

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Athens Regional Library - Athens - April 2, 1999

The meeting of the Executive Board of the Georgia Library Association began at 10:00 a.m. at the Athens Regional Library on April 2, 1999. Present were: Ann Hamilton, President; Gordon Baker, Steve Baughman, Charles Beard, Susan Cooley, Linda Floyd, Alan Kaye, Mike Seigler, Fred Smith, Diana Tope, and Julie Walker.

Amendments to the Minutes were: the date of the summer meeting is July 16 instead of June 2; and the date of the last meeting was January 27, not January 28 as mentioned in the minutes of that meeting. The Minutes were approved as amended.

The President called for committee reports.

MEMBERSHIP: Julie Walker passed out copies of reports. Steve Baughman discussed the paid membership figures this year compared to this time last year and whether we should send another letter or card to remind members it is time to pay. Julie Walker will send a letter to members from the last two years who haven't re-joined. Ann Hamilton will send a copy of the logo to Julie Walker for use in the brochure that is being developed. Steve Baughman pointed out that some memberships have been renewed at the old rates because the person didn't have the new membership brochure. He suggested that we draw the line and return these, asking for the new membership amounts. *Mike Seigler made a motion that, after April 2, 1999, all members using the old membership forms to pay their 1999 memberships shall be notified that additional payment will be required for current membership. Julie Walker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.* Julie Walker will send an e-mail to the public library directors and Ann Hamilton will send it to RACL, asking them to encourage memberships at their next meetings. Mike Seigler suggested that she could send a follow-up by e-mail where possible at no cost.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Gordon Baker presented the Treasurer's Report (attached). The total income through March 31, 1999, is \$52,961.74, which includes a \$13,000 transfer from liquid assets. Expenses are \$32,598.70. We have paid ¼ of the annual SOLINET fee. Alan Kaye inquired about the awards money (Hubbard and McJenkins-Rheay). A discussion of the Hubbard Scholarship funds ensued, with the consensus that it is important to keep the scholarship funds separate from the operating funds.

Ann Hamilton brought up the membership dues; we currently have \$6,000 less than our projection for the year. This is the difference between meeting at the Macon site and the Jekyll site, where we usually do well financially. Steve Baughman suggested that we do another letter; it is possible that we can reach \$17,000. We have saved \$500 by putting a brochure on the web. Ann Hamilton asked all to be careful

and seek ways to save.

The program for COMO will be on the web page. We will have costs for mailings for COMO. SOLINET does the preliminary flyers, advance notices, etc.

We spent \$7,900 on printing the membership issue of the Georgia Library Quarterly. The next issue will be \$1,500. Susan Cooley said the staff will staple the issue to save \$300. We can do three more issues with simple cover and donated time and effort from the Sara Hightower Regional Library. The GLQ Board does not want to do a newsletter for one of the issues, as previously suggested. Ann Hamilton suggested that we put the membership list on the web page next year, thereby saving the large cost of printing the insert for the GLQ. This would also facilitate changes in the membership list that occur often. Ann Hamilton commented that she will be glad to maintain the spirit and sense of our journal (by not doing a newsletter). This is good for advertisers, too. There was further discussion of options for the journal. Julie Walker commented that Susan Cooley has done an excellent job of getting this to be a class publication, and we want to get back to that as soon as possible.

Charles Beard commented that we lost \$3,000 by having the Clarks do the registration. Ann Hamilton mentioned the \$1,000 per day we had to pay for parking. There was discussion about other options for doing registration. Steve commented that it has to be done by someone with a staff.

There was discussion about other COMO arrangements. Ann Hamilton said that Jekyll Island site is a bigger income producer—the cost is less to produce it and everybody wants to go there. Ann Hamilton commented that we can save by using the same logo. Ralph Russell will play the piano again this year. He will have a new CD out. The exhibits fee is up. The scheduling will be on the web as soon as available.

We have stopped shipping the GLA exhibit around because of the cost. We will still ship if the library wants to pay the shipping. There was discussion about the ALA president coming to COMO. We are already in the hopper for a grant from ACRL for the ACRL president to come.

Susan Cooley asked if we can really afford to have someone do the administration. Susan Cooley said we started having SOLINET do it when we had a surplus and Bob Richardson said he couldn't do it any more. There was discussion of dues and the funds raised through memberships. They were not raised in an analytical manner the last time, but it is too soon to do it again. Steve Baughman and others commented on other states that have gone to a graduated scale by salary for dues.

There was detailed discussion of the proposed budget for this year and what expenses we may have in the next year. Suggestions were made about selling items as fund-raisers—T-shirts and totes, etc. *Linda Floyd made a motion that GLA has a booth selling merchandise at COMO '99. It was seconded by Julie Walker and passed unanimously.* It was suggested that every board member work an hour in the booth. Gordon will work on identifying merchandise. Ann Hamilton mentioned that if this is a success, we can do it at the 2000 COMO/SELA conference and make additional money.

