

DRAFT
MPLA Executive Board Meeting
Marriott Courtyard Hotel
Denver, CO
March 5, 2005

Submitted by Louis Howley, Secretary

Members attending: Beth Avery, Carol Hammond, Sharon Osenga, Louis Howley, Joe Edelen, Susan Moyer, Bridgett Johnson, Nina Little, Martha Greene, Valerie Nye, Sally Dockter, Wayne Hanway, Collen Smith, Peter Kraus, Richard Landreth, Julie Linneman, Ara Anderson, Kevin Anderson, Dorothy M. Liegl, and Dan Chaney

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Introductions

Beth Avery asked everyone around the room to introduce themselves. She also asked that each person state 5 adjectives which applied to him/herself and share these with the group.

III. Disposition of the Agenda

Beth reported that it was necessary to move up some items on the agenda due to people needing to leave right at 3 p.m. to catch the shuttle. The budget will be presented with the Past President's report. The agenda was accepted.

IV. Approval of the minutes

Carol Hammond moved, and Louis Howley seconded, that: the minutes of the October 21, 2004 minutes, be approved. Motion passed.

Carol Hammond moved, and Louis Howley seconded, that: the minutes of the October 24, 2004 meeting be approved. Motion passed.

V. Executive Officer Reports

A. President's report (Beth Avery)

There are no changes from Beth's written report.

The one addition is that Beth received a letter from Lori Phillips of the University of Wyoming about a regional community health symposium on October 11 that will bring a lot of people into the area before the joint MPLA/Wyoming Library Association Conference. They are hoping for 75 people. There should be a mix of

attendees, including resource library directors, state library directors, NLM, regional advisory board members, and regional library medical network members. Lori speculates that some attendees may stay for the MPLA/Wyoming Library Association Conference.

B. Vice-President/President-Elect Report (Sharon Osenga)

Conference report

The theme of the Conference is "Beyond Borders: Imagination, Innovation, Inspiration".

There is an unconfirmed keynote speaker, John Perry Barlow, Cognitive Dissident and Vice President and co-founder of the Electronic Freedom Foundation. John is from Wyoming. Right now he is out of the country in Thailand on a speaking engagement, so the organizers are still working with him on the details.

Erin Kinney, the Conference Co-Chair, and Dail Barbour, the Local Arrangements Chair, made a site visit in December. Sharon got bumped off her flight in Denver so was not able to join them. However, the three of them will make a site visit this Monday.

For those members who are flying, you can expect to pay \$500 to \$600 for a ticket. The planes are small; United flies a 37-passenger flight, for example. Get tickets early. Confirm early. Beth Avery noted that there are special rates for those members over the age of 55.

We will have access to all the meeting rooms. They range in size from 30 to 500 seats. The keynote speaker will be in the larger room. There are 9 or 10 rooms so there can be a lot of breakout sessions. The Exhibits will be in the Pavilion, which is a separate building. Because the Pavilion requires a walk down a hill from the other building, fairly long exhibit times are planned. Meals, which will all be buffet-style, and registration also will be held in the Pavilion.

Wyoming requires an opening general business session, so this will be Wednesday. Some other business meetings will be on Thursday. The Awards Banquet and Exhibitor Reception are tentatively planned for Wednesday night, but may be switched to Friday. There will be a reception Thursday evening at the National Museum of Wildlife Art. This reception may include the WLA's authors' night, with local authors available for book signings. An MPLA Leadership Institute reunion is also planned. The Awards Banquet will probably be early so that attendees can travel into town for local activities. The WLA has a Legislative Luncheon Thursday and a children's author luncheon on Friday. The WLA Government Documents, the MPLA Government Documents and the MPLA Preservation, Archives and Special Collection groups are planning a trip to a research library. The trip will be dependent on the weather. The bus would leave

Tuesday for Yellowstone, would stop and visit the library, and then there would be an overnight stay in either Mammoth or Gardiner. The bus would leave Wednesday morning. The tour would be guided, with a geologist.

Airline choices include Delta, Northwest, and United. The Snow King Resort has a complementary shuttle and free parking.

Charges for exhibitors are \$500 a table and \$450 for an additional table. This includes setup, electricity and Internet access. There is wireless access, but you need your own card and service is sporadic. If someone definitely needs a connection, it is better to pay the money for DSL.

Member registration fees are \$80, \$90, and \$100 (early, regular, late) and nonmember fees are \$100, \$110, and \$120 (early, regular, late). This includes two continental breakfasts. Meals are being charged at actual cost.

