

GLA Paraprofessional Division Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2016

This meeting was held at the GLA Midwinter Conference at Clayton State University at 2:20 pm.

Attendance

Moira Blackflower, Dawn Dale, Holly Hampton, Tangela McKibbens, Karen Manning, and Janice Shipp

Business

Dawn Dale started the meeting with great news from GPLS who is considering sponsoring a Mini Paraprofessional Conference tentatively set for August 2017. The conference would include both Georgia public and non-public libraries and possibly even K-12. GPLS would like to see if GLA may be interested in co-sponsoring the event, which, ideally would be held in two separate locations to accommodate North and South Georgia attendees. Karen mentioned petitioning GLA for about \$1000, which would cover speaker fees, facility fees and lunch. Possible presentation topics include customer service, GALILEO, perks of being a GLA member, etc. Dawn also mentioned offering a grant to qualified paraprofessionals throughout Georgia to cover expenses of the conference. Dawn speculates that ideally we would need to find a conference location (preferably free or low cost) that accommodates about 100 people.

We have been flirting with the idea of a name change, from Paraprofessional to Library Support Staff (ALA currently refers to their paraprofessionals as such) and this was again mentioned at the meeting. All six attending members agreed to move forward with the name change, which will coordinate with the change of GACOMO to Georgia Library Conference in preparation for the 2017 conference in Columbus, Georgia.

Discussion of possible GLA Paraprofessional topics for the GA Library Conference include: The theme of Education, ALA Support Staff Certification, Alison and Lynda, (free online learning and continuing education courses), time management skills, and anything pertaining to education that might, instruct, motivate and encourage today's paraprofessional.

Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 3:30 pm.

Submitted by Moira Blackflower
December 15, 2016