

**Vermont Library Association
Board Meeting**

**March 12, 2009
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT**

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: **Judah Hamer** (President/Presiding), **John Payne** (Vice-President), **Brenda Ellis** (Secretary), **Sharon Thayer** (Membership chair), **Marti Fiske** (Public Libraries), **Kip Roberson** (NELA – New England Library Assoc. Rep); **Wynne Browne** (Treasurer), **Barbara Doyle-Wilch** (Past President; Co-Chair Vermont Library Conference), **Amy Grasmick** (Personnel Committee), **Nancy Wilson** (ALA Councilor); **Helen Linda** (Advocacy) **Marty Reid** (State Librarian/DOL); **Paula Baker** (Government Relations Committee)

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

The minutes from the January board meeting were approved after corrections.

Treasurer's Report (Wynne Browne) [Attachment A]

Wynne reported that Lisa von Kann asked VLA to give her \$250 to attend the Library Legislature Day in Washington, D.C. (we will ask VSLA to pay half – we alternate each year and split the cost). Motion was approved.

Membership income was noted – Barbara suggested Judah put a call to renew membership in his quarterly president's letter (he will send out by end of the month).

Vermont Library Conference Updates (Barbara Doyle-Wilch)

Barbara announced that **registration** will open tomorrow. The schedule is set. Mark Nash (actor / Vermont Stage Co. Producing Artistic Director) will do a reading of *Underneath the Lintel* as part of the closing.

Food costs are up about 25%. Will have an italian buffet and tex mex buffet.

There's a committee for the **gala party**. **Barbara asked the board to consider doing a display for their library with emphasis on how their library helps people in their community.** The party will have bare bones cheese and veggies plus cash bar.

She needs to know when sections will meet. She already heard from Larraby (C&SL) and Marti (PL).

Barbara told Nancy that Kelly Wood is her VSLA contact for **scholarships**. Costs: \$155 both days, \$80 1 day for members – more for non-members. Barbara asked Marty R. if DOL will continue to sponsor a scholarship? – Marty said DOL could do that instead of a general sponsorship - she'll let Barbara know later. VSLA has thrown in \$600 for scholarships.

Barbara called for **volunteers**. She will review registrations and ask board members to introduce the speaker(s) if they're attending the session (board should preregister as soon as possible).

Rob Geisler & Jeremiah Kellogg put together a **video on the new confidentiality statute**. It's about 40 min. long. Perhaps loop it at the exhibits, promenade, or DOL table? Should they make copies of it to put in registration packets or put some copies out for free? Have a table for freebies?

So far no bookstore wants to come sell books – a staffing issue. Perhaps a college bookstore or friends group would be willing.

Reports for Annual Meeting – each section / area should come up with a paragraph summarizing their area – full reports can be posted later on the VLA website.

Barbara asked people to be conservative about handouts – as little paper as possible.

Input for leadership position nominations

Judah passed around job descriptions for VLA positions. **We need a Secretary, Vice-President-President-elect, and ALA Councilor**. Brenda suggested that past NELLIS participants be contacted to see if any are interested. Judah asked people to review their job descriptions and send in any corrections to Judah. Amy recommended Lucinda Walker for a leadership position (VP).

Updates from Committees, Sections and ALA Representatives

Department of Libraries (DOL) - (Marty Reid)

Marty is asking for assistance from Vermont librarians as she works on federal **Economic Stimulus and Recovery** funding projects. She needs people to keep their ears open for opportunities – libraries may not be explicitly mentioned but there are still opportunities. Broadband is a big area; they are looking for big collaborative projects (especially the competitive grants). New partnerships are attractive. Perhaps tie in state catalog, distance learning centers, open computer

labs? Some libraries will be eligible for construction money through the USDA “community facilities” competitive grant program.

Paula attended a presentation organized by Governor Douglas and Senator Leahy about the stimulus money. Marty is forming a group to focus on the recovery money to disseminate information about available money. Nancy volunteered to be on the committee since she hears a lot as ALA Councilor when attending ALA. Lisa von Kann will be the representative from the Government Relations Committee.

For more information see: www.ala.org/knowyourstimulus

Other issues – job cuts: The Governor announced that proposed state job cuts will be fewer than the 600 jobs originally announced; potential position cuts are posted by position. DOL could lose 3 positions in this round of cuts (2 clerk and 1 secretary positions). Closing the regional libraries has been proposed. The DOL staff of librarians met to discuss the potential cuts and the future of the remaining two regional libraries. They have also looked at other department programs. Closings may not happen if the VSEA union and the State come to an agreement on concessions.

