

NLA Board Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2020

2:00 PM

Virtual Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Shelby Janke, Michael Straatman, Lisa Mount, Becky Baker, Micki Dietrich, Devra Dragos, Rebecca McCorkindale, Donna Kruse, Evonne Edgington, Laura England-Biggs, Ginger Jelinek (guest), Bailey Halbur, Todd Schlechte, Meg Mering, Denise Harders, Jayne Germer, Tim Lentz, Anneka Ramirez, Vicki Wood

A. Call to Order - Michael Straatmann at 2:00 pm

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. Motion to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda: England Biggs, Second: Dragos. Vote: all yes, no objections.
3. Approval of [minutes from May 1, 2020](#) board meeting
 - a. Vote: all yes, no objections.
4. Approval of [minutes from June 3, 2020](#) board meeting
 - a. Vote: all yes, no objections.
5. [Treasurer's Report](#) and Approval
 - a. Denise Harders reported that she had been working with Ginger Jelinek on several banking related issues. Due to market uncertainty, our scholarship and legacy funds have currently lost a substantial amount. However, these markets will correct themselves over time.
 - b. Approval of Treasurer's report. Vote: all yes, no objections.

B. Old Business

1. 125th Anniversary
 - a. A discussion was held on how to celebrate 125 years of the association despite the current pandemic. A suggestion was made to have the new ALA President speak, and Micki Dietrich, ALA Councillor, offered to reach out to ALA.
 - i. Other suggestions included keepsakes, virtual celebratory meetings, trivia about NLA history, etc.
 - b. There is currently no committee on this, but the NLA Executive Board is willing to work on this. Email Ginger Jelinek with any ideas you may have to celebrate this fall.
2. Contracts for future conferences
 - a. [Younes](#)
 - i. Ginger Jelinek worked on cleaning up the document for 2025. Numbers were slightly reduced with the removal of NSLA. The setup is the same as in the past. Ginger reported that we aren't tied to the schedule each day exactly, we can tweak room schedules as needed. The important portion is paying attention to food and beverage amounts.
 - ii. Approval of 2025 conference contract. Vote: all yes, no objections.
 - b. 2024 Conference

- i. No contract has been signed for this year yet. It may potentially be a joint MPLA conference; Edgington hasn't had feedback from the MPLA Executive Board on this yet.
3. Additional Old Business

C. New Business

1. [Nominations/Elections for 2021](#)

- a. Rebecca McCorkindale reported that potential nominees have a deadline of August 28 to be in the elections. This includes sections and roundtables. Information was disseminated by email and via Facebook to the membership.
- b. Micki Dietrich also mentioned that ALA Councillor needs to be up for re-election also.
- c. Applications can be submitted on the NLA website.

2. Recap of feedback from SCYP and C&U attendance at NLA Exec Board Meetings

- a. The Executive Board has had some good opportunities to talk in depth with a few groups, including SCYP and C&U.
- b. It's clear that our membership in these two sections want more engagement from us. NLA wants to be supportive of programming and other outlets that the sections and roundtables need assistance in, despite limited resources and the new world/situation we're all living in.

c. [SCYP](#)

- i. England-Biggs reported that SCYP had polled their members on what they wanted. SCYP was curious as to what the Executive Board thought SCYP should be doing. Both are looking for a cohesive partnership.

d. [C&U](#)

- i. Jayne Germer reported that members are concerned about saving money this year with budget setbacks. Suggestions were made about extending membership an extra year. They are looking to host a one day online conference in the fall, after seeing how successful the joint meeting with TSRT was by going totally online last spring.
- e. Michael Straatman asked for suggestions on how to move forward with online engagement and fall conference proposals now that conference is canceled: [Virtual Engagement/Learning Opportunities for members](#)

- i. Aneka Ramirez reported on what the Membership group has been working on.

- 1. The group is working to answer some major questions: what are the benefits of membership, how many forgo membership just to pay for conference directly, what does membership look like in demographic terms, etc.
- 2. They hope to have a campaign to create marketing for leadership to use and to bring clarity on how to reach and find out more about nonmembers. This will be a community building effort, we are an intentional community not just an association.

- ii. Shelby Janke reported on Communications Committee work.

- 1. The committee has been working on a communications survey to see what is needed from them and how they can best reach the membership. They'd gladly take suggestions on the current survey questions.

- iii. Becky Baker reported on PLTS's needs and suggestions.

- 1. They recommended having NLA reach out to members like Denise Harders has with her system's virtual meetings, as continuing to talk to peers is so important right now.

- iv. Donna Kruse provided suggestions from NMRT.

- 1. NMRT ideas included engagement such as virtual tours of libraries, virtual lunch or happy hour discussions, resume critique services, or presentations similar to

PLA Spark Talks. They recommended a brochure or an informational flyer for new members.

- f. Straatman reminded sections and roundtables that approval doesn't need to come from the board for starting any ideas that were mentioned today. If your group is looking for feedback, feel free to reach out to the Executive Board or the Board at large via email.
3. [Member survey](#) from the Communications Committee
 - a. Ginger Jelinek recommended that if a responder to the survey answers no to being a member, they should be asked why they're not a member.
 - b. Approval of the survey from the Communications Committee. Vote: all yes, no objections.
4. 2021 Budget Discussion
 - a. [Budget Visual](#)
 - i. Straatman explained the reasoning for creating a budget visual: it is an easier way for members to see how money is spent in the association. Rebecca McCorkindale has been the one working on this visual breakdown.
 - ii. Members discussed various recommendations for the visual, including using more approachable terms such as education.
5. Additional New Business
 - a. England-Biggs reported that there were 25 program submissions that were turned in for the fall conference. She is working with these presenters to see if they would be willing to share their submissions, but in a different way, such as an online Zoom platform. Sections or roundtables could then sponsor or partner with presentations related to them. A series of presentations throughout early fall was what leadership envisioned.
 - b. Dragos asked if it was time that membership dues should be revisited, as it was a common theme throughout today's discussion.
 - i. Straatman agreed, but noted that it would likely not happen this fall quite yet. Some feedback from membership and communication committee surveys is needed.
 - ii. Dragos recommended that sections should be put back into overall dues instead of being separate, and NMRT for the first year of membership should be free.
 - iii. It was agreed that membership needed to be reviewed along with the association's budget in order to properly make changes and considerations.

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 (**No Report**)
4. [Communications](#) – Sarah Haack (Shelby Janke will be attending on behalf of Sarah)
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 3:23 pm