

**MPLA Executive Board Meeting**  
**January 25, 2016**  
**9:00 a.m. Central Time**  
**Zoom Videoconference**

| <b>PRESENT</b>  |                                |                  |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>     | <b>MPLA Position</b>           | <b>Name</b>      | <b>MPLA Position</b>           |
| Eric Stroshane  | President                      | Stephen Boss     | Nominating Chair/WY Rep        |
| Mickey Coalwell | Vice President/President Elect | Kris Johnson     | Professional Development Chair |
| Annie Epperson  | Past President /Admin Chair    | Ellen Fockler    | Membership Chair               |
| Melanie Argo    | Recording Secretary            | Diana Weaver     | KS State Rep                   |
| Judy Zelenski   | Executive Secretary            | Dale Savage      | AZ State Rep                   |
| Aubrey Madler   | Leader Institute Coordinator   | John Crocket     | NV State Rep                   |
| Amadee Ricketts | Newsletter Editor              | LeAnn Weller     | NM State Rep                   |
| Mary Soucie     | Leadership Institute Co-Chair  | Tim Miller       | OK State Rep                   |
| Dan Ireton      | Bylaws and Procedures Chair    | Brenda Hemmelman | SD State Rep                   |
| Tina Walker     | Communications Chair           | Stephen Sweeney  | CO State Rep                   |

**Welcome and Call to Order**

President Stroshane called the meeting to order at 9:02am CST

**Approve/Amend Agenda**

A MOTION was made by Weaver. SECONDED by Johnson. The amended agenda was APPROVED.

**Action Items**

- **November 16, 2015, Executive Board meeting minutes**  
 Argo indicated spelling error – Brigham Young University

A MOTION was made by Johnson. SECONDED by Boss. The amended minutes were APPROVED.

- **Future joint conference sites: TABLED until next meeting.**
  - Invitation to hold our 2019 joint conference with the New Mexico Library Association (on the NMLA Board agenda for January 28<sup>th</sup>)
  - Invitation to hold our 2021 joint conference with the Utah Library Association (action pending word from our friends in New Mexico)

- **Ad hoc Digital Archives Committee**

Stroshane indicated the role of this committee is to look at procedure and best practices for MPLA archives. Epperson volunteered to chair. Epperson stated that the committee would be examining and updating bylaws and MOP as needed in terms of archiving practices and the possible move from print to digital. She stated the archives are a duty of the recording secretary.

Johnson indicated that the archive aspect could be a deterrent for the position. Boss agreed and it is something to consider in the discussion. Johnson's idea was have one repository where each individual or entity is tasked with uploading assigned documents instead of having it fall on one person.

**Statements from Chat Discussion**

Weaver : Annie, I'll help with that committee.

Committee Members: Ireton, Boss, Chaney, Argo, Weaver

A MOTION was made by Soucie. SECONDED by Savage. Establishment of Ad hoc digital archives committee was APPROVED.

**\* President – Eric Stroshane**

- Strategic planning facilitation proposals and alternatives

Stroshane indicated the following: Proposals received by JM Strategies and Sage

Admin committee set travel costs cap at \$1200

Facilitation costs: JM Strategies \$8000 + travel (\$9200) Sage \$4000 + travel (\$5200)

Stroshane stated that JM's plan was more robust in that included possibility of 2 more targeted follow up surveys as well as a focus group to inform the process. Indicated due to relationship with JM strategies (Jason) he'd be abstaining from vote.

Soucie shared that the NDLA and the ND State library worked with JM strategies. It has been a great process and that the rep, Jason has been great to work with and incredibly responsive. The customer service is top notch. Also, indicated that due to relationship would be abstaining from vote.

Miller brought up the cost differences. Stroshane indicated Sage's proposal is a discounted price.

Hemmelman stated that SDLA is working with Sage and it has been a positive process. She made mention with the size of MPLA and the extras that JM put in is a good thing. Also indicated due to the relationship with Sage would be abstaining from vote.

Savage asked if there were any finished products from either of them. Stroshane screen shared SDLA draft plan from Sage and NDLA draft plan from JM Strategies and indicated that he'd send them out to any who wanted them to review. Souice indicated that the ND State Library's plan would be finalized within a week or so to be available for sharing.

Coalwell asked about the alternative approach that was discussed during the admin committee meeting. Stroshane imparted the idea of utilizing the leadership institute as a sort of focus group/brain trust to give us the direction and flexibility as an association to define what the core values/guiding principles of MPLA are. What it means to be an MPLA member to work more reactively with needs. Unfortunately, the leadership institute cannot accommodate the approach envisioned at this time.

Weller asked how valuable to the process do we think the focus group would be. Savage indicated that focus groups are valuable in part because it can surface ideas that you have not thought of. Epperson agreed and noted bringing in the voices of the rising leaders in the region might help us to stay dynamic and responsive for years to come. Johnson expressed that it was great idea especially for MPLA to provide unique opportunities/services to be a pull to join and be a member of the association.

