

Vermont Library Association
Stowe Free Central Library, Stowe
June 13, 2018

Voting Members Present: Cindy Weber, Amy Olsen, Margaret Woodruff, Kelly McCagg, Emily Crist, Christie Silkotch, Nancy Mark, Debbie Landauer, Marti Fiske, Steve Picazio, Jeannette Bair

Non-voting Members Present Dana Rozycki, Howard Burrows, Loona Brogan, Lisa Milchman, Jessica Mattera, Eric Toole, Jami Yazdani

The meeting was called to order by Cindy at 10:05.

MOTION: Margaret Woodruff made a motion seconded by Cindy Weber

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 14, 2018

YES: 11

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION: Margaret Woodruff made a motion seconded by Cindy Weber

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MAY 10, 2018

YES: 11

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Conference Review: Jeannette reported that the conference went well with 304 attendees. She recommends keeping a separate conference budget. Survey results were positive, with the following recommendations: shorter day, longer programs. However this would result in 10 fewer programs. Twenty-five programs were offered. Lake Morey was a very popular location despite the lunch ticket system. Jeannette reported that this was the only location that does not charge additional room fees. The final bill was exactly what was expected—no extra hidden costs. The conference made approximately \$4-5,000. Jeannette commented that the conference address should not be the VLA post office box due to a time delay. Most sections actively participated in the conference committee (vice presidents of each section should serve). VLA will look into combining DCF and the annual conference. See attached report.

Jeanette left at 11:06am.

Review of Budget: Executive members will meet to review the budget, with plans to present it in September and approve it in November. Board members made the following recommendations: change format so that more information can be seen on

one page; want to see prior year as well. The executive members will also getting a financial review/audit of some sort.

Review of Positions & Expectations: Cindy asked for everyone to focus on succession planning by creating an annual plan/calendar of responsibilities for the position. A rough draft should be ready for the September meeting. Eric will ask Jessamyn to send out information in regards to accessing the VLA google docs. There was discussion about consolidating sections (public & youth, awards & scholarship). Like ALA, we are stretching ourselves too thin. Currently, each section is expected to have an annual event. Each section is expected to send in a report to the President and Secretary two weeks prior to meetings to be included in consent agenda. Please respond even if you do not have a report. If you miss more than three meetings without notice you are considered resigned. We need a quorum (11) to conduct business. Cindy will meet with each section leader prior to our September meeting.

SECTION & COMMITTEE REPORTS

College & Special Libraries Section: Christie reported that their section conference is being planned for November. Emily will be here after lunch.

Public Libraries Section: Debbie reported that they have some ongoing projects including the multiple copies (book clubs). They received several suggestions at the conference for educational programs.

Technical Services Section: There was no report

Friends & Trustees Section: Nancy reported that Dana Rozycki has joined as vice president. He is a friend at North Bennington Library.

Youth Librarians Section: There was no report

Awards Committee: Lisa reported that they now have a full committee. They are going to focus on getting more nominations from academic libraries. There is some confusion about who is responsible for particular awards (ex. Birdie).

Government Relations Committee: Margaret and Cindy are trying to revitalize this committee.

Inclusion Committee: Jessica is trying to determine what her responsibilities are, aside from participating in the Pride parade. Margaret will meet with her to help clarify her duties.

Intellectual Freedom Committee: There was no report

Membership & Outreach Committee: Membership is down due to the fact that Christine received no guidance in sending out reminder postcards, therefore it was not done. There was a discussion about starting the membership year on May 1st, regardless of when you might join. Cindy will see if we need to change our bylaws in order to make this happen.

Web Team: Eric reported that he is trying to revive our Instagram page. The committee would also like to interview libraries/librarians monthly to post on Tumblr. He asked for more input from the Board so that they could help with communication (ex. membership).

Personnel Committee: There was no report

Emily arrived at 12:10pm.

Break for Lunch 12:15-1:00

Scholarship Committee: Jami reported that they had very few applications this past year. The committee is thinking about changing the name of the continuing education scholarship to that of professional development. This would be done to clear up any confusion about who could qualify for the award. They would also like to increase the current \$250 award (given twice per year). The graduate scholarship is given once per year (\$1,000).

American Library Association Councilor: Marti reported that the ALA Annual Meeting is in New Orleans next week. Currently ALA is in the process of reorganizing due to the following factors: financial challenges, no executive director until 2020, the organization is too large. Jim Neal will be staying on to help with the reorganization. The new executive director will not be required to have a library degree. Marti also reported that net neutrality ended on Monday, June 11th. Work is underway to make it the law (<https://broadbandnow.com/report/net-neutrality-state-laws/#vermont>).

New England Library Association Representative: Steve reported NELLE II is scheduled for August 14-16. This year's NELA conference is in Rhode Island, October 21-23 (<http://conference2018.nelib.org/>). Verbal Judo will be at the Shrewsbury Public Library, MA on July 11. Participants will learn how to deal with confrontations.

NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming Meetings:

All meetings will be held from 10:00-12:00 pm.

September 13—Charlotte Town Hall, 159 Ferry Road, Charlotte

November 8—Burnham Memorial Library, 898 Main Street, Colchester

January 10—Castleton University, 62 Alumni Drive, Castleton

March 14—Norwich Public Library, 368 South Main Street, Norwich
May 9—Champlain College, 95 Summit Street, Burlington
June 13 (retreat)—Lanpher Memorial Library, 141 Main Street, Hyde Park

VLA Summit, Strategic Plan: Cindy wants to spend her term focusing on financials and continuity. She will review our strategic plan prior to our September meeting. Cindy provided an overview of the summit. A meeting of the group leaders is scheduled for July 13th at the Burnham Library. It was suggested that we get all leaders of various groups together on a regular basis (annually) to talk—share goals, strengths, weaknesses, challenges. There was some discussion about opening up VLA membership to patrons, but this would open up the listserv to the public as well. There was discussion concerning the limiting factors of the institutional level of membership and how it can prevent sections from gaining information about individuals.

Department of Libraries: *This is a report provided by Kelly following a phone conversation with Jason on June 14th.* VTLib is currently examining the sustainability of the state book awards. They are looking at the goals and impacts of the awards, as well as any budgetary concerns. Once this information is gathered, we can move forward with future planning.

VTLib is working to realign their focus to be more in balance with state statutes. This includes serving communities like the prison system, and those with other limiting factors (i.e. vision impaired). Moving forward grants will likely be handled in a different manner. Information and any necessary training will be provided in a timely fashion.

Jason is working on creating a twice annual Public Library Directors' Summit. Participants would meet pre-legislative session, and post-session to discuss changes on the state level. There will also be time provided for networking and problem solving.

The meeting was adjourned by Cindy at 2:42.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly L. McCagg
VLA Secretary