

Vermont Library Association
Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
May 13, 2004
Norwich University, Northfield

FINAL

In attendance: Ellen Hall, Marty Reid, Linda Wells, Marianne Kotch, Karen Lane, Trina Magi, Gail Weymouth, Charlotte Maison, Teri Austin, Jenny Hermenze, Paul Carnahan, David Clark, Radka Ballada, Teresa Faust, and Mary Kasamatsu.

Announcements

- *Board approval of slate of officers*
Ellen checked the bylaws regarding Board approval of the slate of officers. The bylaws do not require Board approval. The Nominating Committee informs the board as a courtesy and sends the slate of names to the newsletter.
- *Memorandum of Agreement between VLA and VEMA*
Ellen presented an updated MOA regarding co-sponsorship of the VLC with changes from the original language indicated for discussion. Ellen will pass document back to VEMA for review.
- *Minimum salary*
Ellen announced that ALA is now reporting the correct minimum recommended salary of \$33,000 for Vermont librarians as sent by the VLA Personnel Committee.
- *Museum Pass*
David Clark reported that Bristol Library has a summer museum pass. He approached the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance to see if VLA and VMGA could pursue a similar program for other VLA member libraries.
- *Public Library Association Conference*
We have received a letter from the Massachusetts Library Association expressing their concerns that the Public Library Association Conference coming to Boston March 20-25, 2006, will impact attendance at state conferences. No such concerns were evident among Board members. Marianne suggested VLA sponsor a bus trip to the PLA Conference.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes from January 8, 2004, and March 11, 2004, were approved as verbally amended.

Treasurers Report

Budget report through May 11 was presented and accepted. (A)

Special Reports

Conference Committee – Jenny Hermenze gave a status report on registration and weekly income totals for the 2004 Library Conference. (B-1 and B-2.) There were questions on the location of future conferences. The Conference is booked at the Wyndham through 2006, but we have been notified that we must rent the hotel's equipment. The contract is currently being reviewed to determine options. The Conference Assistant's contract is up for review. She would like to continue.

There will be a post-conference meeting on June 16 at Kellogg-Hubbard Library from 4:00-6:00 PM. The meal is potluck. Conference committee members and are invited.

Section Representative Reports

Public Library Section – Marty Reid

Richard Shrake will be vice-chair and will move up to section president after next year. Marty is still working to find a president for next year. She asked public librarians to bring photos and information about how they used their Freeman grants for a display at the VLC called Extreme Makeovers. She reported on the April program "Making Our Voices Heard" – a terrific free workshop with Sally Reid of FOLUSA. 85 people attended.

CAYAL – Teri Austin

The Eric Carle trip on April 2 was a great success, very educational and lots of fun. All responses were positive, and the finances are not in the red.

College and Special Libraries – Radka Ballada

Radka introduced Teresa Faust, Director of Burlington College Library, who will be the section chair next year. Radka wrote an article for the newsletter about the new Marlboro College library. She reports that the section meeting at this year's conference will feature door prizes.

Vermont Library Trustees Association – Marianne Kotch

About 115 people attended the Town Officers Training Conferences this spring. VLTA is planning a fall conference in Northfield on the first Saturday in November. Theme being considered is conflict resolution. Marianne also distributed a VLTA annual report.

Department of Libraries – Marianne Kotch

Marianne is reading Freeman grants as fast as possible. The Legislature is almost done. DOL budget is expected to be passed as requested.

Awards – Paul Carnahan

There will be four awards this year. There were two nominees for the Sarah C. Hagar Award. Trina Magi was selected. The Green Mountain Award will go to the Freeman Foundation. Don Post will receive the award to be presented by Sybil McShane and Hilary Farrington. Ellen will introduce Sybil. There were seven nominees for Trustee of the Year. Betsy Eckfeldt of Roxbury and Donna Schwarz of Shrewsbury were selected. Both women kept their libraries alive until the Freeman grants enabled the libraries to be on a more firm footing.

There was discussion of the need to get more publicity for the award. It was suggested that David appoint a PR committee for next year.

Paul requested to step down as Awards Committee chair after several years in this position.

Government Relations – Linda Wells

National Library Week activities featured a book cart and display at the Legislature. There was also a very nicely done bookmark (designed by Connie Koeller) with public library statistics from Marianne's report.

Intellectual Freedom – Gail Weymouth

Gail has busy answering questions on CIPA and filtering. She would like someone else to chair the committee, but would stay on to advise and support the new chair. The ALA Intellectual Freedom Manual is being revised, and this is a major time commitment.

Membership – Teresa Faust for Daisy Benson

Teresa distributed Daisy's report on membership. (C.) There was discussion of a proposal to add a membership category for Friends/supporters. The discussion will continue via email. David Clark will present the proposal as a bylaws change at the annual meeting.

Organization Representative Reports

ALA – Trina Magi

Trina will be going to the ALA Conference in Orlando in June. ALA held elections electronically this year. There was much higher participation.

A new membership category for support staff was approved. A petition drive is collecting signatures to repeal Section 215 of the Patriot Act. Organizers are planning a July 4 event. Trina passed out information on RFID technology. Some libraries are using it for self checkout. It raises privacy issues. ALA is talking about the need for a statement on this issue.

NELA -- Charlotte Maison

The recent issue of the NELA newsletter features an article by Jessamyn West on rural library compensation. There is also an article on CIPA and tips for selecting filters. The annual NELA Conference will be September 26-28, 2004, at the Center of New Hampshire in Manchester, NH. Scholarship opportunities are available for NELA members for continuing education courses.

The second New England Library Leadership Symposium (NELLS) will be next year, July 24-29, 2005 in Exeter, Rhode Island. This is an intensive four-day course for up and coming library leaders. Charlotte asked Board members to think of people to send.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is set for July 8 at Norwich University at 9:30.