Executive Board Notes

Executive Board Report-Lou

Treasurers Report-Josh Stone

• End of Oct balance $256,345.09
• Presented Budget vs. Actuals:
  ◦ Some areas we are still a little low – gross income in Oct 7128.82, expenditures $48,807.14.
  ◦ Affiliate membership renewals are coming up and the conference registration will open in January so that will rebalance things.
• Question from Kelsey – did we make what we wanted to make from Centennial events? Josh - We broke even pretty early on but haven’t broken down the final numbers to know how much profit.
• We had our annual audit.
  ◦ Last year’s board approved not doing a full, in-depth audit every single year, maybe every other year – need to vote and decide.
  ◦ This year they just made sure what we said is matched in our Quickbooks account and helped us file our tax documents.

ALA Councilor’s report-Joe Thompson

□ Reminder that ALA LibLearnX is coming up in Baltimore this year in January – so convenient! Recommend attending.
□ ALA Executive Director resigned in October, which was concerning given the challenges ALA is facing.
□ ALA Board has approved Leslie Berger as Interim Executive Director – former director of Princeton Public Library
□ We did not get a discount code for MLA members for LLX, they are only giving discounts to ALA members within 50 miles of Baltimore. Not sure why the change has happened.

Carnival Recap-Josh

1. Carnival went really well – thanks to all who helped with planning and day of set up.
2. Catering in particular received rave reviews – shout out to Lou.
3. Made $110 on enamel pins sales.

4. Great showing of elected officials coming out.
1. Had done particularly targeted outreach to the Governor's office, but hadn't heard back. Afterward, received a citation in the mail from the Governor's office commemorating 100 years of MLA.
2. Also received during the ceremony citations from Anne Arundel County, the City of Annapolis, the General Assembly.
5. Carnival games were far and above what we anticipated. Fun, laid back, a great evening.
6. Tif gave extra shout out to MLA Office, particularly Kate & Leah for their hard work.
7. Exciting to see Corky the Penguin from Carroll, Orioles Bird, and Poe the Ravens Bird as well.

MLA Elections-Josh Stone
1. Have been having some difficulty getting nominees for different roles. Hoping affiliate membership will help increase interest.
   - Election will be held sometime in March.

Professional Development Panel Program Manual-Kelsey Hughes
- The new PDP Manual was approved and will be available shortly.

MLA Unit Audit –Tif Sutherland
1. Have had a lot of conversations about the need to rethink the way our divisions and interest groups work – formed a small group to conduct assessments & make recommendations.
2. Group has spoken with or gotten feedback from every division and interest group leader in MLA. Held live discussions and those who couldn't make it were allowed to submit responses via email.
   1. Questions mostly focused on how they work, engage membership, how they feel about the IG & division arrangement/process, future sustainability.
   2. Hoping rearrangement will help us better engage new members through these groups, make sure the groups are sustainable, and possibly create a leadership pipeline.
   3. Group will be meeting soon to revise that data and develop suggestions & next steps.

Lib Learn X-Josh Stone
1. We will have a booth at LLX this year. Josh just got info about how to staff it & get passes for those folks.
2. Hoping by mid-December Josh will have something out for folks to sign up to staff the booth.
   1. Folks must be MLA officers to do this.
   2. Jan 19-21 – try to put on your calendar to hold and help if you can.
3. Start thinking about what we want to have at the booth and stuff we might want to bring and make available.
   1. We can bring merch from our libraries if we want.

Conference Notes:

- The November meeting was cancelled.
- SSD has been approved to sponsor three programs: Growing with Your Community, Let's Talk About Stuff and Building a Public Library Digital Equity Strategy from the Ground Up.
- Growing With Your Community is a one-hour panel being presented by Lisa Jones (BCPL-RO) and Erica Coady (Howard County-Miller) and is about their experience in creating community gardens. From the small to large, growing plants and veggies can be a great way to engage with your communities and give back what you grow to support them.
- Let's Talk About Stuff is a one-hour panel being presented by SSD's own Robin Soma-Dudley (AACPL-Busch Annapolis), Laura Bandoch (Harford County Public Library-Materials Assistant Director) and Reshma Khan (New Castle County Libraries in Delaware-Elsmere Branch Circulation Manager). The panelists will each discuss a new or exciting service happening at their system (for example-the gun safety locks at AACPL). Afterwards there is time for an open discussion in which attendees can share what's happening in their libraries related to any area - circulation, technology, programming, new services, post COVID changes, supervising, etc. Attendees may submit any questions they have ahead of time so that they may be thrown out to the group at the end.
- Building a Public Library Digital Equity Strategy from the Ground Up is a two-hour lecture being presented by Alexandra Houff and Andrea Lowman (BCPL-Digital Equity and Virtual Services)

SSD Business:

- FY25 Officers are as follow: Lou Sica-President, Maria Jacob and Nicole McLain-will run for Vice President/President and Secretary, respectively.
- The group discussed having a standing SSD column in The Crab. It was decided that the group would come up with an outline and one member would submit the article (Arial, 12 font). This will be a quarterly column and Lou will submit the first article. The first submission will be an introduction to SSD.
- Laura Jones (CO) and Megan Callendek (NO) would like to host a Stand-Alone program, possibly in February. If they include a small craft component, the cost would be built into the cost of the program. Lou will reach out to the Teen Interest Group to see if they want to Co-Sponsor the program. The program will run 9:00-12:15 to count for .03 CEUs.
- What happens to the programs not chosen for the 2024 MLA/DLA conference? Could they be used as Stand-Alone programs in the future? Lou will investigate.
- Teonja and Lou will revise the SSD Officers job descriptions.
Our web page has been updated on the MLA website.

Internet Update:

Here are the Facebook stats for last month:

Post reach: 81
Post engagement: 33
Photo views: 10
Link clicks: 6
Top post: Harford County Public Library foundation raises $100,000 at 19th annual gala

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Modeski