

## MINUTES

### GLA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

July 16, 1999

Smyrna Public Library

The meeting of the Georgia Library Association Executive Board began at 10:05 a.m. at the Smyrna Public Library on July 16, 1999. Present were President Ann Hamilton, Gordon Baker, Steve Baughman, Charles Beard, Tom Bush, Susan Cooley, Leon Duke, Linda Floyd, Robert Hulshof, Ralph Russell, Mike Seigler, Fred Smith, Diana Tope, and Wendy Wilmoth.

The minutes were approved as submitted.

The President called for committee reports.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Gordon Baker presented the report. He and Julie Walker attended the "Membership Four Rs Pre-Conference" sponsored by the ALA Chapter Relations Committee on June 25, 1999, in New Orleans. The pre-conference dealt with membership recruitment, retention, recognition, and rewards. The session was led by author Arlene Farber Sirkin. Ideas and materials from different states were shared with the attendees. During the discussion it was stated that we should stress "the benefits of membership." Ideas included: a listserv for members only...use this as an essential tool for communication, hosting/sponsoring a pizza party for graduating library/media students, offer a money back guarantee if members are not happy with their membership, discount coupons for the next year's membership, and use testimonials for recruitment. The three priorities for membership recruitment and retention are: maintain active membership lists, accept credit card transactions for membership dues, and contact new members within two weeks of joining. The key to this process is personal contact! Two philosophies to keep in mind: "It's easier to retain members than regain them or replace them." "Only pay attention to the ones you want to keep."

Steve Baughman stated that the current membership form is on the web. There was a discussion on the use of credit cards, and it was suggested that mailings to former members be sent out.

**FINANCIAL:** Treasurer Gordon Baker presented the Treasurer's Report (attached). He reported assets as of July 15 of \$79,866.92, which includes \$19,621.48 in the checking account. Expenses January 1, 1999, through July 15, 1999, totaled \$43,241.56.

Charles Beard inquired about the progress of the COMO committee. Ann Hamilton stated that we are looking for good things to sell—pins for men and women and the like. Diana Tope said she will get the information on the Georgia Libraries pins that the public libraries use, as they are not specific to just public libraries and are suitable for men and women. Gordon asked if anyone has a cash register that could be used in the store; and Susan Cooley offered one from Sara Hightower Regional Library.

Ann Hamilton stated that the dates for the combined COMO/SELA meeting are October 11-13, 2000,

and the meeting will be at Jekyll Island. Ralph Russell inquired whether there are any large outlays for this year still to come. Susan Cooley mentioned that there is still one issue of the journal to be published. Ann Hamilton commended everyone for cooperating in saving money wherever possible. This has helped our financial picture.

Charles Beard and Ralph Russell will arrange to pick up any COMO files still remaining at Bob Richardson's office.

GEORGIA LIBRARY QUARTERLY: Susan Cooley reported that a little more money was spent for hard cover and stapling for the most recent GLQ. The postage was bulk mailing as much as possible. The next issues are in October and January. Susan Cooley can do inserts in the mailing by sealing them. The deadlines for publication are the first of the month in September and December.

ALA COUNCILOR: Ralph Russell gave the ALA Annual Conference Councilor's Report. Topics of discussion and action included:

Sanford Berman and the Hennepin County Public Library

Subject headings related to poor people's policy. DEFEATED

"ALA decries the denial of S Berman's right to discuss differing opinion on professional matters in his area of expertise and express our outrage at the behavior of HCPL, who, in retribution exiled him to work away from cataloging...." DEFEATED

Resolution on LA and professional disputes in libraries involving the infringement of librarians' rights and responsibilities—creates a standing committee to investigate and propose censure, remedies, or mediation... DEFEATED

2. ALA membership quorum. Modified it to 100 DEFEATED

3. Resolution on compensation for speakers at ALA annual conference and midwinter. Fee limited to \$15,000; expenses limited to \$5,000 from association funds. DEFEATED

4. Resolution to request Constitution and Bylaws Committee to prepare wording for bylaws amendment to allow for the simultaneous election of regular and alternate division, chapter and appropriate roundtable councilors. DEFEATED

There was discussion about rebuilding libraries in Kosovo and Yugoslavia.

