

WASHINGTON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting
November 30, 2007

Federal Way Regional Library

Reported by Nancy Slote, Secretary

Attending:

Jonathan Betz-Zall, Highline Community College, ALA Chapter Councilor
Sally Chilson, Spokane Public Library, 2009 Conference Chair
Heidi Chittim, Eastern Washington Univ., WALE Chair
Karin Ford, Ft. Vancouver Regional Library, 2008 Conf. Chair
Elizabeth Iaukea, Washington State Library, IG Coordinator
Priscilla Ice, Spokane County Library District, Treasurer
Tim Mallory, Timberland Regional Library, VP/President Elect
Martha Parsons, Washington State University Energy Library, President
Mary Ross, Consultant, Continuing Education Coordinator
Rand Simmons, Washington State Library, Federal Relations Co-Coordinator
Nancy Slote, Seattle Public Library, Secretary
Deanna Sukkar, *Alki* Editorial Com.
Margaret Thomas, South Puget Sound Community College, *Alki* Editor
Mike Wessells, Timberland Regional Library, Intellectual Freedom Com. Chair
Gail Willis, Association Coordinator
Mike Wirt, Spokane County Library District, Co-chair, Legislative Planning Committee
Mary Wise, Central Washington University, *Alki* Editorial Committee Chair
Jennifer Wiseman, King County Library System, Coordinator of Communications

President Martha Parsons called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Agenda

The agenda was accepted as written.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2007 board meeting.

Moved: Nancy Slote

Seconded: Priscilla Ice

Approved.

Treasurer's Report - Priscilla Ice

The board reviewed the standard reports (Balance Sheet, IG Restricted Funds, Budget Year to Date, Job Ledger Report, and Cash Disbursement Journal) and found the reports to be in order.

Gail Willis clarified that workshop presenters can request expenses up front, but that workshop organizers should be encouraged to find local hosts for workshops presented around the State. This would be a valuable topic for IG training.

OLD BUSINESS

WALE – Heidi Chittim

The 2007 Conference earned a profit of \$5151.90 with the only known outstanding expense to be hotel costs for the Employee of the Year.

Motion: To approve the 2008 Conference WALE budget of \$35,525.00.
Moved: Elizabeth Iaukea
Seconded: Tim Mallory
Approved.

Recording of Electronic Votes

Motion: To identify Yakima as the host location for the 2011 WLA Annual Conference; to accept Monica Weyhe's offer to serve as Conference Coordinator; to accept Kate Porter's offer on behalf of Conference Solutions to develop bids from the conference center and potential hotels, per arrangements WLA has made with her in the past.
Moved: Phil Heikkinen
Seconded: Martha Parsons
Approved.

Motion: Since WLMA has raised its membership dues from \$30 to \$40, and since the membership committee has not yet had a chance to analyze and recommend a means for WLA to deal with the WLMA reciprocal memberships for the 2008 membership year, it is moved that WLA honor the additional \$10 membership fee for the coming year and that the additional funds come out of the general fund. It's noted that the financial impact to WLA should be under \$300.
Moved: Martha Parsons
Seconded: Jennifer Wiseman
Approved.

Conference 2007 – Mike Cook (written report only)

Mike provided a complete final report on the conference. The conference profit was a disappointing \$259.38. Several budgeting issues contributed to this number: number of exhibitors, corporate donations, and rental costs for equipment through the conference center.

Conference 2008 – Karin Ford

Conference planning is on-target. Registrations will be only on-line although a postcard reminder will be mailed. Exhibit space will most likely be full as a joint conference is generally more attractive to exhibitors, and the exhibitor database has been cleaned-up with corrected addresses. The program will be selling ad space. PLA and the Western Council of State Libraries will be offering separate pre-conferences as part of certification programs. While there will be no direct profit to WLA/OLA, the benefits to WLA are many: establishing WLA as a CE provider, building leadership within the State, drawing participants who may stay for the whole conference, introducing people to the area for future job searches, allowing local staff to more easily attend certification programs, and giving WLA the use of conference registration funds from pre-conference participants.

Conference 2009 – Sally Chilson

Motion: To accept as the theme for the WLA 2009 conference in Spokane "Impact and Influence" and the attached logo.
Moved: Sally Chilson
Seconded: Jennifer Wiseman
Approved.

Sally confirmed that the dates for the conference will be April 15-18, 2009, not April 22-24 which appears on the logo sample.

Motion: To approve \$5000 seed money for the 2009 Conference.
Moved: Sally Chilson

Seconded: Jonathan Betz-Zall
Approved

While the management firm may want to handle it differently, Priscilla envisions that the Conference will not have a separate bank account.