The Resort has blocked out 204 rooms (twin, queen, king). Check-in is at 2 p.m and checkout is at noon. Rates range from \$85 to \$105 a night. No charge for children 13 years of age and under. Some suites and condos are available.

Wyoming uses a Program Council for their Conference. The Program Council met in Gillette on January 25, and extended the proposal due date to February 28. There were about 110 program proposals submitted. Each person has been asked to turn in their top 10 programs. Next week, Erin, Dail and Sharon will look at the programs and begin to slot them into program times. There will be an effort to balance the programs by the interest group and sponsors.

A grant was written by the Teton County Library in Jackson prior to the Conference planning to allow for streaming video at the Conference. There was a lively, two-hour discussion about this proposal. Sharon has provided an attachment of what was talked about. Ara put the pros and cons together for a discussion the next week at the Wyoming Library Association Executive Board meeting. Another long discussion ensued at that meeting.

One of the issues was that the grant was written to provide streaming video for 100% of the Conference. Sharon asked: What about speakers who do not allow recording? It also is hard with one camera to record a discussion group. The grant has now been rewritten to provide streaming video of 80% of the Conference.

Sharon reported that it is a joy to work with Erin, who is a true co-chair. Sharon showed us the huge binder she has for the Conference.

Bridgett Johnson noted that the last page of pros and cons about the streaming video issue were very well thought out, and could be used for future settings. Sharon noted that this is a great opportunity to try this new technology.

But a possible big con was that registration might be down because streaming video means that people do not have to physically attend nor may library systems feel compelled to send anyone to Conference. Joe Edelen suggested not pushing the streaming video feature until later in the registration cycle and Sharon noted that one of the group's decisions was not to do any public relations on the streaming video aspect until later in the registration cycle. Richard Landreth, however, noted that at the WLA board meeting, it was decided that if streaming video was going to be used, then the group needed to be behind it 100%. So it appears that this feature will be publicized.

Possible ways to promote streaming video were suggested. These included the Newsletter, the website and MemberClicks.

C. Past President (Carol Hammond)

Budget

The budget was more straightforward than Carol realized that it would be. A lot of expenses are routine. Carol went through the budget line by line to explain how the budget is put together. It is not all neat and tidy within the budget year. Bills come in after the budget year ends, for example. Some of the figures cover 2 years. Carol provided budget figures for what MPLA spent in 2004 and what Carol is proposing for the 2005 budget.

MPLA made \$34,000 for the Conference in Lake Tahoe, and this figure was an all-time high for MPLA Conference. The Conference in Colorado did quite well and made \$23,000. Sharon Osenga noted that the projections for profit from the Wyoming Conference are lower.

Interest income is projected at \$1000.

The income from the Leadership Institute comes from Ebsco and from registration dues for participants. The registration fee was raised this year a little bit. Last year's income was \$24,000 and Carol projects that the income will be \$25,000 in 2005.

Membership fees brought in \$35,000 last year, which was an increase from the year before. Carol is projecting that this year's projected membership fee income will be the same.

Miscellaneous income includes some from job ads. Lisa said that the advertisements in the Newsletter should bring in \$600. Carol did not put anything down for the cash reserve because this year MPLA was very close.

So the proposed income is \$10,000 less than last year, but our expenses are down somewhat as well.

Carol next reviewed the MPLA budget expenses. She thanked the University of South Dakota for shipping the MPLA booth to each Conference. Carol noted that MPLA asks if the state or State Representative's institution can pick up the expenses of shipping it back to South Dakota.

The amount listed for the committees are their operating expenses. Nobody got in touch with Carol about any special projects. The Awards expenses are the costs of the awards themselves, and vary depending on the number of awards given.

MPLA spends about \$10,000 a year on the Leadership Institute.

The amount listed for the Professional Development and Grants Committee is for conference calls.

The Task Force on Reorganization will probably not need \$1000, but this amount has been allocated for conference calls.

Most of the Conference expenses go on the Conference budget. The Conference seed money is usually about \$1000 but is listed as more since Conference seed money is allocated years in advance.

MPLA pays its member dues with a credit card. The dues for ALA and the Freedom to Read Foundation are \$155.

The Executive Board expenses are for travel and hotel. MPLA Board costs are projected to be less than last year, because meeting in Las Vegas in 2004 instead of Denver was more expensive.

The expenses for the Executive Secretary include paying Joe Edelen as well as paying for Joe's Social Security, insurance and bond.