SELA: Ann Hamilton reported that Bill Potter had to be at another meeting. She reported on SELA in

her column in the *Georgia Library Quarterly*. Barry Baker, the Vice President/President-Elect is working on getting SELA organized for 2000. Everyone is excited about coming to Jekyll Island for the combined meeting. They are in pretty good financial shape. Charles Beard mentioned that there is a core group that is dedicated to getting SELA back together. Ann Hamilton has membership forms.

ACADEMIC: Fred Smith reported that this group's COMO program is all set. Larry Hardesty, incoming ACRL president, will be the luncheon speaker. Papers are coming in for the program; 14 papers have been submitted for consideration.

TRUSTEES AND FRIENDS: Leon Duke reports that ALA now has an Association of Trustees and Advocates. Friends are in FOLUSA. Directors need to encourage trustees to join GLA. There were four workshops this year for trustees. There will be an Advocacy Training preconference at COMO on Wednesday, 1 – 4 p.m. Trustees and Friends will have luncheon with Public Libraries, with a business meeting directly after that. He encourages trustees and friends to come on Wednesday and stay through Thursday. Curtis Branscomb will be the new president of Georgia Trustees and Friends. The Viburnum Grant allowed us to train 250 trustees at four sites this year.

Charles Beard commented that there are ten more workshops scheduled. We need to increase local support, and this is a good workshop to teach trustees how to work for more funding. We need to look at what we can do to get more people to take this training. There was discussion of local funding, and how we can attract more local money. Susan Cooley and Diana Tope will talk to other directors about doing this.

NEW MEMBERS ROUND TABLE: Tom Bush reported that the deadline for the New Members Round Table Georgia Librarian Award is August 15. Nominees must have been working less than five years. Ann Hamilton asked that next year, this announcement be coordinated with the *Georgia Library Quarterly* and put on the web page. Tom Bush asked for a notebook of guidelines for new GLA board members on procedures and tips.

PARAPROFESSIONALS: Wendy Wilmoth reports that their new web site has been up for a couple of months now at [www.mainlib.mercer.edu/glapd](http://www.mainlib.mercer.edu/glapd). Betsy Miller from Mercer University did a great job on the web page. Beth Hammond, the new director at Mercer, offered the web space to do it. Elections will be held at the business meeting for the Paraprofessional Division at COMO. There will be a concurrent session on violence prevention in libraries. At the workshop on May 20, there were two speakers: Ann White, humorist and teacher, on dealing with people; and Pam Cravey, head of access services at Georgia State, on changes for the future. There was a good turnout—the auditorium was full. Paraprofessional Division awards deadline is July 15.

Charles Beard commented that we should acknowledge DeKalb Public Library's graciousness and generosity. They have done much to support the development of the library profession. *Wendy Wilmoth made a motion that the GLA Executive Board create a certificate of appreciation to be presented to the DeKalb Public Library in gratitude for its continuing support and assistance to the Georgia Library Association. The motion was seconded by Ralph Russell and it passed unanimously.*

Following a catered lunch, Ann Hamilton thanked Mike Seigler for hosting our meeting and arranging

for the lunch. She mentioned that we will pass on to next year's board that on-site lunches work well.

**PUBLIC LIBRARIES:** Magda Sossa reported that Lee May, author of "*In My Father's Garden*", will be the speaker at the Public Libraries luncheon at COMO. Leon Duke will be Master of Ceremonies. There will be a membership meeting following the luncheon. She mentioned that the Children's Services in Public Libraries Division is listed incorrectly in the handbook. Ann Hamilton said they should contact Alan Harkness, the handbook chairman, to get it corrected. They want to do a program at COMO, with Julie Cummins, the Children's Coordinator from New York Public Library, as speaker. She inquired about getting funding, and Ann Hamilton told her to request funding from COMO.

There was discussion about whether we will bring the President of ALA to COMO this year. There was general agreement that we just can't afford it. Charles will give her the dates of the joint conference in 2000, and we may be able to have her then.

