

Vermont Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
November 13, 2003  
Norwich University, Northfield

FINAL

In attendance: Ellen Hall, Linda Wells, Marianne Kotch, Trina Magi, Daisy Benson, Karen Lane, Krista Ainsworth, Charlotte Maison, David Clark, Richard Shrake, Teri Austin, Jenny Hermenze, Radka Ballada, Gail Weymouth, and Mary Kasamatsu.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the September 11 meeting were approved with minor corrections.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Krista Ainsworth presented a budget report for 2003 and the proposed budget for 2004. (Appended.) Krista discussed a gap in the system of notification for billing advertisers. It was recommended that the insertion order for newsletter advertising be copied to the treasurer when the advertiser is notified of placement of an ad.

The proposed budget was reviewed. It was noted that the budget runs on a calendar year, although terms of officers do not. There was discussion of arrangements for mailing the newsletter and of how to show the budget for the John Swan lecture, which happens every other year. The JS Endowment is not shown in the proposed budget because of its restricted nature. Expenses associated with the ALA Legislative Day will be moved from the ALA Councilor to Government Relations line item. The updated 2004 budget incorporating these revisions will be presented at the January meeting.

### **Announcements**

David Clark reported on a discussion with Christine Graham (publisher of the Vermont Foundations Directory) about her offer to sell copies to VLA members at \$30.00 rather than \$40.00 each. Ellen Hall suggested putting a notice to that effect in the VLA newsletter.

Ellen reported on the partnership with Drexel University. Currently, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Nevada, Kentucky, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire have arrangements with Drexel for their association members. This is a non-exclusive, nonbinding agreement. **Action taken:** Voted to enter into agreement with Drexel to provide reduced tuition to VLA members for degree programs or individual courses.

### **Section Reports**

*Public Library Section* – Richard Shrake for Marty Reid

The Public Library Section held a half-day workshop on the Vermont Online Library in October. Most of those who attended were already using VOL and did not need to be convinced of its value. Sheila Kearns discussed future costs and funding options. Most

libraries attending the workshop were looking for more instruction on using the various databases. Marty is thinking of planning a spring event.

*CAYAL* – Teri Austin

Teri distributed a draft flyer for the Eric Carle Museum trip in the spring. Program registration will include transportation by chartered bus, exhibit visit, and a workshop. This promises to be a very popular program.

*College and Special Libraries* – Radka Ballada

“No Librarian Is an Island” was presented in October with 32 people attending. There were presentations on VOL, networking, information literacy, assessment, and a discussion of how to collaborate in creating library web pages. Radka now turns her attention to doing an article for the newsletter and looking for a section president for next year.

*VLTA* -- Marianne Kotch

The fall conference was on October 25 with 53 people attending. Keynote speaker Governor Douglas was well received and was very happy to have been invited to speak. The panel presentation went well. Marianne hopes to have the conference in a more central location next year. Ellen offered Norwich University as a possible site.

Marianne announced that Sally Reid of FOLUSA (Friends of Libraries USA) will be in Rutland on Saturday, April 17.

### **Organizational Representatives Reports**

*ALA Councilor* – Trina Magi

There has been a lot of talk on the listserv concerning remarks made about a vendor's product. Discussion was posted on website, the vendor complained and the attorney for ALA advised pulling the comment from the website. This has led to considerable discussion of freedom to speak frankly within an Association forum.

*NELA* – Charlotte Maison

Charlotte reported on her attendance at NELA's fall conference in Worcester, MA. Robert Newdorfer of Waterbury donated a table for a raffle. The table was won by Peter Blodgett's wife. The new NELA president is John Barrett of New Hampshire. The highlight of the conference is networking. Charlotte encouraged librarians to budget for attending the conference next year.

### **Committee Reports**

Marianne reported on the announcement of a third year of funding by the Freeman Foundation.

*Government Relations* – Linda Wells

Linda submitted the committee's goals for the year and discussed an upcoming event, “Schmooze—Don't Loose” planned for December 4. An article is planned for the newsletter to encourage participation in the legislative breakfasts on February 9.

*Intellectual Freedom* – Gail Weymouth

Gail attended the quarterly Director's Forum at Midstate Regional Library and as a result of that discussion has received volunteers willing to serve on the committee. She is continuing to work on CIPA issues to deter filtering legislation at the state level. Although Gail reports she has received her first death threat following the National Review article "Kill the Librarians", she notes the backlash against repressive legislation is becoming more mainstream.

*Mother Jones Magazine* profiled Trina Magi for a column called "Hell Raisers".

*Personnel* – David Clark for Nancy Wilson

The committee has resumed meeting and is working on drafting livable wage recommendations.

*Conference Committee* – Jenny Hermenze

Plans are taking shape for workshops, keynote speakers, and an ECHO Center reception. Conference co-chairs will be interviewing Conference Assistant candidates later this month.

*Nominating Committee* – Ellen Hall

The secretary sends the slate of officers to the editor in March for publication in the April/May issue of the newsletter. Ellen has asked David Clark to chair the Nominating Committee and solicited suggestions of two other people to assist. David will contact those recommended.

**Other Business**

Mark Albury, the new editor of the newsletter, had hoped to attend this meeting but was detained by an unexpected commitment. There is no change as yet from the proposed schedule of articles used last year. Ellen asked that all board members review the calendar, strike out any changes, and communicate with Mark, via e-mail. Daisy recommended having a discussion of newsletter articles at the January meeting.

Trina has approached Vermont Stage Company about offering a special discounted matinee opportunity for VLA members to attend *Underneath the Lintel*, a play about a Dutch librarian who receives the return of a very overdue book. The play will run March 17 – 28, 2004.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00.