



**General Membership Business Meeting: Minutes
November 4, 2020
Zoom Platform**

Present:

NDLA Board Members:

Traci Lund, President
Amy Soma, President-Elect
Maggie Townsend, Past-President
Aaron Stefanich, Treasurer
BreAnne Meier, Nominations, Elections, and Voting
Carmen Redding, School Library and Youth Services Section Chair
Danae Snavelly, Technical Services and Government Documents Roundtable Co-Chair
James Murphy, New Members Roundtable Chair
Janet Anderson, Legislative Committee Chair
Joshua Pikka, Web Editor
Kristen Borysewicz, Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies Committee Co-Chair
Laurie McHenry, ALA Councilor, Membership Committee Chair, Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies Committee Co-Chair
Lisa Eggebraaten, Academic and Special Libraries Section Chair
Marlene Anderson, The Good Stuff Editorial Committee Chair
Mary Soucie, State Librarian
Randi Monley, MPLA Representative
Rita Ennen, Public Libraries Section Chair
Sara Westall, Health Science Information Section Chair
Stephanie Kom, Finance Committee Chair
Trevor Martinson, Archivist/ Historian

Also Present:

Abby Ebach, North Dakota State Library
Allison Radermacher, Ellendale Public School
Amanda Walch, University of Jamestown
Cynthia Clairmont-Schmidt, North Dakota State Library
Ellen Kotrba,
Erika Johnson, University of North Dakota
Jessica,
Kerriane Boetcher, Ward County Public Library
Krista Kurtz, North Dakota State Library
Kristen Northrup, North Dakota State Library
Mary Lorenz, Grand Forks Public Library
Megan Richardson

Michele Seil, Carrington City Library
Nicole Eckroth, University of Mary
Patty Molm
Rachel Kercher
Sarah Lerud
Shannon Yarbrough
Shari Mosser, North Dakota State Library
Sheila
Virginia Bjorness

Absent:

NDLA Board Members:

David Gray, Secretary

Renaë Tholker, Technical Services and Government Documents Roundtable Co-Chair

Jesse Leraas, Professional Development Committee Chair

Meeting called to order by President Lund at 1:01pm

President Lund went through Zoom meeting etiquette for the group.

Treasurer's Report: Aaron Stefanich reported on the previous year's finances. The largest sources of income for 2019 were the annual conference and member dues; the largest expense was the annual conference. 2019 year-end equity was \$99,836. As of 11/4/2020, NDLA's total equity is \$96,618. He anticipates that NDLA will take on more income than expenses for the remainder of the year. No questions.

State Librarian's Report: State Librarian Mary Soucie reported on the State Library's reorganization that began in February. There are now 4 divisions—Administrative Services, Library Services, Patron Services, and Technology Services. Several staff members have moved to different positions within this new structure.

The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council adopted a new Library Vision document. The new document is not labeled with a year like previous years' were. Some goals have been updated based on feedback from library focus groups. NDLCC awarded grants for COVID-19 Responses and collection development in the past year. Looking forward, State Librarian Soucie is working with the Assistant Attorney General regarding changes to ND Century Code to change the make-up for the library representation on the Council. The proposed change is to replace the current special libraries seat, private academic library seat, and public academic library seat with a general academic library seat (for either a public or private institution) and two at-large library seats.

Going into the legislative session in 2021, State Librarian Soucie requested the library community respond to the call to tell their library stories to help assist with the State Library's testimony. Libraries are also asked to respond with oral or written testimony to help support the State Library's budget—specific examples of times the State Library's services have been useful are encouraged.

The State Library began Library Community meetings in March in response to the pandemic. They are now twice a month; all librarians are welcome to attend. NDSL has begun the process of updating their Strategic Plan. Some of the State's CARES funding went to funding "change management" training. State Librarian Soucie is in discussions with other state agencies on how to bring this training to other libraries in the state.

Discussion consisted of President Lund emphasizing the importance of providing testimony to the legislature. Other attendees echoed the importance of reaching out to local, state, and federal legislators to get them acquainted with their local library.

ALA Councilor's Report: Laurie McHenry reported on the changes of the American Library Association. LLAMA, LITA, and ALCTS were all consolidated into CORE. The pandemic postponed the organization moving into their new office space. Tracie Hall is the new Executive Director. Council meetings for ALA previously cost over \$1 million for each meeting, but in June they met virtually, and it was discussed doing this in the future to lower costs instead of cutting down the size of council. The resolutions passed this year are listed below:

- Ensuring intellectual Freedom and the Right to peacefully Assemble at ALA Conferences and Meetings
- Opposition to Charging Prisoners to Read
- Protecting Privacy and Safety in Coronavirus-related Library Policy
- Developing Library Security Policies in Keeping with ALA Policy
- Condemning Police Violence Against Black, Indigenous, People of Color, Protestors, and Journalists

The rest of ALA's documentation can be found in her annual report. L. McHenry thanked NDLA for the chance to serve as the ALA Councilor. M. Soucie asked if the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness had ever adopted a proposal. L. McHenry stated that they turned over their work to the Forward Together Working Group, but no action has been taken by the council. Sarah Lerud will be the ALA Councilor moving forward.

MPLA Representative's Report: Randi Monley reported that there was no conference in 2020. It was supposed to be in Spring 2021 in conjunction with the library association in Utah. They decided to go virtual, and MPLA stepped back from the conference. The next scheduled conference will be in August 2022 with the Pacific Northwest Library Association and Montana Library Association in Missoula, MT. North Dakota's next joint conference will be in Grand Forks in 2025. The Leadership Institute for 2020 didn't occur, but organizers are attempting to adapt it or do it in another form. There are 10 free memberships to MPLA for first time members. M. Soucie mentioned that MPLA has monthly "Chat and Chew" meetings that are open to everyone. No questions.

