

Maryland Library Association  
Executive Board/Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
September 16, 2015 10 AM – 12 PM

Attendance: Andrea Berstler (Conference), Margaret Carty (MLA), David Dahl (PDP), Jim DeArmey (SMUG), Natalie Edington (Legislative Panel), Maria Epperley (PSD), Michael Fine (Commonwealth Financial Network), Joanna Gadsby (Marketing & Membership), Mary Hastler (President), Lucy Holman (ALA Council), Elizabeth Howe (Archivist), James Kelly (MLLI), Stephanie Long (MIG), Monica McAbee (IFAP), Sydney McCoy (LDD), Tracy Miller (MAPIG), Carl Olson (GIIG), Tina Pickens (OSIG), Sharon Proakis (SSD), Stuart Ragland (Technology), Julie Ranelli (Conference), Amanda Roberson (CSD), Katy Sullivan (Secretary), Patty Sundberg (Treasurer), Tiffany Sutherland (TIG), Kathleen Teaze (VP), John Venditta (Past President)

Excused Absences: Mary Anne Bowman (Bylaws), Natalie Burclaff (ACRL MD), Christine Feldman (Fundraising), Annette Haldeman (Crab), Carrie Plymire (Nominations), Cindy Steinhoff (Awards), Lynn Wheeler (Author Award)

Call to order at 10:02 AM

Changes to the Agenda - M. Carty

- Add a new business item: MLA position letter regarding the Librarian of Congress.

Minutes from July 15, 2015 – K. Sullivan

- J. Venditta moved to approve the minutes with one change. K. Teaze seconded the motion.

Annual Investment Update – M. Fine

- Distributed and discussed the latest financial investment report (August 2015). Also shared the company's core investment philosophy: invest in the core things we use every day.

Treasurer's Report – P. Sundberg

- Five reports were distributed: Balance Sheet (green), Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual (blue); Programs and Divisions brief (gold).
- Net income for the organization is currently negative, but that is due to the cyclical nature of its income (most coming from the Conference).
- Membership income is up, possibly due to higher dues and renewal notices being sent at the wrong time.
- The annual financial audit took place and went well.
- Reports will be filed for audit.

New Business – M. Hastler

- Discussed whether or not to send a position letter to the POTUS recommending that the new director of the Library of Congress be a professional librarian. K. Teaze

mentioned that many library organizations have already sent letters. Discussion ensued regarding whether it was really necessary to have this position filled by a professional librarian. A motion was put forward for MLA to draft a letter. L. Holman moved to approve. S. McCoy seconded. Voted to approve.

- Table tent (names) were distributed. M. Carty asked that everyone leave them at the MLA office to be set up for each meeting.
- Baltimore Book Festival – J. Gadsby thanks everyone who signed up to work at the booth. A few spots still need to be filled.

#### Past President's Report – J. Venditta

- Worked with M. Hastler to develop FY2016 evaluation of the Executive Director. Shared it with the Board.
- Assisted the Professional Development Panel with their MLA scholarship selection.

#### ALA Councilor's Report – L. Holman

- Reported in the Crab activities of the June/July ALA Annual meeting.
- Reminded Board members that bundled rates for ALA Annual and Midwinter are now available. M. Carty recommended the train to Boston for Midwinter.
- Nominations are currently being gathered for ALA committee positions.

#### Conference Director's Report – A. Berstler

- The Conference Committee is encouraging divisions and groups to partner for programs because of space issues. MLA will not be using the Clarion's Captain's Quarters or hotel suites for any programming at conference this year.
- The conference theme is “unlocking potential” and the program cover is completed. Divisions and groups can request smaller sizes of the image to use for promotion and marketing.
- The committee is considering planning a “Clue mystery” themed pub crawl and a movie night.
- The conference will be moving to the Cambridge Hyatt for the conference in 2017.

#### Executive Director's Report – M. Carty

- MLA co-sponsored (with the VA library association) an author program that took place at the Library of Congress.
- Asks that all unit reports be submitted on time for upcoming meetings.
- Thanked J. Gadsby for doing a wonderful job of planning the MLA booth for the Baltimore Book Festival. Requests help with breaking down the booth Sunday evening.

#### Training: Reading MLA Financials – P. Sundberg

- Financial statements give just a snapshot of an organization. They do not provide a “big picture” look at it.
- MLA is a cyclical organization, taking in most of its income during the Spring/Annual Conference.

- The balance sheet presents the numbers as of a single day. The profit and loss – budget versus actual presents everything since the beginning of the fiscal year to now.
- MLA members can assist with the financial well-being of the organization by creating and marketing attractive programs for the year and the conference.

D. Dahl announced that the Nominations Committee will be accepting nominations starting in November.

A. Berstler moved to adjourn. P. Sundberg seconded the motion. Adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by Katy Sullivan on September 28, 2015.