2010 Site Selection – Reported by Gail Willis for Kristy Coomes

The contract with the Lynnwood Convention Center is still being tweaked. A conference chair must be selected, and Martha Parsons will contact Sno-Isle.

2011 Site Selection - Reported by Gail Willis for Phil Heikkinen

Per an electronic votes, Yakima has been selected. Martha Parsons will notify Monica Wehwe that she has been approved by the board to be Conference Coordinator.

CE Update - Mary Ross

Mary is pleased with the response to the CE survey with 871 responses, which included over 70% of non-WLA respondents. Jennifer Wiseman offered to help Mary get email addresses from Survey Monkey for the follow-up telephone interviews.

Mary is also working with Jennifer to reformat the on-line application forms into Word documents from PDF files so that applications can be distributed electronically to the CE Council.

Mary also highlighted the first pre-conference workshop sponsored by WLA, "Hire Right the First Time," which will be submitted to the Western Council of State Librarians as part of its certification program.

Review of IG Restricted Fund Policies – Elizabeth Iaukea

At the September board meeting, the board approved the rollover of IG restricted funds to the end of the fiscal year, July 31, 2008, but Elizabeth encouraged the board to look at the entire funding basis for IGs. From her perspective, the division between restricted and allocated funds continues to create confusion for the IGs. At this point in time, the board decided that it was not ready to make a change in the current funding basis for IGs, particularly in light of the transition to a management firm. Until the issue is studied further, the board reiterated that IGs may always come to the board to request funding for a particular event/program.

Review of WLA's ADA Compliance Notice – Gail Willis for Katie Cargill

WLA's ADA notice has been reviewed. It was suggested that WLA add "upon request" to the standard language. Gail provided a document, "[Background on ADA Surcharge Issue](#)" for the board's review.

Pricing Information from WebJunction re: WIMBA – Elizabeth Iaukea

Elizabeth is still trying to get pricing for WIMBA. She also extended WSL's offer for WLA to use its WIMBA account to explore on-line conferencing. It was suggested that WLA ask the management company about its on-line conferencing capabilities.

Task Force on Dues Structure Update – Reported by Gail Willis for Will Stuiwenga

No report at this time.

Task Force on WLA Office Transition Update – Tim Mallory

Motion: That the WLA Board approve the Task Force's recommendation to accept the management proposal from Melby, Cameron & Hull, which will authorize WLA to begin

contract negotiations and transition planning.
Moved: Tim Mallory
Seconded: Priscilla Ice
Approved.

Tim indicated that the initial contract will cover seven months of transition and one year of association management. The existing Task Force will be responsible for the contract negotiations. Lynn Melby will be the transition coordinator from Melby, Cameron & Hull; a different staff executive will be assigned during the following year of association management. Per the proposal, the cost will be \$90,000 for the year of direct association management, which is approximately \$10-15,000 more than our current coordinator pay and office expenses. One area for discussion during the transition planning will be issues related to *Alki*.

WLA Online – Jennifer Wiseman

Jennifer reported that the WLA website was successfully migrated to Taxbox. She and Taxbox are reviewing the backend of the website to clean it up and to plan for the implementation of a content management system, Word Press. The CMS will allow the direct creation and posting of content.

STRATEGIC PLAN - Phil Heikkinen

The plan will be posted to the website. As Lynn Melby suggested at the June retreat, the board should be focused on strategic planning at its meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Legislative Process – Steve Duncan/Mike Wirt

Mike gave his bi-annual orientation to the Legislative Planning Committee's work. The LPC is appointed by the President every two years. The Committee has representatives from all types of libraries with public library representatives as the largest group. As co-chair, Mike provides reports to the board, tracks bills on the WLA website and posts an annual report. Steve Duncan, WLA's lobbyist, produces the Olympia Report. The LPC meets in the Fall to review the previous session and to establish priorities. During the session, Steve and his assistant send out bills to a subcommittee of the LPC or other subject specialists to read and rate bills. During the session, the LPC meets in weekly conference calls, while Mike and Steve talk daily. Mike also listens to audio of committee hearings. The ability of the LPC to be strategic and to respond quickly to changing events means that the workings of the Committee are usually not transparent.

Steve discussed the life in the day of lobbyist. First and foremost is knowing the audience and its perspective and tailoring the message. Legislators often have 2-3 hearings per day, floor time, party caucuses, email, phone calls, meetings and receptions. In a typical session, over 2500 bills are introduced. WLA is effective as a grassroots organization for several reasons: the organization doesn't get involved with everything, and when it does, legislators know that its important; the organization chooses the best ways to communicate with a legislator; the organization prepares for specific meetings and testimony.

