

## **NLA Board Meeting Minutes**

**May 1, 2020**

**1:00 PM**

### **Virtual Zoom Meeting**

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

#### **A. Call to Order - Michael Straatmann at 1:03 PM**

##### **1. Announcements**

- a. An online executive meeting was held April 27 to discuss how best NLA can serve Nebraska's librarians under the circumstances, with budgets severely impacted. Reflections of this discussion is shown through the new business items listed below.
- b. Motions will be made through the comment section of the Zoom conferencing software.

##### **2. Approval of the agenda**

- a. Motion to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda: England-Biggs, Second: Mering. Vote: Motion Carried.

##### **3. [Approval of minutes from January 31, 2020 board meeting](#)**

- a. Motion to approve the January 31, 2020 board meeting minutes: Greser. Second: England-Biggs. Vote: Motion Carried.

##### **4. [Treasurer's Report](#) and Approval**

- a. Denise Harders reported that she is working to figure out all of the involved spreadsheets and background of the Treasurer's role. This report is just a quarterly update that is ending on March 31 and includes all up to date bank account statement amounts. All contributions to the Nixon and legacy funds have been transferred at this point. Harders also reported that she is still working with Ginger Jelinek to close the Affinipay account, as NLA now uses Paypal for accepting payments on the website instead. Jelinek confirmed that the Affinipay account is now closed.
- b. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report: Dietrich, Second: Childers. Vote: Motion Carried.

#### **B. Old Business**

##### **1. Advocacy Day Update**

- a. Scott Childers reported on the outcome of Advocacy Day. The opening session was held at a different location than normally, at the Rembolt Ludtke offices in Lincoln. 10 volunteers were recognized that day from varying library sizes from across the state. About 70 attended the luncheon at the Cornhusker that day.
- b. Childers reported on the morning session presentations. Pat Leach discussed leading a campaign to show what libraries really do with good instruction on how to craft a message to the public. Scott Childers presented on establishing a connection and library importance prior to library budget issues or important votes, as well as the significance of those that aren't elected

officials speaking up for the library. NLA Lobbyist Nick Paden also presented current issues to discuss with your Senators.

- c. Several members gave feedback on the day. Vicki Wood made a comment about a previous year in which it was difficult to hear speakers in the morning, and Childers suggested that microphones would be useful for all sessions for that day in the future. Straatman commented on how good the morning presentations were.

## 2. National Library Legislative Day Update

- a. Micki Dietrich reported that ALA made National Legislative Day virtual, with a lot of content, so that more could attend and participate.
- b. Micki noted that ALA needs to know where we want Nebraska participants to point to, our Engage page or the national page. Straatman noted that the national website would be the better page to use. Anyone who's interested in working on the Nebraska Engage webpage should contact Dietrich, Childers, or Straatman.

## 3. [2020 Conference Update](#)

- a. Laura England-Biggs requested additional program submissions for conference, as of this meeting there were only about 20 submissions.
- b. England-Biggs also commented that the availability for a keynote for fall is difficult to procure - a lot of authors and others aren't responding. Becky Baker recommended William Kent Krueger, as she's been corresponding with this author for another event already.
- c. Straatman mentioned the potentially large financial impact of this event for NLA.
- d. [Younes](#)
  - i. Ginger Jelinek reported on her communication with the Younes Conference Center so far. There has not been a lot of communication as of yet, but they seem willing to work with NLA on changes that will come up for the fall 2020 conference. The upcoming MPLA combined conference may be a bargaining chip for future conversations.
  - ii. Discussion occurred here by several staff on what the pandemic may mean for the fall conference. It was noted that other states are in the process of cancelling their fall conferences, as well as the potential for moving completely online, a shortened conference, or a hybrid of watch parties around the state for a virtual option. Several other ideas were mentioned with the final consensus coming to the point that the membership should be polled for feedback on fall conference changes. Another meeting will be planned to discuss options after a polling has been completed.

## 4. 125th Anniversary Update

- a. [Logo](#)
  - i. A logo has been designed, and work will be done to put out items representing the new logo in Cafe Press.
  - ii. Micki Dietrich noted that a resolution celebrating NLA's 125 year mark should be brought to ALA Council. More information and history on NLA is necessary to compile the statement.

## 5. Additional Old Business

## C. New Business

- 1. Announcements:
  - a. Lobbyist staffing change
    - i. Nick Paden, our previous lobbyist staff member, is moving. Rembolt Ludtke will provide another member that will work with us on lobbying.
- 2. COVID-19 Response
  - a. [Web site](#)

- i. Laura England-Biggs worked with Ginger Jelinek, amongst others, to put together COVID-19 resources for libraries and librarians. If you have recommendations on further content for the website, please contact Laura or Ginger.
3. [Protecting Library Staff letter](#)
  - a. Laura England-Biggs put together a statement that can be published for the website and social media. Clarification was requested on who the letter is meant to be sent to. Its purpose is to be used as a level of support by the association to individuals or libraries when talking with individual governing bodies about protecting library staff around the state in regards to unemployment, financial issues, safety issues, etc.
4. [Action Items from ALA Councilor](#) - Micki Dietrich
  - a. It was recommended by board members that Nebraska librarians should use the national Engage page.
  - b. For a state reopening ALA task force, two members are needed and they must have an ALA Connect login (ALA virtual membership portal). Laura England-Biggs, Michael Straatman, and Scott Childers expressed interest in being a part of this task force. An ALA Connect training will take place on May 6.
5. Contracts for future conferences
  - a. [Younes](#)
    - i. Younes is looking to work with us on the 2024 joint MPLA conference. NLA is waiting on a response from MPLA before moving forward to obtain other bids or pricing.
6. Additional New Business

## **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 (will give verbally)
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
4. [Communications](#) – Sarah Haack
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 2:29 pm