

ILA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
April 13, 1999, Lewiston

Present: Larry Almeida, Jennifer Ashby, Charles Bolles, Kevin Booe, Ruth Cochran, Marlene Earnest, Ron Force, Barbara Greever, Max Leek, Lynn Melton, Jennifer O'Laughlin, Sandra Shropshire, John Watts, Dawn Wittman, Camille Wood

President Dawn Wittman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Additions to the Proposed Agenda:

1. Reciprocal member rates for annual conferences (Montana).
2. Duties of the Exhibits Chair.
3. LibIdaho discussion about the *Idaho Librarian*.

Minutes of the January 18, 1999 Meeting: Correction: Ashby will be sending a follow-up membership mailing to non-members in academic and special libraries. Moved (Shropshire/Ashby) that the minutes be approved as corrected, passed unanimously.

Board Reports:

President: Montana Library Association proposal: At the January 18 meeting, the Board agreed that ILA and MLA would keep each other informed of program and conference information. ILA proposed that ILA and MLA offer reciprocal conference rates for members, with a differential of \$25 between members and non-members for the full conference, and \$15 between members and non-members for one-day attendance. Wittman sent MLA a letter detailing these proposals, but MLA has not yet responded. (Their Executive Director resigned recently, so word may be forthcoming when that office is filled.)

No word from Stan Steiner (Boise State University) about his grant application to the Albertsons Foundation to establish an annual Idaho children's book award.

Ravens Maps and Images would like to give some free maps to ILA institutional members. Moved (Almeida/O'Laughlin) that ILA send Ravens Maps and Images a list of the ILA institutional members, passed unanimously.

First Vice President: Force reported that annual conference planning is going well, although we still need a couple of speakers. Plans should be finalized by the end of April. There will be two preconferences -- one on advocacy, and one on the move to OCLC.

Equipment for annual conference presentations: In the absence of a formal policy, Force has decided that this year ILA will supply projectors, but speakers must bring their own laptops for presentations. We'll see how this goes, and discuss what the policy should be

at a future Board meeting. Force does not yet have a list of what each speaker will require.

Second Vice President: Almeida announced that the Spring Conferences are underway. The budgets that were submitted were ok, but none of the final figures are available yet. One region (North) did not ask for seed money. ILA banners/signs need to be done and sent to the regions earlier next time, if everyone is to use them.

In terms of planning, it is not clear that everyone's expectations are the same, or that communication is flowing freely. There is no clear set of guidelines for conference chairs, and Almeida plans to put together a new set so that everyone knows what is expected of them. The Second Vice President should review the documentation at the end of each regional conference, and the guidelines and other documentation must go to the new regional conference chairs *as soon as they are appointed!* Tension between regions and overall questions about organization can be avoided by handing out the information in advance of any group planning sessions.

Past President: Price was unable to attend, but sent two written reports. 1. The Nominating Committee has candidates to run for four of the seven offices. 2. Price attended the 30th anniversary celebration of the Office of Intellectual Freedom and the Freedom to Read Foundation at the ALA annual conference in Philadelphia, January 29-February 1, 1999.

Treasurer: Shropshire distributed the budget figures for 1999 YTD.

Most of the membership renewals are in, but a few continue to trickle in. The figures are lower than last year, but there will be a surge in October at annual conference time. (There hasn't been a similar surge in membership coinciding with the regional conferences.) As of now, the Trustees/Friends and Educational Media divisions' numbers are down. When we next print membership forms, we should print a lot more in the original run, so that they can go into the spring and annual conference mailings, and elsewhere.

Some of the Intellectual Freedom Auction proceeds went to support Price's trip to ALA Midwinter.

Moved (Booe/Bolles) that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented, passed unanimously.

State Librarian: Bolles reported that LiLI is funded through December 2000. It is separated into two budgets -- one through the Library Services Improvement Fund administered by the Idaho State Library (ISL), and one through the Department of Education (DOE). The ISL portion is secure, but it is less certain what will happen in the future in DOE, since ISL has no control over what DOE asks for in its budget. Some want the public school funding segmented from the rest of the funds, and by next year ISL will know more about the proportions of public school usage of LiLI as compared to

other usage. DOE has been supportive, but LiLI is a tiny amount of their budget, and we don't want it to "fall through the cracks."

The State Library spent much of January working on the Gates Internet Accessibility Program. The Gates Foundation will be contacting libraries.

The Z39.50 interface (to allow all patrons to search all Z39.50-compliant library catalogs in Idaho simultaneously) turned out to be a more complex undertaking than originally expected. The project went out for bids this week. (The ISL fiscal year ends June 30.)

Division Chairs:

Educational Media Division: Earnest submitted a written report. She added that they are still looking for an administrator and legislators to add to the Idaho School Library Media Program Coalition.

Public Library Division: Leek reported that the Division's proposed bylaws had been widely circulated, and one comment had been received. The changes need to be approved by the Division members, and this may best be accomplished at the annual meeting in October.

The proposed bylaws include the creation of the Public Library of the Year Award. As of now, there is no funding for it, no publicity, and no nominations. The first award is planned for the year 2000.

Trustees/Friends Division: O'Laughlin submitted a written report. She recommended that the Division be eliminated, and the members join whichever remaining Division best fits their needs. To do this, the ILA Constitution and Bylaws would need to be changed by the membership at the October 1999 ILA annual conference. If passed, the changeover would happen in 2001, and later there might need to be changes made in the Public Library Division.

