

Wyoming Library Association
Executive Board Minutes
March 11th, 2021

Call to order

President Jacob Mickelsen called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

Roll Call

Board members present:

Jacob Mickelsen, President
Jeff Collins, Vice President (joined at 10:14)
Abby Beaver, Past President
Caitlin White, Legislative Committee Chair
Elizabeth Thorson, Communications Advisor (joined at 10:27)
Jamie Markus, State Librarian
Johanna Tuttle, Interest Groups Representative
Judi Boyce, Member-at-Large (joined at 10:18)
Katrina Brown, MPLA Representative
Janice Grover-Roosa, ALA Coordinator
Anna Street, WLLI Advisor

Also present:

Kristin Evans, Amigos Library Management Group

A quorum was determined to be present.

Agenda

Jake suggested one item to add to the agenda – 1. To present an invoice from EveryLibrary for payment. Motion to approve the agenda as amended, **Tuttle/Street, Passed**

Approval of February Minutes

Minutes approved as presented, **Street/Tuttle, Passed** (Janice abstaining)

President Report

Jake reported vacancies on the conference steering committee, book award committee, membership ad-hoc committee, and conference programming committee. He would welcome volunteers to serve on these committees.

Amigos Report

Kristin reported on February financials (See attached) Received \$3,300 in membership dues, earned \$1,200 in dividends, total income for the month of \$5,784.10. In good financial shape for where we are in the year. Received refund from Clarion hotel. Amigos has been working on membership processing, with 53 new members over the prior month and an increase over the same time last year. Almost finished fixing account issue with US Bank.

Question later in the meeting from Janice regarding Amigos job boards. Kristin reported that Amigos is made up of different departments, and being an association management client does not currently allow access to their job board. This is a frequently brought up issue, and Kristin will pursue making this option available to association clients.

Vice President Report/Conference

Jeff reported that the Programming Committee is making good progress. The committee has been meeting every two weeks and is working on developing a list of potential speakers, a publicity plan to solicit proposals, a form for those proposals, and a rubric for evaluation. The committee anticipates the program proposal form going live by April 30th. Questions about software for management of conference.

Conference will be held October 7-8, Thursday – Friday.

Governing Board Member Reports

Past President –

Abby reported that she continues to work with Amigos making sure that communications go where they need to.

ALA Councilor's Report –

Janice reported that she has been waiting to see how ALA will respond to the new federal funding. Janice will review the primary documents for that funding as available and keep the board informed. Emails regarding National Library Legislative day have been forwarded to the state librarian and legislative committee.

MPLA –

Katrina reported nothing new, MPLA is struggling with membership.

WLLI Report

Anna reported that WLLI graduates held a Zoom meeting to network and plan the upcoming institute, still scheduled for June. Susan Mark took over the fund raising committee for WLLI and has already raised funds from the WSL. An unused McMurry grant was made available for WLLI and will cover a substantial portion of the institute this year.

Interest Groups –

Johanna reported that the mentorship program is up and running well. Youth services interest group will have some Zoom meetings soon. Youth services librarians are encouraged to attend these meetings, and the group plans to provide a volunteer for the conference committee. School libraries met last month, great discussion about what WLA does for school librarians. Some ideas forthcoming about encouraging membership from schools, encourage us to look at different membership options.

Members-at-Large –

No report

Legislative Committee –

Caitlin reported that the legislative session is underway and weekly review emails from her have started. Our lobbyist has been remotely attending daily sessions. Bills are reaching their second and third readings. If members have questions, please contact a committee member. No action from members is asked for at this time. Legislative committee elected to deliver locally baked custom cookies to the House of Representatives on 3/15. Members are asked to monitor emails from Caitlin in case action is required on any potential legislation.

State Librarian –

Jamie reported that the bills and senate files have all been filed (no new legislation can be proposed this session). Some bills dying off already, and nothing huge that will affect the library community. The third reading of the budget starts this week and there is the potential for changes. Jamie will be reading every amendment, and will communicate through Caitlin if action is required. Cookie delivery in the upcoming blizzard may be exciting.

Two employees will either retire or take other opportunities soon, Jamie anticipates 30-50% turn over in the next several months. No changes to services anticipated, but this will be a tough time to hire.

Changes coming to staff duties in the next few months in order to administrate ARPA funds (\$2.1M). Forming a committee to help guide the allocation of those funds. WLA may be needed to be a grant sub-recipient to simplify funding administration.

An additional \$7.9B allocated to the federal E-rate program. No library in Wyoming is currently taking advantage of these programs, but Jamie reports that the paperwork has become less cumbersome, and he encouraged all libraries to take a look at this program.

The WSL offered to pay conference registration fees for the ALA representative and MPLA representative. Potential for further funding from the WSL for WLA conference, depending on federal guidelines.

Communications Advisor –

No report.

Other Business –

Reimbursement to Caitlin White for Legislative Snacks

Motion to reimburse Caitlin White \$480 for snacks provided to legislators **Brown/Boyce, Passed**

Special meeting for bylaws vote on secretary/treasurer

Discussion at the February meeting regarding the creation of the position. Reviewed discussion points regarding whether the position should be appointed vs elected, and whether the position should be a voting one. Katrina advocated for an appointed non-voting position, to promote impartiality and avoid having a tied vote. Janice advocated for an elected position, to encourage diversity in the board (people tend to appoint colleagues they know and have worked with, whereas elections might promote a more diverse group). Discussion of combining options and creating an elected but non-voting position, board generally agreeable on this option.

Motion to instruct the bylaws committee to create an elected Secretary/Treasurer position with a term of three years, noting that the position does not have a vote on the WLA Executive Board.
Grover-Roosa/Street, Passed

30 days notice required to members of proposed bylaws changes required, discussion of timeline for notice.

Bylaws committee will work on the proposed changes for the future membership vote.

Potential changes form ad-hoc membership committee, will need its own bylaws vote.

Bylaws votes don't need to happen concurrently with Executive Board meetings, so these may be scheduled independently.

Payment of EveryLibrary Board Training Invoice

Motion to pay the first half of the bill from EveryLibrary totaling \$6,000. **Beaver/Tuttle, Passed**

Date of Next Meeting –

The next meeting will be April 8th, 2021 at 10:00 am.

Adjourned –

The meeting adjourned at 10:50.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacob Mickelsen
President