Souice articulated the idea of making this planning process longer so that we can do things such as a focus group or session to get feedback at the state association conference level from all not just MPLA members. Savage thought it was an interesting idea and he'd be happy to facilitate a discussion in his association. Essentially create our own facilitation that was cohesive across state associations in terms of questions and description. Coalwell agreed.

Coalwell posed the question, in terms of the proposals presented from Sage and JM Strategies are we ready to commit those sorts of resources and what is the cost/benefit relationship? Souice is in favor of bringing in a third party because of the benefit of the guided process and maybe with this idea ask Sage or JM Strategies to adopt it into their proposals so that they are doing the work for us in terms of questions and facilitation training. Weller thinks that getting feedback at the state level would be useful especially when trying to reach non-members, non-active members, and members and the third party guidance is important.

Stroshane asked for any further discussion. Epperson brought up the use of Zoom as a strengthening tool.

A MOTION was made by Sweeney. SECONDED by Epperson to create a committee to explore the strategic planning options discussed and provide a recommendation at a set up on date. The motion was APPROVED.

Committee Chaired by: Coalwell, other members include: Sweeney, Savage, Epperson  
A recommendation on next steps will be at next board meeting in March 2016.

**\* Vice President – Mickey Coalwell**

- Final board meeting time at CAL/MPLA conference  
Coalwell - Early morning or at the end of the conference?  
Discussion ensued. It was decided to set final meeting for morning.

**\* Past President/Administration Committee – Annie Epperson**

- Budget  
Epperson opened it for any questions/comments. Noted line item 49 (External Storage) to facilitate MPLA files that might need to be passed on to the next executive secretary in the future. Zelenski noted it includes an array of documents such as financial and board reports among others that relate to MPLA. Johnson thought that this would good idea to combine with the archives conversation. Epperson asked if she'd join the Ad Hoc committee. Zelenski agreed.

A MOTION by Hemmelman. SECONDED by Johnson. Budget was APPROVED.

**\* Executive Secretary – Judy Zelenski**

- Financial and membership reports  
Zelenski noted that we spent about \$2000 more than budgeted in 2015. Also when we look at Leadership Institute have to look across two years as some donation funds come in year before. We received WY conference check in December 2015. It was not deposited until January 2016 so that it shows up as income for this year as we will probably not see CAL/CON conference income until 2017 so it'll average nicely. Due revenues are good and this in part to the 2-tier structure change a few years back. As members make more, their dues increase even though membership is staying about the same. Zelenski also noted that the grace period is not reflected in the statistics and the report is not totally reflective of current membership. Questions let her know.

**\* Leadership Institute Coordinator – Aubrey Madler**

- Leadership Institute Draft Agenda  
Madler noted that LI mentors met with Sullivan last week and finalized agenda. She opened it up to discussion. Madler noted that she has heard back from most candidates and that by the end of the week it should be official/final.  
Hemmelman asked if there was any concern about fellows leaving early? Madler stated that was the point of adding specific content and that she was comfortable with letting those who are a few hours' drive away head home. Zelenski noted that in those cases of fellows leaving early we'd need to think of room costs and the possibility that the fellow would have to cover it. Souice brought up the idea of not sharing the agenda until they arrived. It would be a deterrent for leaving early. Madler appreciated thoughts.

**\* Colorado – Stephen Sweeney**

- Conference planning update  
Sweeney stated the committee has met all milestones so far and the biggest aspect that is currently in process is discussion on the keynote speaker. There was some confusion about the program submission deadline. The true final deadline date is February 12<sup>th</sup>. Final program selections in April and notifications in May. Epperson brought up the presence of ALA advocacy and possible inclusion as either a session or speaker.

**\* Oklahoma – Tim Miller**

- Proclamation in support of Oklahoma libraries  
Miller indicated that OK is going through a difficult budget situation and the goal of the proclamation is keeping the state library as an independent entity because what we do as libraries is unique.

A MOTION was made by Souice. SECONDED by Epperson. Addition of MPLA signature to proclamation was APPROVED.

**\* South Dakota – Brenda Hemmelman**

- Voting result re: MPLA members attending SDLA conferences at SDLA member rates  
SDLA met on January 20<sup>th</sup> and it was approved for MPLA members to attend SDLA (2016 – Watertown, SD) at SDLA member rates. MPLA membership will receive a promo code to input when registering which will in turn get them membership rates without actually being a member.

**Final Announcements**

Fockler shared an invitation for The NV reading week conference in which Matt De la Pena, 2016 John Newbery Medal winner, will be in attendance.

<http://www.nevadareadingweek.com/>

**Next Board Meeting – TBD by Doodle poll and attended via Zoom**

**Adjournment**

Stroshane called the meeting to a close at 10:40 am

Respectively submitted,  
Melanie Argo  
Recording Secretary