

GLA PARAPROFESSIONAL DIVISION MEETING MINUTES March 24th, 2011

The meeting was held at online via Skype at 2:00p.m.

Attendance

Rhonda Boozer, Dawn Dale, Marcellous Grace, Denita Hampton, Laura Herndon and Karen Walton.

Business

Denita Hampton opened the meeting by asking for feedback on Marcellous Grace's proposals for programs to present at GaCOMO 2011.

Dawn Dale suggested ways to make one's self indispensable in a time of budget cuts and layoffs, which would be combined with Grace's idea #5. - discovering a "new" you in an "old" job. This met with approval from the division members. The program would be presented as a panel discussion as that would help with the small budget allotted to the division. Dawn Dale, Denita Hampton, Marcellous Grace, Laura Herndon and Karen Walton volunteered to serve on the panel and Rhonda Boozer volunteered to do research.

Proposals for a second session were requested by Denita Hampton. The most popular ideas were dealing with workplace stress or how to communicate professionally. Denita Hampton will ask a coworker, Christian Steinmetz, if he will be willing to speak for a communication skills presentation at the conference. Another meeting will take place to discuss the alternative session on workplace stress if necessary.

Discussion followed on including phrases such as "out with the old and in with the new" and "re-inventing yourself" in the program description. Laura Herndon pointed out that care should be taken that the sessions are not scheduled simultaneously during the conference.

Dawn Dale proposed including a fundraising activity, such as selling GLA Parapro t-shirts at the sessions. She requested that any ideas for a catchy phrase or design for the t-shirts be sent to her at ddale@georgialibraries.org and she will investigate how much print will cost.

Denita Hampton asked for methods on recruiting for the Paraprofessional Division. Marcellous Grace suggested handing out free bookmarks with information to promote the division. Rhonda Boozer suggested holding a separate mini-conference just for Paraprofessionals. It was decided that this would be an appropriate event to hold the following year in order to allow for planning and funding.

The next meeting of the Paraprofessional Division will be announced in approximately a month or so.

Adjournment

The meeting was concluded at 2:50p.m.

Submitted by Laura E. Herndon

March 24th, 2011