There is an annual fee for MemberClicks.

The Newsletter expenses include the printing, the mailing and the payment of the Editor.

MPLA benefits on the cost of office supplies from its association with the University of South Dakota.

The expense for postage is for letters sent out to encourage new memberships and renewals.

The MPLA President's travel expense to state library conferences are for travel expenses incurred as part of the MPLA strategic plan, which specified that the President attend two state library conferences per year.

The letterhead had to be reprinted to reflect the addition of New Mexico as a member state of MPLA.

Professional Development and Grants received \$6,000 for professional grants. All allocated monies were given out last year. A suggestion was made to encourage members to use a professional grant to defray part of the cost of attending Conference.

The secretarial expense is if Joe needs extra help with mailing.

None of the MPLA Sections asked for money.

MPLA voted to give Dan Chaney a raise for his role as Webmaster.

Sharon Osenga moved, and Peter Kraus seconded, that: the MPLA budget be approved as presented. Motion passed.

VI. Paid Staff Reports
Executive Secretary (Joe Edelen)

The next MPLA Executive Board meeting will be at the Executive Tower Inn in July. The room rate will be \$80. Beth Avery reports that the parking is cheaper. The date of the meeting is July 23.

Peter Kraus asked why the meeting was being held there. Joe reported that there was not sufficient space in the Marriott Courtyard on the date that we needed to use.

Joe handed out several items. One was the financial report. There is nothing extraordinary to report.

Carol noted that this is the first time membership is up in several years. Kansas is up 20 and Colorado is up 40. The proximity of the Conference made a big difference.

Peter Kraus commented on the rate we are getting on our CD. He suggested shopping around for an online bank rate. Beth Avery reported that there is a list in Money Magazine about relatively secure online banks. She asked how Board members felt about this issue. Joe noted that anything is secure up to \$100,000. Peter said that he has all his money in online banks because it is getting better interest. Beth stated that this would be discussed at the July meeting of the finance committee.

Joe noted that all library schools in the region are receiving copies of the MPLA Newsletter. New members are being enrolled in the New Members Roundtable,

with an opt-out choice. New members receive a packet with a Newsletter and a letter from Joe and the President.

Joe will collect data on the retention and renewal of those who win free memberships at the Conference and present a report at the July Board meeting. Three members who were Board Choice Award winners opted out of the Conference fee.

Carol stated that we should prepare reports on members who have not renewed from the various states. State Representatives need to do this. They also need to report if someone dies or has left the region.

Ways to publicize membership were discussed. Using national and state newsletters were discussed. Joe reported that he has always received reciprocal ads in state newsletters. Carol noted that the State Representatives should either promote MPLA in their state newsletter via an ad or an article.

Debate over the value of promoting MPLA in the national press was discussed. Joe felt that it was a laudable goal but not cost effective. Joe said that in the past he sent press releases to the national media about MPLA Awards and Conference but has not done so for some years.

Joe checked with Dan Chaney and confirmed that MemberClicks can do electronic balloting.

Discussion about how MemberClicks could be used for other purposes ensued. Carol reported taking a survey on MemberClicks which was very effective. Dan reported about an item he set up at Beth's request regarding an email about book suggestions. Dan was amazed because, even on a very tight deadline, there were 29 responses within one week.

Bridgett Johnson said that in Montana MemberClicks wouldn't work because there is a library listserv. This would be just another thing that a person would have to check. She said that people probably would not go to that part of the MPLA website at all.

One question a week on MemberClicks might draw in participants. Dan said that he needs help coming up with questions.

A. Webmaster (Dan Chaney)

Website redesign

Dan Chaney reported that the website redesign has been an off and on project. There is a graphic display in his report of what he thinks the style is going to be. Dan has a new HTML editor and new graphics software. So the project has been

complicated by the need to learn new software. In the first week of November he began playing around with designs. He has been working off and on this project since then.

The new site will have graphic templates which are easy to update. On the old website, each page was unique. Dan is learning about cascading style sheets. The URL for the test site is listed at the top of the report. You can run a mouse over a graphic, and watch it change. The Conference, Leadership Institute, Executive Board, Section and Committee pages are works in progress. The Awards, Bylaws, and Continuing Education segments are done. The Publications portion includes Newsletters, the Manual of Procedure, Board reports, and the Long Range Plan. Dan is trying to link the Long Range Plan from wherever it seems appropriate to do so. Dan is working his way down the list. At some point Dan would like a site index. This would be the last step.

