy Day is March 5, 2020. This event has moved to a different date to ensure better weather for members to travel to Lincoln.
 - i. Scott Childers, as the new Advocacy Chair, noted that it's his intent to refocus efforts on everyday advocacy so that NLA isn't working to fix situations and relationships when something goes wrong, but instead focusing on prevention. Librarians should work to build relationships at a local level.
 - f. The NSLA Board met with Michael, and we are looking for other/better ways to partner with NSLA that don't just involve October conference. NSLA will not formally be a part of the 2020 conference. They will continue doing a Saturday event after the October conference, as well as

continuing smaller events throughout the year. This year's NSLA absence makes SCYP's job that much more important for conference preparation.

B. Old Business

1. [2019 Conference Report/Wrap-up](#)

- a. The above report was forwarded from Angela Kroeger. The hotel bill was received and some charges are being disputed. After applying MOU terms, a final check will be sent to NLA from shared profits.
- b. Laura England-Biggs is sifting through evaluations from attendees, as well as suggestions from JCPC co-chairs Angela & Andrew. Several other comments were made during this business meeting with feedback about the conference.
 - i. Anneka Ramirez - NLA meeting separate from lunch was nice, it allowed more time for networking.
 - ii. Meg Mering & Vicki Wood- richer programming due to Iowa contributions.
 - iii. Scott Childers - business meetings would be better not so early (7:30 am). Some attendees only came half way through, and it kept some that only attended one day from participating in these meetings.
 - iv. Rebecca - is virtual attendance an option in the future?
 1. Michael Straatman commented that there have been some technical limitations in the past, but possible software is being explored.

2. Additional Business

- a. NLA by-law updates are completed and the handbook is up next.

C. New Business

1. Board Orientation - [Michael Straatmann](#) & Ginger Jelinek

- a. Ginger Jelinek, Executive Director, reported that she will do as much as she can to support this organization and respond to members as quickly as possible.
 - i. Ginger will handle communications about board meetings and make requests for reports. Send any additions & reports to her.
 - ii. If something is incorrect or needs to be updated on the website, notify Ginger.
 - iii. Please provide a forwarding email to Ginger for your sections.
 - iv. NLA is using Starchapter for its membership software. If you'd like to send out emails to your section/roundtable through Starchapter, Ginger can select specific members to send to. She is also working on making the renewal process for members through the software more feasible as one transaction.

2. [2020 Budget Discussion and Approval](#) - Rebecca McCorkindale

- a. Rebecca reported that without knowing the total amount coming to NLA from the 2019 conference, the 2020 budget was put together very lean.
- b. Devra Dragos noted that these pre-audit numbers shows sales tax under income as 0, but it should be collected from individual sections.
 - i. It was also noted that under the net total of expenses there is income showing for scholarships, but it can't really be shown as income as they will be moved. Also, Evonne Edgington will not be attending an MPLA conference in 2020, so the \$1,000 amount for that can be removed from the budget.
- c. Matt Kovar reported that is just a proposed budget, but Devra was correct with her notations. The conference profit from Kearney should be a larger profit margin for next year. This is a very realistic budget.

