

Draft Minutes - MPLA Executive Board Meeting  
March 31, 2009 Wichita KS 3 pm

#### MPLA Executive Board – March 31, 2009 Meeting

Welcome and call to order:

Present: Rob Banks, President; Julie Beno, Nebraska Rep; Dana Braccia, Arizona Rep; Dan Chaney, Webmaster; Mickey Coalwell, new Kansas Rep; Betty Dance, Bylaws Subcommittee; Roy Degler, Portal Administrator; Annie Epperson, Recording Secretary; Florica Hagendorn, Nevada Rep; Wayne Hanway, Past President; Basha Hartley, Membership Committee; Pam Henley, Montana Rep; Dorothy Horan, Utah Rep; Mary Katherine Katzer, Colorado Rep; JaNae Kinikin, Awards Committee; Elvita Landau, South Dakota Rep; Dorothy Liegl, Nominating Committee; Debbie McCarthy, Wyoming Rep; Tamera Meredith, Professional Development Committee; Debbie McCarthy, Wyoming Rep; Susan Moyer, Kansas Rep; Barbara Ray, Oklahoma Rep; Cassandra Osterloh, standing in for NM Rep; Eileen Wright, VP/President-Elect; Judy Zelenski, Executive Secretary & Newsletter Editor. Also present: Rita Sevart, incoming Membership Committee

Not present: Connie Lamb, Professional Development Committee; Al Peterson, North Dakota Rep; Lynette Schurdevin, New Mexico Rep.

Minutes of the October 11, 2008 meeting stand as corrected.

Minutes of the January 14, 2009 meeting stand as corrected.

Officers and Paid Staff Reports:

President: Rob Banks reported that MPLA has received an invitation to hold a joint conference with the Nebraska Library Association (NLA) in 2012.

Motion: JaNae Kinikin moved to accept the invitation for a joint conference with NLA in 2012.

Second: Betty Dance.

Discussion: the conference will be held in late October, in La Vista. MPLA will then be on a fall cycle.

Passed

The Leadership Institute: In late 2008 Rob signed a contract with YMCA of the Rockies, in anticipation of resuming the Leadership Institute in Spring 2010. So far vendors are unwilling to commit the \$10,000 financial support that makes this a feasible activity for us. Our agreement with YMCA of the Rockies includes deadlines at which point there are penalties for breaking the contract. However, the Institute is an important event for our membership, so we need to work on fundraising, or changing the nature of the Institute. Occasionally alumni want to donate support to the Institute, which would be easier if the donations form were reformatted, which would fall to the Membership Committee. Sale of shirts can also continue when the online shop

is repaired. Those who picked up shirts at conference should wear them on Thursday at conference, to promote to others.

Robert Balay, author of *Prairies & Plains* sent a letter expressing his gratitude for all the help he received from MPLA members as he worked on his book. The book will be available at the KWS booth.

Vice-President/President Elect: Committee Appointments: Eileen Wright announced that appointments are nearly complete, with only one position, chair of the Nominating Committee vacant.

Conference: Eileen appreciates that so much of the conference planning was done by Rob, since he is in Kansas. Registration as of early Tuesday morning was at 692. Registrant numbers are down both from KLA and MPLA, because of the economic depression. We are hoping to break even on the conference.

Summer board meeting: This will be held on 24 and 25 July. We have moved to a new location, closer to the airport. Stapleton Doubletree Inn, which has a free airport shuttle. Administration committee will meet in the evening of the 24th, and the Executive board will meet at 9 a.m. on the 25th.

Academic Forum: Only had one submission, so forum is cancelled for this conference; saves \$300 prize!

Past-President: 2009 Budget: Wayne Hanway explained that the revised budget reflects the downpayment on the YMCA of the Rockies for the Leadership Institute. We need to raise money to support the Leadership Institute, or be prepared to pay fees/penalties to the YMCA of the Rockies. If we cancel in October 2009 we lose \$510. We might want to revise the Institute, engage alumni, garner vendor support, or connect with state librarians. Or, has it run its course? We should have a firm decision about this by our next meeting.

Motion Wayne Hanway moved to approve the 2009 revised budget as presented.

Seconded by Elvita Landau

Passed

2010 conference: Wayne will be program chair for Oklahoma Library Association, so he assures us that a good time will be had by all. Bricktown is a great place for a party.

Executive Secretary: Budget Report: Judy Zelenski talked us through the Income & Expense – Budget vs. Actual Report, the Balance, and comparison with the previous year. Membership statistics are promising, and she doesn't really know why. She highlighted some findings from her survey of Non-Renewing MPLA Leadership Institute Participants, Board Choice Members, and Recipients of Free State Conference Memberships Report. Some of these data could inform the work of the Communication and Membership Committees. This was the year for a professional audit, which went well.

Motion: On behalf of the Administration Committee, Wayne moved to accept the Audit Report.

Second: Elvita Landau

Passed.

Newsletter Editor: Judy Zelenski reported that, since the loss of our printer, she has been looking at lots of different options for printing the newsletter: different papers, inks, and formats. Many members are opting for online only access to the newsletter. We discussed whether to change the default access to online only for winners of the free memberships and decided against it. Judy asked members of the board to examine the four newsletters she had passed out and let her know which we prefer.

Webmaster: Dan Chaney asks that if members see problems with the site to let him know. The most recent transition to new server space went very smoothly but we still might uncover little things that need to be repaired. Once he gets the storefront repaired, shirts will go back on sale.

Our line presence has shifted a bit: we now have a Facebook Page, allowing members to become “fans” of MPLA. So far we have 96 fans! Also, there is an MPLA Twitter hashmark ...?

Portal Administrator: Roy Degler listed some successes: the shirt shop and election tool; some new projects: meet.mpla.us; and some future projects: including a calendaring tool, php software which can help with mailings, and help committees connect, and a software that is designed for churches that can possibly replace what Memberclicks does for us.

Roy reminded us that fire needs air, fuel and energy, and the portal is the same way. It has the air in membership, it needs fuel in the form of content, and we can generate the energy with our excitement about using it as a resource and our enthusiasm for MPLA overall. He plans to create a discussion area for Leadership Institute, in which alumni can create a group for ongoing interaction.

#### Committee Reports:

Membership Committee: MPLA shirts: Basha reported that we could sell more shirts, with help. She will get back to us about how much profit the first shirt sale generated.

#### State Representatives:

Dana Braccia presented a proposal for creating LINKS between members, states, and MPLA that could help individuals build relationships.

#### Announcements:

The presidential suite is #412 – will be open for social hours on Wednesday evening (byob), Thursday morning for New Members Breakfast, and Thursday evening (President’s Reception).

Membership meeting is Friday morning at 9:00 for the changing of the guard.

Susan Moyer is collecting for the MPLA basket.

Shirts cost \$19.00

Next Executive Board Meeting: Saturday 25 July, 2009 at 9:00 am in Denver.

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.