

Vermont Library Association Board Meeting
January 12, 2010, 10 am – Noon
CCV Administrative Offices

Present: John Payne, Jane Napier, David Sturges, Marti Fiske, Marti Reid, Grace Greene , Kip Roberson, Wynne Browne, Charlotte Gerstein, Sharon Thayer, Judah Hamer, Nancy Wilson, Lisa Von Kann, Lucinda Walker

1. Approval of minutes – Approved with one grammatical correction.
2. Sharon Thayer -Membership update. We have 78 members. We had a flurry of activity after the holidays and have eight new members.
3. Wynne Browne- Budget Report- Copies of the budget were sent by email. Last year we were \$2000 in the black. This includes taking \$2000 for the conference. The trustees program cost \$500, but was well attended. There was \$200 for extra scholarships and \$159 for Lisa to attend ALA. Marti Fiske asked about VLA reimbursement for an ALA workshop and this was approved. Each division has a corresponding income and expense amount, the idea being that if a division offered a workshop it would pay for itself. There was discussion about tax preparation and how it might be simpler this year since the Vermont Library Conference is smaller and we are not using a lobbyist. A vote was called to approve 2010 budget. The budget was unanimously approved.
4. Marti Reid (Vermont State Librarian) – various topics
 - a) Department of Libraries (DOL) budget – The budget was presented on Tuesday. The Department of Libraries will take approximately an 8% cut, and may have to make further reductions in services.
 - b) Gates Foundation grant – The DOL won a grant from the Gates Foundation. Vermont is one of 14 states to be selected. Gates provides matching funds to apply for round two grants for fiber optic Internet access to public libraries. It will potentially be a 2 million dollar project , but fiber optic is \$35,000 per mile, so it may not accomplish everything we hope to.
 - c) Assistant State Librarian position – There has been lots of interest. Public library development is the focus of the position.
 - d) Marti is looking for possible members for the Board of Libraries.
 - e) ALA is having an advocacy day during the annual conference instead of legislative day.
 - f) Jobs bill – ALA wants to include libraries, Marti has been asked for this info for Vermont.
 - g) Charlotte asked about developing a 24/7 reference service. Marti seemed interested. More discussion ensued on how to do this. Marti will explore the possibility of this service.
5. Presidents Letter- John will send out a letter to members. He is looking for ideas on what to include. It will probably be presented in a short newsletter format. The idea was suggested to do

one mailing to include the membership form, conference registration, and president's letter. It was agreed to do this. Marti suggested listing the current leadership roster.

6. Jane Napier – report on VLC Planning – Conference schedule is in draft format. The conference is on May 25th at St. Michael's College. The conference facilities will cost \$6000 for the day. Keynote Speaker is the New Jersey State Librarian and her fee is \$1000. David Macaulay is not charging a fee - \$600 will be set aside for hotel costs for speakers. Insurance coverage for the conference costs \$383 and provides 3 million dollars of coverage. The total conference cost is \$9000. Registration for the conference is limited at 250. The cost is \$55 per registrant and we need 182 registrants to break even. A schedule was distributed. No vendors will be at the conference
7. Other – Wordpress for board members will take place at a future meeting. Some instructions that Judah had developed were passed out. Helen and Jessamyn may also be contacted for assistance in this area.

Grace Greene (DOL) - Looking for nominees for VLA awards. Grace suggested acknowledging deaths in the past year at the conference. After some discussion, it was agreed it was important to acknowledge these types of events, but perhaps it would be on the VLA or DOL website and not announced at the conference

Nancy Wilson – The ALA midwinter Conference is next week. The Patriot Act -46 states have formally voiced support for the Feingold and Conyers bills.

The Government Relations Committee is trying to get support for a legislative breakfast, but public libraries have not been enthusiastic because they feel there is no point in these tight financial times. Marti Reid stated her support for continued advocacy. There was some discussion about communicating with legislators in settings other than a legislative breakfast. Marti will come up with some talking points for discussions with legislators. It was pointed out that there is some this type of info on the VLA website.

Charlotte Gerstein - A College and Special Libraries listserv has been initiated.

Adjourned – 11:45