Academic/Special Libraries Division: Ashby submitted a written report.

Other Reports:

Membership Committee: Cochran presented a written proposal keyed to the ILA Strategic Plan 1998-2001, Goal 1, Objectives 1-2. Much discussion ensued.

Moved (Bolles/Earnest) that Wood attend an all-day preconference on "Membership Recruitment, Retention, and Recognition: A How-To for State and Regional Library Associations" to be held Friday, June 25, 1999 in New Orleans, pre-ALA; that ILA pay the \$50 registration fee. Passed unanimously.

Shropshire will generate some figures on current dues so that the Board can discuss the fiscal implication of a dues cap when they meet in October. Now, around 20 personal

members pay \$75 in dues (\$50,000 salary), and 3 pay over \$100. In 1998, ILA's income from memberships was \$15,500 out of \$68,000 -- less than 1/4.

"Goal 1, objective 1, activity 1.10: Create a first-year, one-time only membership with dues of \$15. Implement in 2000." Moved (Booe/Force) that the Board approve the concept and work out the details later, passed unanimously.

Now that Cochran has feedback from the Board, she will revise the plan, and will have concrete proposals for the October meeting.

Legislative Committee and Lobbyist: Melton introduced John Watts, ILA's legislative lobbyist. Watts submitted a written report. He remarked that this first year as lobbyist for ILA was a learning experience. ILA needs to do a better job of enlisting its membership to speak to legislators -- this type of communication is very effective when it happens.

Watts encouraged the Board to think about the "big picture:" where have we gone in the last decade, and what is in store? 1. In 2002 we'll see reapportionment and a reconfiguration of all legislative districts. Seats will shift to urban and suburban areas, and rural areas will lose seats. 2. Even if legislators do repeal term limits, it won't happen until 2002. There will be a whole new set of legislators with little experience, little historical perspective, and little understanding of the "big picture." By 2004, there will be 95% change/turnover. Melton emphasized that ILA needs to be aware of what term limits will do to us. We have credibility now, but what if no one remembers in the future, because they are all new?

Melton reported that the 1999 Legislative Breakfast went well. Some local librarians and trustees had contacted their legislators, and some legislators had contacted their local librarians before the breakfast. In the future, if ILA is the primary sponsor for legislation, members need to know about it so that they can work with the legislators beforehand. Members of the library community attending the breakfast shouldn't go their "cold" -- know at least the ideas by September 1.

Watts reminded the Board that there is an opportunity now to get involved in Governor Kempthorne's reading initiative. Board members were receptive to the idea, but reminded Watts that ILA represents a broad range of libraries, not just public libraries.

PNLA Representative: Booe submitted a written report of the PNLA Board's activities at its March 5-7 meeting. Price will be running for PNLA President.

ALA Councilor: Wood reported on news from the Midwinter conference.

Communications/Advocacy: Booe and Wittman surveyed ILA Speakers' Network members to see what direction they thought the network should take. Many members were no longer in the state or in library work, and those who were had not been active recently. The draft communications plan (August 11, 1998) for ILA will be back on the

table at the October meeting. The consensus among Board members was that there needs to be something positive and ongoing.

ILA Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Moved (Wood/Booe) that the text be accepted as submitted, passed unanimously.

Goal 2, objective 1, activity 2: Communication plan to be revised and introduced to the membership at the annual conference in October 2000.

Goal 3, objective 1, activity 1: The Conference Committee will provide and annual conference committee on confidentiality of records by 2000.

Goal 4, objective 1: Annually, 75% of the membership of the Idaho Library Association will participate in an ILA-organized continuing education event. Objective 2, activities 1-2: delete.

Moved (Bolles/Ashby) approval of goals 2-4 as revised by discussion above, goal 5 as submitted. Passed unanimously.

Ad Hoc Communications/Web Guidelines Committee: Almeida presented a revised draft of the ILA Website Guidelines. The main item of discussion was the section on advertising. Paragraph 2 was revised to read "For information about inclusion on the Sponsor's Page, or if you have questions about advertising in general, contact the ILA Annual Conference Exhibits Chair." Base rates for advertising on the web page were set at \$25 per year if an exhibitor at the annual conference, \$50 per year if not an exhibitor at the annual conference. Rates for more than basic advertising are to be negotiated by the exhibitor with the ILA Webmaster and the ILA Annual Conference Exhibits Chair. Moved (O'Laughlin/Booe) that the sponsorship rates be set at the level discussed above, passed unanimously.

Restructuring Committee: Wood distributed two proposals. The first suggests the reduction of the total presidential term from 4 years to 3 years, the elimination of the position of second vice-president, and the creation of a few position of conference chair and chair-elect. It has already appeared in the *Idaho Librarian*. The second suggests that the Trustees/Friends Division be dissolved. It will be included in the upcoming conference mailing. Both proposals will be voted on at the membership meeting at the annual conference in October.

ILA logo: Moved (Leek/Almeida) that the current logo (Idaho map and book) be retained, passed unanimously.

Board Meeting Dates: October 6, 4:00-6:00 p.m.; October 9, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

October agenda items: The question of turning the Idaho Librarian into an electronic publication.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara C. Greever, Secretary.