MLA-Support Staff Division (SSD)
Minutes of June 1, 2017
Loyola Notre Dame Library

Members in Attendance: Nicole McLain-Vice-President/President-Elect, Lou Sica-Secretary, Moneik Frazier, Shelley Gilchrist, Gina Harris, Gabriel Jones, Shirley Mason, Amy Moser, Sharon Proakis, Pat Turkos, Erik Walls

Guests: Jane Brown

Executive Board-Nicole, for Teonja

- Nicole shared highlights of Teonja’s email regarding her notes of the 5/17 MLA Executive Board Mtg.

I. Budget approved for FY 18.
II. St Mary’s County Library is being sued for violating their own meeting room policy. This involves a Sex Ed program for teens a group held in their meeting room. People are calling for the resignation of the Director. ALA has been notified.
III. President’s Report
Kathleen Teaze is retiring the end of July. Her duties as Past President may be interrupted.
IV. VP report
Finalized Strategic Plan and it was approved unanimously at MLA Conference. Now we think about how we can implement that.
V. ALA Councilor Report
Last 2 months spent on a lot of advocacy.
Julie Todaro – Current ALA President has taken a very active role in advocacy.
Emily from the Washington office and Michael Fields will be retiring
VI. Conference Director’s Report
730 people registered for the conference. Surpasses last year’s number of 700 Silent Auction netted $3463.50
Will be discussing venue for next year with Margaret. May be at the same place
Venue got a great review from people. Only 1 complaint about the bathroom doors not locking.
Conference Business Manager at the Hyatt told Margaret that our conference was the first time the venue felt like a conference was there since it opened.
VII. Executive Director’s Report
Attended MAPLA
Attended MD Day – but there was only one other MLA person there. Encourages others to attend
Attended Legislative Day
Attended MLA Conference
6/14 is Leadership Day at the New Windsor Branch of CCPL
Tiffany Sutherland (TIG) with be next year’s Asst. Conference Chair w/Michelle Hamiel.
ALA is increasing dues for joint membership, but the increase will go to ALA not MLA
TSD now has a president/VP elect and a secretary so they will remain a division.

VIII. PSD
Donna Selby former MLA Secretary passed away. Funeral will be held at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Bel Air MD. More information to come.

IX. IFAP
Julie Renelli will be the new IF Officer

X. SSD
Holding an Active Shooter program on July 27t at Cockeysville Branch

Conference Report-Nicole

- The wrap-up mtg. was held on 5/17.
- At 730 attendees, this was the highest attended conference ever.
- Starting in July, Erik will be our rep. on the conference committee in his role of Vice-President/President-Elect.
- The MLA Code of Conduct was added to the registration envelopes.
- Parking was an issue as guest parking filled up quickly.
- If the conference is held at the Hyatt in Cambridge, the committee will look into rearranging the vendor area to cut down on the noise in the meeting rooms.
- There were 400 guest rooms in the MLA/DLA block at the Hyatt and all were sold out.
- The conference had its own website independent of the MLA or DLA websites.
- Co-sponsoring conference programs with other interest groups or divisions was encouraged.
- There was low participation for the scavenger hunt.
- The beer shindig was very popular.
- The Silent Auction made $3463.50 (down around $400 from last year). DLA had 28 items and all sold. MLA had 95 items and 93 sold.
- There were 31 vendors.
- The Pub Quiz continues to be a popular, annual event.
- The conference could use more sponsorships for next year.
- The retractable walls were thin so noise from other rooms was easily heard/distracting.
If held again their next year the committee will look into rearranging the rooms and not
have so many sessions running at the same time in adjoining rooms. There were some meeting rooms that were not always in use so this should be possible.

Review of SSD conference programs/pre-conference

- How My Mom Got Hacked had 70 attendees and was well reviewed.
- Balanced Customer Service had 93 attendees and was well reviewed.
- Ready, Set, Green had 33 attendees and was mostly well reviewed.
- Our pre-conference, Sensory Storytime & Beyond had 30 attendees and was well reviewed.

Suggestions for other programs-as a group

- We reviewed the evaluations from all of our conference offerings with a special focus on suggestions made for other programs topics attendees would like to see offered: Verbal judo, mother goose on loose, tweens & teens, partnerships with schools, musical story time, repeat How My Mom Got Hacked, the spectrum, basic IT Ops, policy comparison, negotiating, customer service, mental health, first aid, anything tech related, supervising customer service, internal customer service, middle management challenges, homeless, hands on green/recycling, upcycling, and circulation programs.

- We revisited our list of potential programs for the 2018 conference and made the following decisions:
  1. We voted no to Smite & grant writing.
  2. We voted yes to outreach to LGBTQIA and micro-aggressions and think they could be combined into a pre-conference with Teonja acting on her leads.
  3. We voted yes to Morale Building and will need to find a speaker(s).
  4. We voted yes to Interviewing and Nicole plans to present this program with two BCPL colleagues.

Annual Report-Lou

On Teonja’s behalf Lou worked with the group to draft our Annual Report (with the exception of the overall evaluation) and emailed it to Teonja. She wrote the overall evaluation & submitted the Annual Report on June 5 & emailed it to the SSD Steering Committee members.
Future Meetings-Nicole

Nicole led the group through a discussion of where to hold our 6 FY18 meetings:

- August 3-Howard County Central or Miller Branch and Lou will look into booking this.
- October 5-BCPL Essex or North Point and Lou will look into booking this.
- December 7-annual Holiday lunch meeting at a location TBD.
- February 1-BCPL Randallstown or Owings Mills and Lou will look into booking this.
- April 5-Prince George’s County Memorial Library System-Laurel Branch and Moneik & Gabriel will look into this. If Laurel is not available Lou will look into booking BCPL Hereford.
- June 7-Loyola Notre Dame Library and Pat will book this for us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Sica