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President's Board Report
Mountain Plains Library Association
Sharon Osenga

Carol Hammond and I have continued to be in contact regarding the reorganization, particularly in regard to the electronic communities. We are both worried that they are not working due to the lack of leadership by the moderators. This is something that we will discuss at the meeting.

Much of my MPLA time is spent on answering various emails with questions about the organization or procedural items.

I have written columns for each issue of the newsletter.

Judy Zelenski, Wayne Hanway and I did a brief overview of the long-range plan and made obvious changes based upon the reorganization. Wayne will work with the board at this meeting on an overall review of the plan.

I approved the Membership Committee's designing of an updated membership brochure. Hopefully, they will have a copy of the brochure for review at this meeting.

Former presidents of MPLA have now received a plaque in thanks for their service to the organization. The board approved the giving of the plaques some time ago so it is nice to have this decision implemented. Thanks to Judy Zelenski for getting this accomplished.

I visited the New Mexico Library Association Conference in Farmington as did Wayne Hanway. We were able to meet and chat with a lot of people and I followed up on several requests for membership information afterwards. Wayne and I worked the MPLA booth and I announced the winners of the free MPLA memberships at the Awards Banquet. I think that attending as many member state conferences as possible is one key to the success of MPLA.

I will be attending and presenting a session on the MPLA Leadership Institute at the Nevada and South Dakota state conferences and I will be attending the Colorado state conference. I plan to work the MPLA booth as much as time permits. I received power point slides from a couple of past Institute members that I plan to use and a number of photographs as well as general Institute information from Mary Bushing.

Items for discussion:

As you all know, this is a non-conference year so we are dipping into cash reserves to meet our budget. One of the items I have on the agenda is to brainstorm possible fundraising ideas for MPLA.

We received a copy of the audit which covers MPLA through December 2005. I will pass copies of the audit at the meeting as I do not want to put all the financial pages up on the association website.

I received a letter from ALA regarding the Emerging Leaders Program and encouraging MPLA to financially support one or two MPLA members to participate in the 2007 program.

We have received an invitation from Nebraska to join them in 2012. Nebraska is looking at a possible four organization conference: MPLA, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska Educational Media Association and the Iowa Library Association. Nebraska would like to know if MPLA is interested in pursuing a four entity conference, particularly since Iowa is not an MPLA member state.

We have a lot of MPLA branded merchandise that is currently being housed by Judy Zelenski. The board needs to decide what to do with it.