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Vice President's Report
Eileen Wright
August 2008

Conference Planning

We had our first meeting for the joint conference with Kansas Library Association in the beginning of June. The Kansas folks consisted of Laura Loveless, President of KLA, Denise Smith – Vice President of KLA and conference chair, Rosanne Siemens –KLA Executive Secretary, and Rob Banks– our MPLA President. They were able to all gather into Rosanne Siemens office as I logged onto Skype.

We discussed budget issues that are always a fun issue. Rob opened a discussion focused on trying to make tracks for the conference, similar to an ALA conference. We are planning to have rooms that are essentially dedicated to a topic, such as: Young Adults, Reader's Advisory, Children Services, Management/leadership, etc.

We then discussed when the program submission would take place – September 1st - October 31st.

Authors: I have been in contact with Roland Smith – a young adult author. Rob has been in contact with Brad Metzler. Laura brought up the Black Belt Librarian – Warren Graham. We are still gathering information on all of these authors, and we do not have anyone set yet.

Annual Convention (Conference) Manual Review & Update

We are ready to start the process of reviewing and updating the conference manual. The 12 state representatives along with Rob and I will be reviewing and updating the conference planning manual. Roy set up an area within the MPLA Talk under the title of Conference Planning Manual, and I have now added information into it. Roy will be sending out instructions on how to get the password all set up for the 12 state representatives.

We will be reviewing the 14 different sections over a nine week period beginning August 4th. The intention is to have this project completed by the October 12th meeting in Denver. Each week, each state representative is able to post their comments to change/update the section we are working on. The last week will be for final review of the entire document.

I will send out a weekly reminder to the state representatives reminding us what we are accomplishing that week.