There are a lot of dead files on the server. Dan has to look at each file. If they are not linked, then they are deleted.

The redesign is a massive, but fun, undertaking. Dan plans to have the site up in June. Please let Dan know of any changes or suggestions. Dan is trying to look at how the page will look in various settings and with various browsers.

Carol Hammond would like a list of officers that is easy to find: a one-stop list. Dan said that this would happen.

Dan reported that new features will include a search box and a calendar. Let Dan know of any additions to the calendar. Currently it is mostly ALA, state conferences, Executive Board meetings, and the Leadership Institute. Joe Edelen suggested adding Professional Development and Grants Committee meeting dates. Sharon Osenga suggested that the application deadlines were more important.

A blurb on the jobline page about joining MPLA has been added.

Dan has made notes in his report about what kinds of items relating to the Long Range Plan can be placed on the website.

It might be a good idea to have a Career Corner or Ask a Career question section on the website. Content will need to be developed. Carol noted that people could ask questions of a particular practitioner, although then someone needs to be assigned to answer them.

Susan Moyer suggested that the possible Career Corner might be a way of getting library schools and their students more involved in MPLA. There could be hot topics, hot job areas and what qualifications people are looking for in a job applicant. Joe suggested that perhaps each graduating member of the library

schools in the region could receive a free MPLA membership if they stay in the region. Getting a list of names versus privacy requirements was brought up, but Peter Kraus felt that this would be no problem since who is graduating is fairly open information. Martha Greene wondered about region members who are virtual going to non-region schools. Joe suggested making the concept of the free membership for students known electronically. If you are in the region, contact MPLA for a free membership. Julie Linneman suggested a requirement to get a job within a certain period of time. Wayne Hanway suggested that this free graduate membership may conflict with the existing student rate. Joe noted that there are already 145 free memberships. Beth Avery referred this discussion to the Membership Committee.

Beth Avery mentioned that maybe we should revisit the logo. Dan suggested finding creative people to design a new graphic.

Beth Avery noted that the Long Range Plan assigned the PR Committee the task of creating a slogan.

Wayne Hanway said that the Oklahoma Library Association designed a new logo and the process was instructive. One challenge is finding the right people for the job. You want professionals. You may need to decide what to do if you get more than one good idea.

Sharon Osenga wondered who had created the Leadership Institute logo. Mary Bushing paid someone to create it.

Carol Hammond said that this is a job for a graphic designer. It is not a job for an amateur. There are professionals working in our libraries who can do this job.

Julie Linneman likes the current MPLA logo design because it is recognizable, is interesting, the circle is attractive and has been with us for so long. She heard that one should not tinker with an existing logo too much. Carol Hammond noted that it is like a brand.

VII. Sections

Children's and Schools. The report is on the table. She submitted a proposal for a section meeting at Conference. Julie is looking for candidates for officers.

Government Documents. Ara Anderson noted that the report is posted. There are no additions. Peter Kraus noted that his first name is Peter, not Robert. Ara thanked him for the correction.

Preservation, Archives, and Special Collections. Kevin Anderson noted that he has no additions to his report, which he handed out.

State Agencies, Cooperatives and Systems. Dorothy Liegl said that her report is online. The section's main activity is working on a program proposal for Stephen Abrams, the Vice President of Innovation for Sirsi and the President of the Canadian Library Association. He is very much into the electronic world and has an article in *American Libraries* about Google. Sharon Osenga noted that he could not make the keynote address, but should be at the Conference on Friday. He is a pretty sure bet but has not been officially approved.

VIII. State reports

Montana. Bridgett Johnson included the logo for the Montana Conference on her report. They have a very active library community, which does a lot of library training.

Greg Mortenson, who was a keynote speaker at last year's Conference, has been instrumental in the Central Asia Institute. This group is building schools with libraries in Afghanistan and Central Asia. They are encouraging libraries and schools to collect "pennies for peace" to fund this project.

Montana also is looking for a new Executive Officer for the State Association. They would like this person to do conference planning as well.

We all are invited in April to Billings to join the Montana Library Association Conference.

Kansas. Susan Moyer did not prepare a report, since Kansas is the featured state in the next issue of the MPLA Newsletter and all her information will be in that article.

Nebraska. Nina Little thanked everyone who supported the idea of Nebraska providing monetary support to the Institute. This is now in the state budget.