**SCHOOL LIBRARIES:** Gordon Baker reported that the chair and chair-elect of the school library division have relinquished their positions. President Hamilton has asked him to become acting chair for the remainder of the year. He has asked SOLINET for a listing of division members. A nominating committee will be selected and nominees will be presented at the School Library Division Business Session at COMO. The School Library Division and GLMA will again jointly sponsor a luncheon at COMO. Our speaker will be Dr. Annette Lamb from the University of Southern Indiana. Annette has been a presenter at COMO for many years and is considered an Internet guru by many in the profession.

**SPECIAL LIBRARIES:** Robert Hulshof reported that there will be an article in the September newsletter. He is trying to recruit some other special librarians to work with him.

**INTEREST GROUP COUNCIL:** Linda Floyd reported that interest groups have programs scheduled for COMO, and she provided a list of the schedule (attached). She mentioned that the Intellectual Freedom preconference will be of interest to the Trustees and Friends.

**COMO:** Mike Seigler reported that every one of the 53 programs proposed was approved. There will be eight preconferences, with registration fees at \$40/\$50 for six hours and \$25/\$30 for half days. He contacted various possible vendors for registration responsibilities at COMO, and the Clarks were the least expensive. Susan Cooley asked about exhibit sitting. There will be a check-off on the registration form; it is voluntary. This will allow the vendors to take a break. There was discussion about the GLA Executive Board meeting on Wednesday. It will be at 7:30 p.m. at a restaurant on Jekyll Island. On Thursday we will have a business meeting and awards ceremony.

Ann Hamilton asked for suggestions for criteria for the Richardson Award. Ralph Russell suggested an e-mail query from Ann Hamilton to be responded to by return e-mail. We will send this to the Awards Committee. Charles asked about the criteria for the Nix-Jones Award and other awards. Ann Hamilton said those guidelines will be on the web page. She asked all to look at those. *Ralph Russell made a motion that the Georgia Library Association subsidize the travel expenses for Jan, Mary, and Robbie Richardson to attend the COMO announcement of the Richardson award. If GLA funds are not available (or insufficient), the Executive Board will chip in to pay their expenses. Magda Sossa*

*seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Gordon reported that there will be 54 booths and 42 vendors attending. Exhibits have yielded \$14,300 at this time. Leon Duke suggested that each Executive Board member should go around and, as a Board member, thank each vendor for coming.

ADMINISTRATION: Steve Baughman reported that there are 665 current 1999 members, and 71 of these are new members. There are 55 Georgia Library Quarterly subscribers that are not members. Mailings and label requests included: Paraprofessional Award mailing sent; labels purchased for SOLINET Preservation mailing; GLA return labels requested for trustees mailing; copy of database sent to Ann Hamilton; new members lists and labels sent for Georgia Library Quarterly; COMO Program proposal information mailed and e-mailed; and report generated of all GLA Public Libraries members for SOLINET Preservation Department. The GLA listserv for dissemination of mailings is up and running, and they will send all mailings electronically if possible. Debra Cuoco is leaving; he has identified her replacement and will try to have as smooth a transition as possible. *Ralph Russell made a motion that the GLA Executive Board express appreciation and gratitude for the exemplary work of Debra Cuoco and that we extend our thanks and best wishes for her continued success. This was seconded by Tom Bush, and the motion passed unanimously.*

There was a discussion of the Mumford prints. GLA is taking over the production of these for the Georgia Legislative Day presentations. Diana Tope suggested that we use the print for the next edition of the *Georgia Library Quarterly*.

NEW BUSINESS: Charles Beard asked if the new state librarian has been named. No decision is known at this time.

Ann Hamilton stated that NCLA is creating an endowment for their organization. We might want to establish a committee to look into this possibility and for long range planning. Send Ann Hamilton your ideas about when and how. We could approach foundations for a challenge grant, take some of the membership fees each year, etc.

Vickie Lester from Baker and Taylor has volunteered as a new GLA member. She has offered to help with fund raising. Ralph suggested that we have a planning board, to include Gordon, Ann, and Charles, among others.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.