Legislative Priorities for 2008 Session – Mike Wirt

Move: that the 2008 WLA legislative priorities be adopted.

GENERAL PRINCIPLE to be applied to all proposed legislation is to ASSESS AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING LEGISLATION THAT MAY:

- Provide a direct positive economic benefit to libraries
- Result in a negative financial impact on libraries
- Limit patron access to library materials & services
- Compromise patron privacy
- Impose unfunded mandates

- Weaken local control of libraries
- Be more general in nature but might either positively or negatively impact library operations (e.g. public records, open public meetings, public works)

SPECIFIC 2008 LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:

- Support a new levy limit equal to the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) to replace the former I-747 1% limit (Local Government Coalition)
- Preserve the multiyear levy lid override authority for all taxing districts approved in the 2007 Legislative session (Local Government Coalition)
- Support elimination of sales tax on library books and/or other materials (WLA-initiated)
- Support continued Washington State Heritage Building preplanning funding (State budget: Office of the Secretary of State)
- Support \$328,000 supplemental budget request for Washington Talking Book and Braille Library transition (State budget: Office of the Secretary of State)
- Support community and technical college libraries \$1.5 million supplemental budget request for Digital Library Resources and the “21st Century Libraries” proposal (State budget: State Board for Community and Technical Colleges)
- Support line-item funding per FTE for school library media program resources (State budget: K-12 education)
- Support of early learning and the public libraries’ Early Learning Advocacy Partnership (No specific bill; maintain legislator awareness of public library early learning activities)
- Support a redefinition of the “base year” in Local Infrastructure Taxing (LIFT) statutes
- Support elimination of supermajority requirement for library bond issues (if first proposed for other local governments or districts)
- Monitor “open government” legislation

Moved: Mike Wirt
 Seconded: Tim Mallory
 Approved.

Legislative Day – Jennifer Wiseman

David Postman will be the keynote speaker on February 15th. The board will meet on February 14th with a workshop on legislative issue and process later in the afternoon.

Further Officer, Committee and IG Reports

ALA Chapter Councilor – Jonathan Betz-Zall

Since submitting his report, Jonathan reported that the Jackson County, Oregon libraries had re-opened under private management.

Alki Editorial Committee – Mary Wise

Mary highlighted the Committee’s search for a new *Alki* Assistant Editor. Deanna Sukkar pointed out the podcast on the WLA website advertising the December issue of *Alki*. Deanna will post the information to the WLA lists.

Awards Committee – Jan Walsh

No discussion.

CE Coordinator - Mary Ross

Mary agreed to become a member of the advisory council of the continuing education organization, Northwest Central (Northwest Continuing Education Network of Training Resources for All Libraries). The question was raised whether this would be a formal relationship with WLA. Mary agreed to go to the first meeting and to report back to the board..

Federal Relations – Rand Simmons and Kristie Kirkpatrick

Motion: The board directs Rand Simmons and Kristie Kirkpatrick to bring a proposal to the February board meeting for the selection of the Washington State delegation to Federal Library Day, such delegation to contain members from around the State.

Moved: Jonathan Betz-Zall

Seconded: Priscilla Ice

Approved.

Connecting to Collections Grant – Rayette Sterling

No discussion.

Intellectual Freedom Committee – Mike Wessells

Mike asked if anyone was aware of challenges to *The Golden Compass*. Nancy Slote indicated that Seattle Public Library had received a challenge for the location of the material in the children's section at the Montlake branch.

IG Coordinator – Elizabeth Iaukea

No discussion.

PNLA – Katie Cargill

No discussion.

President - Martha Parsons

No discussion.

Vice-President – Tim Mallory

Tim joined the Washington Association of Association Executives.

WALT – Jennifer Fenton

No discussion.

WCOG – Patience Rogge

No discussion.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Future Dates

WLA Board Meeting	February 14, 2008, Timberland Regional Library Hdqtrs. Olympia
Library Legislative Day	February 15, 2008, United Churches, Olympia WA
WLA Board Meeting	April 16, 2008 at joint OLA/WLA Conference Vancouver WA
Conference 2008	April 16 – 18, 2008 Joint with OLA, Vancouver WA
WLA Board Retreat	June 5-7, 2008, Dumas Bay Retreat Centre, Federal Way

The meeting was adjourned at 3PM.

Approved (date): _____

Nancy Slote, Secretary

Martha Parsons, President