Nevada. Martha Greene was elected at the end of January to the Board. MPLA was featured in the December issue of the Nevada Library Association Newsletter. So Linda was doing her job. NLA is working on a long range plan and is borrowing from the MPLA plan. Nevada is still struggling as the fastest growing state in nation. There is a lot of distance between the 2 big cities and lots of rural space in between.

Sharon Osenga was interested in the new personalized license plate with proceeds going to NLA. Martha reported that on a short deadline they got the necessary signatures to make the plate a reality. There will be a big publicity campaign associated with the plate.

New Mexico. There is nothing to add to the written report.

North Dakota. Sally Dockter tried to post a report and it wouldn't post. It is on the table. Sally has one observation on this Board. From her time 10 years ago the organization seems to be a lot more sophisticated. It has grown a lot and this may be due to strategic planning.

Oklahoma. Wayne Hanway reports that in addition to his written report, he was asked by the State Librarian to pass this question along to MPLA. Wayne will put this out on the list later. The State Librarian would like to know if other MPLA states have statutes that allow children to sign for library cards. Oklahoma has a statute that states that minors can enter into certain kinds of legal contracts. A parental signature requirement can act as a barrier for many kids for access. Sharon Osenga knows that on the other side, children can run up overdues and fines without the parent's knowledge. Members shared their information. Sharon asked Wayne to send out the results after he gets responses from the list.

South Dakota. Collen Smith said that there is nothing beyond the posted report.

Utah. Peter Kraus reported that the legislative session ended Wednesday at midnight. The State funded a \$48 million retrofit for the University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library. The Legislature did not fund \$89,000 for Pioneer, the cooperative database system for Utah libraries.

Donna Jones Morris got a phone call from Representative Mike Noel (R-Kanab), who had been targeted by the group Citizens for Decency. Donna has done an excellent job in reaching out and dialoguing with these people. In ongoing discussions with this group and this representative, she explained the problems with funding. Rep. Noel reported that in addition to the traditional money for public library grants, an additional \$250,000 for grants was allocated for public libraries. Donna is the Utah State Librarian.

Wyoming. Richard Landreth apologized for having to send a revision. But Library Journal came out Tuesday, and named Trish Palluck paraprofessional of the year.

The University of Wyoming is trying to revive the school library media certification program. They are dealing with the Department of Education.

IX. Committees

Bylaws. Section 6 still needs to be reviewed. Dan says Sections 1 through 5 have been posted. Look at Section 6 for the July meeting.

Professional Development and Grants. Sharon Osenga reported that the Committee used just about all the money last year for the first time. There was a change last year with the setting up of very specific due dates. That has helped a lot as has advertising in the Newsletter and in the balloting.

Public Relations/Membership. This Committee is larger than in past years. That is because the Long Range Plan has that Committee splitting this October so Beth wanted to make sure that there were enough people to fill both Committees when they split. The Committee has had trouble with chairs in the past, so now there are co-chairs.

Leadership Institute. There is a written report. There is good news about continuing support for the Institute, which was provided by Ebsco. Now Sirsi will provide funding. The Institute is developing a plan for long term sponsor support.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Reorganization Task Force Report. This is now labeled TF-1. Sharon Osenga said that if you look at points number 5 and number 6, you can see what the train of thought was. The Task Force is looking for a recommendation at the July Board meeting. The proposal must be approved either by ballot or at a membership meeting. It needs to be done this October or else another year and a half will elapse before this could be done. Donna Jones Morris will be at the Board meeting in July.

I. Unsung Heroes Task Force

Beth Avery notes that the Executive Board needs to appoint a Task Force under the Long Range Plan. This would consist of members of the Sections, the Awards Committee, and the Public Relations Committees to recognize unsung heroes. Unsung heroes are those small communities and people who would not normally be recognized. This includes small libraries serving less than 5000 population. The location of this item in the Plan is Goal 3, Objective B, activity 4.

Carol mentioned some concerns. Do they have to be an MPLA member? Perhaps the definition needs to be clarified.

Wayne Hanway suggested making sure that multiple types of libraries be included in any definition.

This will be referred to the Awards Committee to further define the concept of an unsung hero and perhaps to devise a nicer title.

II. Electronic Communication Committee Discussion List Policy

This policy statement was tabled in October.

Beth Avery read the policy.

Carol Hammond suggested removing the phrase “however slightly” in the section that relates to sending items related to libraries.

Beth Avery reviewed the less controversial sections of the policy.

Carol mentioned issues relating to a company that wanted to post a survey relating to a commercial product. In general, how should posts from commercial interests be handled?