- i. The checking account holds about \$20,000, and the money market account has about \$75,000, with \$10,00 of the latter held as collateral for credit cards. NLA also has about \$36,000 in CDs. Denise now holds the account information for these.
 - ii. With the emendation of removing \$1,000 dollars from the MPLA conference portion, it was proposed that the 2020 budget be approved as is. Vote: all yes (green cards).
3. [2020 Conference Announcements](#) - Laura England-Biggs
 - a. The theme will be: Together Facing Forward. A logo is being worked on, several members offered to assist in its creation.
 - b. This year will be without NSLA or another partner organization with Kearney as the host site. Assistance is needed for most of the conference committees.
 - c. Scott Childers revealed that this will be the 125th year of NLA. Previously an ad hoc committee had existed and had planned activities; however, that committee has since disbanded.
 - i. A new ad hoc committee request for this celebratory portion was requested from several attendees today, and it was agreed it will be worked on for the next quarterly meeting.
4. [NLA Representative attend National Library Legislative Day](#) - Michael Straatmann/Rod Wagner
 - a. Rod Wagner spoke on National Library Legislative Day. There is an opportunity for NLA to have a representative to attend this day, which is slated for May 4-5, 2020, in Washington D.C. Activities will be moved away from the capital and held at Georgetown University Conference Center, which is slightly less expensive to stay near. Usually several Nebraska representatives attend with a full briefing day occurring on May 4 on current legislation, then a visit to 5 Nebraska offices in DC on May 5. It's a great opportunity to meet with Senators, Representatives, or at least their staff that works on education or library related issues.
 - b. NLA can choose to send a President, Advocacy Chair or another available representative.
 - c. Members noted that there was nothing in the approved 2020 budget for any NLA attendees for this conference.
 - i. Meg Mering suggested that NLA use the previously removed \$1000 from MPLA conference for National Library Legislative Day instead. Vote: all yes (green cards).
 - ii. A vote was made on sending both Scott Childers and Michael Straatman. Scott Childers raised a yellow card and noted that it would be a good opportunity for a new person to NLA to attend, someone who could speak to legislative issues.
 - iii. Matt Kovar reported that two NLA attendees had gone in 2015 and one had attended in 2016. Grant funds were used for both years.
 - iv. It was recommended that an open call be made to NLA members. A straw poll was called for two of three attendees to send: Michael Straatman, Scott Childers, and a third open call member. Laura raised a yellow card, noting that there were too many parameters being described by the NLA board during the discussion, which would potentially keep some members from signing up in the open call.
 1. It was recommended that the open call notice description would not officially note these parameters, but they may be used to help decide who is chosen as the third attendee. Another vote was called for with these emendations. Vote: all yes (green cards).
5. Meeting Dates and Times - Michael Straatmann
 - a. Friday afternoons were overwhelmingly chosen by NLA board members for the quarterly meetings.
 - b. Future dates tentatively decided upon for 2020 meetings: January 17th, May 1, September 18, and December 4.

- c. The Millard branch of the Omaha Public Library branch was voted upon as the location for the January 17, 2020, meeting. Vote: all yes (green cards).
6. Additional Business
- a. Provide dates/sites for other section and roundtable meetings throughout the year to Ginger Jelinek for the NLA website calendar.
 - b. Michael thanked board members for voting in the remote committee chair election. If you're a new committee chair, please bring a committee member roster for the January meeting.
 - i. If you're needing committee members, see Ginger Jelinek for interested members in your committee. Ginger will keep a running list of people who have been contacted about being a committee member.
 - c. Remote elections for current NLA Board members to vote upon committee chair recommendations made by Michael Straatman were completed over December 4 - 9, 2020. Board members unanimously approved the following committee chairs:
 - i. Advocacy Committee Chair : Scott Childers
 - ii. Auditing Committee Chair : Devra Dragos
 - iii. By-Laws and Handbook Committee Chair : Becky Baker
 - iv. Communications Committee Chair : Laura Treinen
 - v. Diversity Committee Chair : Tim Lentz
 - vi. Scholarship and Awards Committee Chair : Lisa Mount
 - vii. Creation of Ad Hoc Membership Committee
 - 1. Ad Hoc Membership Committee Chair : Anneka Ramirez

CONSENT AGENDA

D. General Reports

- 1. [ALA Councilor](#) - Micki Dietrich
- 2. [MPLA Representative](#) - Evonne Edgington
- 3. [AFCON Representative](#) - Todd Schlechte
- 4. Executive Committee Reports:
 - a. [President-Elect](#) - Laura England-Biggs
 - b. Secretary - Bailey Halbur
 - c. Treasurer - Denise Harders
 - d. Past President - Rebecca McCorkindale
 - e. [Executive Director](#) - Ginger Jelinek
- 5. Affiliate and Associate Reports
 - a. NSLA
 - b. NLC
- 6. Lobbyist - Andy Pollock

E. Section Reports

- 1. [College & University](#) – Jayne Germer
- 2. [Paraprofessional](#) – Janet Greser
- 3. [Public Library & Trustee](#) – Devra Dragos
- 4. School, Children's & Young People – Joanne Neemann
- 5. Special & Institutional – Tom Schmitz

F. Round Table Reports

1. [Intellectual Freedom](#) – Vicki Wood
2. [Information Technology and Access Round Table](#) – Scott Childers
3. New Member Round Table – Donna Kruse
4. [Technical Services Round Table](#) – Meg Mering

G. Standing Committee Reports

1. [Advocacy](#) – Scott Childers
2. [Auditing](#) – Devra Dragos
3. [By-Laws & Handbook](#) – Becky Baker
4. Communications – Laura Treinen
5. Professional Development – Laura England-Biggs
6. [Diversity](#) – Tim Lentz
7. Finance – Rebecca McCorkindale
8. Elections – Rebecca McCorkindale
9. [Scholarship & Awards](#) – Lisa Mount
10. [Membership \(Ad Hoc\)](#) - Anneka Ramirez

H. Adjournment by Michael Straatman at 3:33 pm