

ST-7

New Mexico MPLA Report

July 18, 2012

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The New Mexico Library Mini-Conference will be in Carlsbad on Oct. 25-26. The theme is "Going to bat for New Mexico Libraries." Proposals for programs can be submitted through July 31. The next full NMLA Board Meeting will be at that meeting

The NMLA Board met in Albuquerque on June 5. Meeting concerns and highlights:

- Fundraising
- 2012-2013 budget and potential budget shortfall.
- Newsletter will be published in electronic form only (cost saving)
- Modifying annual conference to save costs

The 2013 NMLA Conference will be April 17-19, 2013 at the Albuquerque Sheraton Uptown located on the NE corner of Menaul and Louisiana in Albuquerque. The theme is "Connecting New Mexico and the Global Community." Vendor info is available now.

Bonds for Libraries (<http://bondsforlibraries.org/>) is running a contest to document the positive effect of previous general obligation bonds (GO Bond). The projected allocation amounts for libraries for the GO Bond on the November 2012 ballot are now available. Mobilizing local interest in passing that bond will be a major effort in the next couple of months.

The Sunland Park Community Library is at risk of closing due to the financial and political crises occurring in that community. The "Milagro Library" was created ten years ago as a grassroots effort between the City of Sunland Park, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library (Las Cruces) and Doña Ana Community College and provides services to a borderland community of just over 14,000 residents (59,000 visitors last year). On July 12 a public meeting in Sunland Park discussed a budget with starting deficit of \$750,00 and layoffs of police and firefighters. With the possibility of property tax increases no final decision was reached. The NMLA Board has contacted ALA and requested assistance and letters of support from ALA president Maureen Sullivan and PLA president Eva Poole.