

Vermont Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
March 11, 2004
Norwich University, Northfield

FINAL

In attendance: Ellen Hall, Marty Reid, Linda Wells, Marianne Kotch, Karen Lane, Trina Magi, Krista Ainsworth, Charlotte Maison, Teri Austin, Jenny Hermenze, Radka Ballada, and Mary Kasamatsu.

Announcements

- By e-mail vote the Board approved support for one year for the DCF conference.
- Bernie Sanders' office has requested VLA representation and co-sponsorship for a meeting on the Patriot Act to be held March 27. Location to be announced. Trina Magi will attend. Ellen Hall will request more information on agenda and notify Board by e-mail.
- Marianne Kotch will send out announcement about the play *Underneath the Lintel* with discounts for librarians on March 21.

Approval of Minutes

Action Taken: Minutes from November 13, 2003 were approved with minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report – Krista Ainsworth

[See attachment A 2003 Year-End Budget Report, Proposed Budget 2004, and Profit and Loss Statement FY 2004 through March 9, 2004]

The above budget statements were approved.

There was discussion of support for the DCF conference. It was suggested that a representative of the DCF Committee visit the Conference Committee meeting to answer questions. VLA already supports the DCF Committee by providing complimentary meals and registrations for the Vermont Library Conference. **Action Taken:** Voted to support DCF conference for one year at \$400.00.

Vendors have been contacted about sponsoring issues of the newsletter. Initial response was enthusiastic but no commitments have materialized.

Section Representative Reports

Public Library Section – Marty Reid

Registrations for the FOLUSA program (Saturday, April 17, at Rutland Free) are coming in. Chittenden County Librarians offered the suggestion that there be a boxed article in every newsletter, each highlighting a different database in the Vermont Online Library.

CAYAL – Teri Austin

The bus trip to the Eric Carle Museum (April 2) is almost full. Stops are planned in Richmond, Montpelier, and Hartland.

College and Special Libraries – Radka Ballada

Radka has finished an article for the newsletter about the fall conference (No Librarian Is an Island) and is working on an article about Marlboro College Library's renovation and opening of a new wing.

Teresa Faust from Burlington College Library will replace Radka as College and Special Libraries Section representative. She is already planning an article to encourage people to come to the Section meeting at the Vermont Library Conference.

Vermont Library Trustees Association – Marianne Kotch

Marianne has been busy getting speakers for the Town Officers Education Conferences in April. The \$40 fee is waived for speakers.

Special Reports

ECHO

The Board heard a presentation about the ECHO Basin Library Access Program. (B) Currently ECHO offers a circulating pass for four people in the Chittenden County area. Libraries require that patrons reserve the pass and be currently in good standing on circulation records (no overdue or lost materials or charges on their account) to check out the pass.

Committee Chair Reports

Nominating Committee – Ellen Hall for David Clark

To date there are two candidates for office: Daisy Benson for Vice President Elect and Donna Edwards for Treasurer. The President (David Clark) and Secretary (Mary Kasamatsu) are already determined. No vote was taken, pending e-mail conversation with Nominating Committee chair David Clark. It was noted that the slate of officers must be approved by the Board and must appear in the newsletter in a timely fashion prior to the Vermont Library Conference.

Awards Committee -- Ellen Hall for Paul Carnahan

Committee is on track with nominees: 7 for trustee of the year, 2 for the Sarah C. Hagar Award. There was a recommendation that the Freeman Foundation receive the Green Mountain Award..

Government Relations -- Linda Wells

Legislative gatherings were held around the state in February. Linda noted that each year library users are becoming more relevant to legislators. There was a very positive response to all of the gatherings. There will again be a book cart and display at the Legislature during National Library Week. Work is also in progress on a bookmark with statistical information. VEMA will send a representative to ALA Legislative Day. Linda will ask the representative to meet with Trina for updates from VLA prior to attending.

Personnel – Ellen Hall for Amy Howlett

The Personnel Committee is seeking members and plans to write to the board chairs where there are newly certified librarians. The Committee will recommend an increase in the minimum salary at the Conference. The amount is not set as of this date.

Conference Committee – Jenny Hermenze

Jenny presented the 2004 Conference Budget Expenses (C) Board members offered praise for the conference brochure. Jenny credited Linda Wheeler, the new Conference Assistant, for the brochure's format. There will be two new conference co-chairs next year.

Membership – Ellen Hall for David Clark

Deferred the vote on the proposal from David Clark to create a new membership category to May 13. (D)

Organization Representative Reports

ALA –Trina Magi

Council took no position on endorsements of ALA candidates by ALA sections. Council adopted report by the ALA International Relations and Intellectual Freedom committees calling on both Cuban and U.S. Governments to support freedom of expression and basic human rights. An amendment calling for immediate release of dissidents was defeated.

Council established a new member category for support staff. The proposed category will come before membership for a vote this summer. There was discussion of a single graduated dues scale for everyone based on salary. Council retained the ALA memo "The best reading for the largest number, at the least cost." Electronic balloting will be offered this spring. Health insurance will be made available to members beginning this spring. ALA is supporting petition drive to collection 1 million signatures by May to amend Sec. 215 of the USA Patriot Act. (E)

NELA -- Charlotte Maison

There is an article in the current NELA newsletter by Trina Magi about Vermont librarians and the Patriot Act. NELA sections are looking for Vermont representatives. Charlotte offered to speak with anyone who might be interested in interacting with other librarians from the region. The Vermont representative to the NELA committee on intellectual freedom issues is Peter Spitzform from UVM. NELA invites nominations for the Emerson Greenaway Award for distinguished librarianship. Nominations are due May 30.

Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be May 13, 2004.