Old Business: None

New Business: President Lund presented a draft of the restructuring of the NDLA Executive Board. She explained that this would allow for changes to be made more effectively and timely. The largest changes are to move the roundtables to non-voting members and to create a conference committee. The purpose of the conference committee is to help delegate out the tasks so that the President-Elect, President, and Past-President can devote more time to their roles. The Executive Board's first vote to eliminate the roundtables has passed and the second vote is planned to take place at the December Executive Board meeting before going to the membership

for a vote to change the bylaws. There will be a drop-in meeting in late November for members to ask more questions.

Ellen Kotrba asked if the committees were being removed from the board completely or just moved to non-voting. President Lund confirmed.

E. Kotrba asked if the Executive Committee of the Board was being eliminated. K. Borysewicz confirmed and said that this will be going to a vote to the membership.

M. Soucie asked for clarification about removing members from the Executive Board. President Lund clarified that there are no actual eliminations of positions being proposed. Instead, they are moving the current roundtables to non-voting members of the board. K. Borysewicz clarified that since the roundtables have been made into committees that there will not be votes for Chairs and instead they will be by appointment from the President. President Lund says that non-voting members don't have to attend meetings. Discussion ensued regarding if the board was being made smaller or not, what the purpose of non-voting members is, and if the roundtables should be removed from the board all-together since all members can attend board meetings. It was also suggested that recruitment may be easier for positions as it may sound less intimidating if they are not a member of the board. Moving forward, President Lund will redraft the restructuring document to send out to the membership for review.

M. Soucie asked why the Executive Board Listserv was open to anybody that wanted to be on it. L. McHenry said that is the current practice, and those that wish to view the listserv are added as "Read Only" members. Discussion ensued regarding if being open to all is a best-practice for transparency or if there is board-business that shouldn't be open to the general membership. L. McHenry says that the NDLA General Membership Listserv is not well maintained with current members and the Executive listserv is maintained. Moving forward, there will be further discussion about the purpose of the Executive Board Listserv.

Maggie Townsend asked the membership to re-look at the creation of the Conference Committee and what it would mean to remove those duties from the President-Elect and the Past-President. President Lund clarified that in the current proposal, the Past-President would serve on the Committee, but they would not be the Chair. Discussion centered around the role of the President over the 3-year term, the President's role in shaping the conference, and the President's responsibility to the organization and libraries. There was also discussion about if someone on the Executive Committee should be the Chair of the Conference Committee or just a part of the Committee for the purpose of direction and continuity of planning; some voiced concerns about filling both the Conference Committee Chair and the President role because both are 3-year terms. President Lund said that she believes the association is looking for movement forward since she has received a lot of feedback requesting that the board be less clustered, she emphasized that if this proposal passes and isn't effective, that it can be removed.

The process for passing the restructuring proposal is to have an informal meeting in December 2020 for members to drop-in and ask questions about the proposal to President Lund. At the December Executive Board meeting, the proposal for the New Members Roundtable and Tech Services/GODART Roundtable to be turned into committees will go to its second vote. If that fails, the entire proposal will go back to the drawing board. If that vote passes, the entire restructuring proposal will go to the membership for a vote.

All of the annual reports have been provided in the meeting details. President Lund encourages everyone to read the reports to see the work that has been done by the organization this year. No questions or discussion.

Section and Roundtables met prior to the annual meeting to discuss their business. No questions or discussion.

President Lund read out the resolution from the School Library and Youth Services Section (see Appendix A). No discussion. Vote to implement the resolution from the SLAYS section as presented passed unanimously.

President-Elect Soma presented on the upcoming Committee Chairs. She thanked Marlene Anderson for serving in her role as editor for *The Good Stuff* since December 1999. Moving forward, Shannon Yarbrough will be the Chair of The Good Stuff Committee. Marlene will remain on the committee to assist in the transition. Other updates to committees are as follows:

- Mary Soucie and Lydia Faulkner will be joining the Nominations, Elections, and Voting Committee. BreAnne Meier will remain the Chair.
- Laurie McHenry stepped down as the chair for the Membership Committee. Sara Westall and Kristen Northrup joined the committee. There is no current Chair.

A. Soma expressed appreciation to all of the committees and Chairs for their work. Membership should reach out to Amy to join a committee as there are several openings available.

Announcements: R. Monley reminded the membership that there are 10 free MPLA memberships available for first-time members. S. Lerud reminded people to purchase their swag from the NDLA conference. M. Townsend expressed appreciation for her time serving in the Presidency roles. President Lund thanked the Executive Board for a great year of her Presidency before announcing Amy Soma as the next President to close out the meeting. A. Soma expressed excitement for the next year and making the association the best it can be.

Maggie Townsend moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:44pm. Seconded by Randi Monley. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Abby Ebach
NDLA Secretary-Elect

Appendix A:

Resolution

Section: School Library and Youth Services Section

Chair: Carmen Redding

WHEREAS the School Library and Youth Services Section of the North Dakota Library Association recognizes the need to address Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in all areas of library services, and

WHEREAS the North Dakota Library Association issued a statement in June 2020 in support of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and has the means to reach librarians statewide, and

WHEREAS all librarians need to be armed with ongoing information and training to be able to make impactful changes,

THEREFORE let it be resolved that the School Library and Youth Services Section calls upon the North Dakota Library Association to adopt and implement strategies to address Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion through ongoing engagements, such as workshops, speakers, conversations, and partnerships.