There was much discussion about the acceptability of posting ads to the list. Some members do not mind them; others do. Beth Avery suggested that one possibility

is raising the fee for commercial advertising by charging per name on the mailing list. Wayne Hanway suggested a flat fee of \$75.

Louis Howley suggested having a separate mailing list for advertisements.

Joe Edelen emphasized the need to have a policy that allows him to delete posters who do not follow the rules.

Dan Chaney suggested changing the wording regarding those who can post from list members to association members.

The issue of the appropriateness of posting advertisements and job listings to the mailing list will be referred to the membership.

Wayne Hanway moved, and Ara Anderson seconded, that: MPLA approve the Discussion List Policy statement as revised in the discussion with the exception of the one point referred to the membership. Motion passed.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Recognition Plaque for Past Presidents

Carol Hammond proposed a motion to award a plaque to MPLA Past Presidents. The reason for this proposal is that MPLA provides no tangible recognition for this officer.

Who will be the person handling it? Joe Edelen wondered. Carol felt that Joe should handle it.

Wayne Hanway wondered about the cost. Carol suggested that it be about a foot by foot plaque, which Joe said would cost about \$100.

Wayne amended the motion to make the award retroactive for five years.

It was decided to give this award at the MPLA membership meeting.

Carol Hammond moved, and Bridgett Johnson seconded, that: the MPLA President be awarded an engraved plaque at the end of his or her term, to be given at the membership meeting during the Conference, with the MPLA logo and noting the office and year of service. This award will be given out retroactively for those serving in the past five years. Motion passed.

I. Drexel eLearning

Beth reported that MPLA received an offer from Drexel eLearning to partner with them. Their corporate partners provide tuition assistance and attendance in their programs. Various states have already signed on as corporate partners.

South Dakota voted not to do so. Dorothy Liegl reported that South Dakota did not become a corporate partner with Drexel eLearning because they felt that they did not want to support one library school over another. It is very expensive and not in the region.

Wayne Hanway reported that the Oklahoma Library Association voted not to support this effort.

Peter Kraus said that the Drexel program was too expensive. One program that was well thought of was at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Beth Avery has an intern from that program.

The issue of how we should deal with partnering in continuing education efforts and to continuing education solicitations will be referred to committee. But this proposal from Drexel eLearning needs a vote.

Beth Avery moved, and Sharon Osenga seconded, that: MPLA will not partner with Drexel eLearning Inc. Motion passed.

II. Responsibilities of State Representatives

Carol Hammond reviewed the responsibilities of the State Representatives. These are posted on the website. It seems like a lot of work, but there is far less assigned in the five-year plan than in past years.

You do not have to do all this work by yourself. Please partner with committee members in your own state for assistance.

Be aware of the free offers that MPLA has. There are \$500 preconference grants, for example. You can apply every two years for these and they are awarded by the Continuing Education Committee. More information is available in the Manual of Procedures.

If there is a joint Conference in your state, you will have additional opportunities to promote MPLA. Organize something in your state to raise potential members' awareness of MPLA. Set up a tabletop size booth at your State Conference. Make sure that the Conference provides you with a table. You need to remind them that there is no charge. Please let Joe Edelen know where to ship the booth. You then conduct a drawing for 10 free MPLA memberships; try to hold the drawing at some gathering like a membership meeting.

Your reports from your state are very useful to MPLA. Two-way communication between MPLA and the states is critical. Please write about MPLA in your State Newsletter. Report back to the Board about what is going on in your State.

Every State Representative gets to select a Board Choice Award. This offers a free membership in your state to some deserving individual.

Joe Edelen needs help in keeping the membership lists current. Look at the list for your state and see if people have moved or died. It is great if we can contact new people who arrive in your state about the possibility of joining MPLA. MPLA sends new members a welcome email. If there is a Library School in your state, you can make a presentation to the students about MPLA.

Mary Bushing informed Carol that she sent out items to all State Representatives about the Leadership Institute. Mary said that you all have your instructions. The Leadership Institute is a very positive influence for MPLA and has touched people's lives.

Share what is going on with intellectual freedom issues in your state. Include this information in your state report.

Martha Greene asked, what is a preconference grant? Carol said that it helps the state put on a preconference at their state conference. It is additional funding, given out as a grant and fulfills the purpose of continuing education. MPLA members have to get a discount on a preconference which has received an MPLA grant. You do not get this money until you turn in your report.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.