NELA Update and Conference Idea (Kip Roberson)

We are not having a joint conference in 2010 – it will be in Massachusetts instead. **NELA will be in Burlington in 2011 if we want to consider a joint effort then.** Judah asked Kip to find out who on the NELA board should be contacted by our Future of the Conference Committee to discuss future collaborations. Marty mentioned that if in the future VLC is only a one day conference, DOL might consider coordinating continuing education workshops for public librarians on the second day.

Sweepstakes offer

Judah was contacted by TIAA-CREF re: a sweepstakes to get kids signed up for summer reading. There’s a connection with savings theme? Prize money would be divided with the winner and the library. The money goes to the state and the state decides how to divide up.

Government Relations (Paula Baker)

Paula reported that our lobbyist John Shullenberger believes the bill to change the Confidentiality law won’t happen. Legislative Day is April 15th. More Information will come out after the committee meets Friday.

Membership (Sharon Thayer) – report submitted ahead of time

- As of March 11, 2008, we have **157** current VLA members, 21 of whom are new members. About 50% have renewed so far this year.

My Activities

- VLA membership database is current and accurate.
- VLA mailbox is checked, at minimum, once a week – often more than that. Membership renewals and joins are processed within a day of two of receipt of materials.
- Sending out the ALA-provided Oprah's Book Club selections as they arrive
- Continued activities include supporting VLA board members and Vermont Library Conference people by providing mailing addresses and updated lists of VLA members, as requested.
- Will periodically send VLA membership invitations to renew/join out via the VLA website and listserv.

College & Special Libraries (Larraby Fellows via email before meeting)

We've set an April 24th date, from 1:00-3:00 (or so) for the free state-wide webinar on customer service in libraries.

I've received some great ideas, via email, about promoting this event and plan to start peppering the listservs at the end of March.

Any other promotion ideas are welcome and be sure to spread the word at your own libraries.

Adjourned at 11:45

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Ellis,
VLA Secretary

Budget - Current Year

Attachment A

1/1/2009 through 12/31/2009 Using VLA 2009 approved

3/11/2009

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| Category Description | 1/1/2009 Actual | - Budget | 12/31/2009 Difference |
|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| INCOME | | | |
| Advertising Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| CAYAL Income | 0.00 | 800.00 | -800.00 |
| College Special Libraries Income | 0.00 | 300.00 | -300.00 |
| Conference Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Government Relations Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Intellectual Freedom Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Lobbyist Income (State Aid for Pub.Lib.) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Membership Income | 4,570.00 | 12,000.00 | -7,430.00 |
| Miscellaneous income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Public Libraries Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Tax Preparation Income | 0.00 | 475.00 | -475.00 |
| Vt. Lib. Trustees Assoc. Income | 0.00 | 500.00 | -500.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 4,570.00 | 14,075.00 | -9,505.00 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| ALA Councilor Expense | 947.24 | 2,400.00 | 1,452.76 |
| ALA Dues | 110.00 | 110.00 | 0.00 |
| Awards Committee Expense | 0.00 | 240.00 | 240.00 |
| Bulk Mailing Permit, PO Box rental | 0.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 |
| CAYAL Expense | 0.00 | 800.00 | 800.00 |
| College Special Libraries Exp. | 0.00 | 550.00 | 550.00 |
| DCF Conference | 400.00 | 400.00 | 0.00 |
| Donations Expense | 0.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Government Relations Expense | 0.00 | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| Intellectual Freedom Expense | 0.00 | 262.00 | 262.00 |
| Lobbyist Expense | 300.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,200.00 |
| Membership Expense | 27.00 | 600.00 | 573.00 |
| Miscellaneous expense | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| NELA Representative Expense | 0.00 | 465.00 | 465.00 |
| NELLS Conference | 0.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| NELLS Scholarships | 0.00 | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| Personnel Committee Expense | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| President Expense | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Public Libraries Expense | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Secretary Expense | 0.00 | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| Tax Preparation Expense | 0.00 | 475.00 | 475.00 |
| Treasurer Expense | 0.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| Treasurer's Bond Expense | 90.00 | 90.00 | 0.00 |
| VLA News Expense | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Vt. Library Trustees Assoc. Exp. | 0.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Web Site Design Maintenance | 0.00 | 225.00 | 225.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 1,874.24 | 10,797.00 | 8,922.76 |
| OVERALL TOTAL | 2,695.76 | 3,278.00 | -582.24 |

Account Balances - As of 3/11/2009

3/11/2009

As of 3/11/2009

| Account | 3/11/2009 Balance |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Bank Accounts | |
| Certificate of Deposit | 1,749.89 |
| Checking | 16,348.39 |
| Checking 2-NYNEX | 0.00 |
| DOL-Summer Reading | 0.00 |
| J. Swan Endowment | 10,000.00 |
| J. Swan Lecture Series | 1,687.47 |
| TOTAL Bank Accounts | 29,785.75 |
| OVERALL TOTAL | 29,785.75 |