Alan Kaye asked that we follow up on Steve Baughman's suggestion for a possible incremental reduction in services from SOLINET and consider it. *Alan Kaye moved that Steve Baughman, Administrative Services Coordinator, make a study of SOLINET administrative services to GLA that could result in a proposal from SOLINET to incrementally reduce the cost and the services associated with their agreement with GLA. The motion was seconded by Fred Smith and passed unanimously.* Charles Beard suggested that we contact GLMA about the possibility of a merger.

Gordon Baker moved that the budget be approved as proposed. Diana Tope seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

GEORGIA LIBRARY QUARTERLY – Susan Cooley had no further report. The deadline for the next issue is June 15. Other deadlines are September 15 and December 15.

ALA COUNCILLOR – No report.

SELA – They are looking at May 14-15 for a Leadership Conference, but space has not been identified yet. Membership renewals are out. The bulk of the journal is on the web.

COMO – Ann Hamilton said there is a snag in the plans for the Savannah conference because of the extremely high costs of the hotels COMO has appointed a committee to get back to Savannah and try to find less expensive lodging. If we can get into the convention center and the water taxis are operational, we will meet October 13-15 in 2000. If Savannah doesn't work out, Jekyll Island is probably the next choice. Charles suggested that we check on shuttles from Jekyll to Jacksonville Airport to facilitate travel for those coming from other states for the combined conference.

ACADEMIC : Fred Smith reported that he met at the conference in October with Bill Nelson. They talked about a luncheon speaker for COMO. The ACRL representative will be the luncheon speaker. Barbara Winters is the co-chair of the committee to review papers submitted for presentation.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES: Magda Sossa and Leon Duke are still working on the Advocacy program. Charles Beard and the others on the team have done Dawsonville and are going to LaGrange April 23. The other two meetings are in June. Magda Sossa has started writing authors for possible luncheon speakers at COMO. They will seek outside funding to pay for this.

INTEREST GROUP COUNCIL: Linda Floyd is keeping up e-mail communication with the chairs of the committees. Everyone is anxious to get the forms for the COMO programs. Intellectual Freedom wants to bring in Judith Krug for a preconference. The forms should be out in a couple of weeks. Steve Baughman will be sending them to all members.

COMO: Mike Seigler said that this is the first COMO meeting with which he has been involved in the planning, and he is amazed at the amount of work and coordination required. There will be a \$95 conference fee; \$5 of it will pay for the Clarks to do registration. There was discussion about the

problems with the Macon conference last year, the contract, etc. Fund raising methods were suggested. The committee is meeting on April 9 and again in June. Ann Hamilton said that GLMA is responsible for the keynote speaker. She thinks we have Virginia Lanier as the second keynote speaker. There is a possibility of having a closing session with Elliott Engle to do the Dickens impersonation program. Gordon Baker asked that if anyone uses a vendor who was not represented at the exhibits last year, to give their names to him so he can get them for exhibits this year. Charles suggested that a preconference or program on filtering would fill the room.

ADMINISTRATION: Steve Baughman reported that out of 592 members this year, 46 are new. From last year's list, 394 have not renewed. There was discussion about discontinuing the membership card, since no one seems to use it. The membership brochure is currently in Quark; Steve Baughman will try to get it converted into Word. Alan Kaye suggested that we send an e-mail to all saying that the membership list will be available on the web page: www.library.gsu.edu/gla. Mike Seigler reported that Florida used to print certificates and gave stickers for each renewal. This gave the member something to hang in his/her office to show support for the organization.

Ann Hamilton asked for old business. Future meeting dates were discussed. The July meeting will be in Smyrna at the Library. The October Board meeting will be in the evening on the first day of COMO (October 20). We will have an evening awards/business meeting for the membership, rather than a breakfast as has been done in the past two years. Having an evening meeting will reduce costs, and it was felt that anyone desiring to attend could probably attend in the evening as well as in the morning.

Under New Business, Ann Hamilton proposed, in memory of Bob Richardson, a Richardson award for excellence in service to the Association. A plaque could be given. *Alan Kaye made a motion that the Executive Board pursue the creation of a Bob Richardson service award that would be given annually. Julie Walker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.* Ann Hamilton asked that we think about the criteria for such an award and to send her appropriate criteria electronically. We would like to give the first award at COMO next year. We will announce the award at this year's meeting. Charles Beard suggested that one of the criteria should be that any member of GLA is eligible.

Ann Hamilton thanked Julie Walker for making the arrangements for our meeting, including the excellent lunch.

The meeting was adjourned.

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