

**Maryland Library Association
Children's Services Division
Monday Feb 10, 2003
Eldersburg Branch, Carroll County Public Library**

Minutes

Present: Sharyn Yenser (BCPL Randallstown), Janis Cooker (St. Mary's County), Ellen Alvarez (CCPL Outreach Dept.), Natalie Edington (AnneArundel County), Kathy MacMillan (MD School for the Deaf, Columbia), Kathy Kirchoefer (PGCMLS), Julie Dietzel-Glair (Frederick County Public Libraries), Sophia Van Schaick (HCPL), Diana Valentine (retired EPFL), Betsy Diamant-Cohen (EPFL), Nancy Feierstein (BCPL Reisterstown), Kelly McCoy (EPFL), Sally Majoros (BCPL Arbutus)

I Introduction and Go-Around

Sophia reported that their YA and Adult Winter Reading Program is really taking off. The cooking program was a great success.

Julie reported that they now have two computers with word processing in the children's department.

Ellen said that their last two winter puppet shows were cancelled because of Old Man Winter.

Diana attended a bike/pedestrian symposium in Annapolis. She is getting involved with an effort to bring biking safety programs to schools. She is going skiing in Austria next month, so will miss the March meeting.

Nancy remarked that BCPL has been experiencing a flurry of promotions and transfers lately. The offices were flooded with applications for the latest entry level librarian slots.

Sally spoke about the highly successful Storytime Science program put on by Melanie Rodriguez, and the large crowd that showed up for the Barry Louis Polisar Program.

Sharyn is working on ways to use the \$5,000 hospital grant Randallstown received for health-related programming. Storytimes are doing well.

Betsy attended a "Tykes on Ice" program put on by the Baltimore Office of Promotions at Rash Field, and helped with the library tent which had books, a craft activity and the Pratt mascot. As part of Black History month celebration, they used a group that presented the African Experience at Port Discovery, which focused on african culture and life. This was well-attended and she has contact information if anyone is interested. She is on the PLA committee for public library services for care-givers.

Natalie, who has just returned from Kenya, is still getting back into the groove.

Kathy M has a break next week. Her school will be getting an electronic catalog sometime in the next two years. She is doing a homeschool version of ASL, and will be working at a deaf and sign language camp this summer.

Kelly had nothing new to report.

Janis Cooker said they have two new MLS children's librarians. To celebrate the new library, from March 17 – 22 they will have a variety of entertainers and personalities such as Mike Rose and Sharon McCrumb, high school bands, clowns etc. They are having two Dr. Seuss birthday parties. They are participating in the Md State Dept. of Education "Take Fifteen for the Family" campaign.

Kathy K says the Family Place program is doing very well – they have 20 families participating. She has two librarians doing training for storytimes at her branch..

II Minutes approved as corrected From now on a copy of the minutes will be sent to the MLA webmaster rkuntz@carr.org, to be posted on the web.

III Kathy M reported on the carpool trip to Philadelphia to visit the exhibits for ALA. Eight librarians made the trip.

IV Executive Report

Kathy M has an article in 'Public Libraries' concerning library service to the deaf. MLA revenues reached \$6,000 last year. CSD has made \$10,000 for MLA over the years.. Concerns to be addressed: securing future conference sites, analyzing conference structure, revamping the nomination process, media promotion for MLA achievements, mentoring and recruitment.

The May Conference has 14 vendors signed up so far, 40 programs, and 100 presenters

William K. Klingman has won the Maryland author award.

MLA will be the first library association associated with MANO (Maryland Association of Non-Profit Organizations).

Kathy presented a listing of MLA sponsored educational programs and profits for the last four years. Revenues and numbers of programs have been steadily climbing.

V MLA Conference

CSD program timeslots are now set. Thursday, May 8th will have Reading Goes to The Dogs from 2:15 – 3:30 PM, and Early Literacy in Maryland: An Update from 4 to 5:15 PM. Friday, May 9th, will have School-Age Programming Pizzaz from 9:30 – 12:30 PM, Blast Off the Reading! 2003 Summer Reading Program from 2:15 – 3:30 PM, and

KidWorks: A Model for Serving Multiple Age Groups from 3:45 – 5:00 PM. As far as KidWorks goes, Kathy will try to get all four of the kids who submitted entries to us to be underwritten by MLA.

VI Fall Conference

We can get Katie George to do a puppet presentation for us as the last program for the day. (She'll do it for free). Much enthusiasm. Kathy K will get a portable mike for this.

The bi-lingual storytime presenters are lined up, with Elspeth Benet doing French and German, Chang Yu doing Chinese, Betsy Diamant-Cohen doing Hebrew, Kathy K doing ASL, and doing Spanish.

We will keep registration prices the same as last year. Members \$60, Non-Members \$90.

VI Mock Caldecott Awards: Debbie had done a nice write-up of how we could run this . After much discussion, we decided to put our energies toward developing an award for authors who write High Interest/Low Ability books. These authors provide a very valuable service, and are generally overlooked when awards are presented. This will also include a listing of notable series. A sub-committee was formed to hash out the details: Kathy M, Sally M, Ellen A, Nancy F, Julie D and Kelly M.

VII New Business

We discussed when to do the Western Maryland conference this year. We decided to offer them Nov. 18th, 19th, or 20th. Content will probably include new materials, school age and 2 year old storytime ideas, and poster sessions.

VIII Next meeting will be at the Reisterstown Branch of BCPL.