

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Leadership Conference

December 1, 2000 - 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Central Georgia Technical College

Macon, Georgia

Registration and coffee were held between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m.

President Eddie McLeod convened the Leadership Conference 2000 at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, December 1, at Central Georgia Technical College. She welcomed everyone and expressed appreciation for the meeting arrangements made by Jane Richards, including the refreshments and box lunches.

President McLeod recognized members of the new GLA Executive Board and Division Chairs with brief introductions. Handouts were provided at registration listing GLA Committees 2001 and members of Interest Group Council 2000.

Ann Hamilton announced that joint membership with American Library Association and the state library organization, GLA, is available as "paired membership," \$25.00 reduced rate, which is a break for students in library school.

The COMO Committee has not yet completed its final report on the COMO Conference at Jekyll Island in October 2000. That information should be available in the near future.

Treasurer Gordon Baker commented on COMO, noting that 43 registrations were cancelled and refunds given. The bill from Jekyll Island has not yet come, but after all is settled including the cut going to SELA, it is estimated GLA will make approximately \$16,000. Baker summarized the highlights of the current Treasurer's report (attached to minutes.)

President McLeod explained that the Executive Board will meet today at 3:00 p.m. immediately following the Leadership Conference in the adjacent conference room. Agenda will include looking into paying registration for COMO and GLA membership on line with credit cards. Also discussed will be the payment schedule for memberships that come in late in the fiscal period and then are due again very shortly. President McLeod said that the Georgia Library Association wants to work for you, its members; she invited everyone to stay for the board meeting.

Planning is underway to get the GLA calendar on the web site by the first of the year.

Darro Wiley announced that Legislative Day will be January 25, 2001 and urged everyone to attend. Registration forms can be picked up today in the lobby and will be mailed to all GLA members soon. Forms are also available on the web site.

Guest speaker for the Leadership Conference was JoEllen Ostendorf, Director of the Troup-Harris-Coweta Regional Library System. Her address, entitled "Last Person Out, Turn Off the Lights," voiced concern about the future of staffing for libraries, especially in regard to the recruitment, training, and recompense for those who are needed to work in the ever-changing technological environment of today's libraries. She concluded with the thought that if appropriately skilled staff cannot be paid at an appropriate level in libraries of the future, then the last person out will just have to "turn off the lights."

Interest group meetings were held from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. Following coffee break, committee meetings were held from 11:15 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. Available sessions in each time block were listed in the agenda, and attendees were free to go to whichever sessions they chose. Following the box lunch hour, sessions were held for the various GLA divisions. When the full group reassembled at 2:15 p.m., reports were heard from the divisions, interest groups, and committees. Written reports will be prepared by each group's chair to be filed along with the minutes of the Leadership Conference 2000. It was announced that COMO 2001 will be held October 31 and November 1-2 at Jekyll Island in 2001.

The conference was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Ray, GLA Secretary

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Meeting
December 1, 2000 - 3:20 p.m.
Central Georgia Technical College
Macon, Georgia

The Executive Board of the Georgia Library Association met December 1, 2000 at Central Georgia Technical College in Macon, Georgia.

President Eddie McLeod called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. Present were Gordon Baker, Mary Beachum, Michele Behr, Tom Budlong, Gayle Christian, Susan Cooley, Barbara Durham, Doug Goans, Ann Hamilton, Nanette Kicker, Eddie McLeod, Susan Morris, Bill Nelson, Nancy Ray, and Mike Seigler. Visitors attending to give reports included Susan Bailey and Darro Wiley.

President McLeod reordered the agenda to allow visitor reports first since the meeting was later getting started than expected and some had to leave soon.

Darro Wiley, Chair of the Governmental Relations Committee, requested discussion concerning Library Legislative Day participation by media specialists. Traditionally their participation has been limited due to the difficulty they have in arranging leave time away from their school media centers, and also the cost of the event has been an issue for them. Wiley brought some ideas to the executive board for their consideration regarding media specialist attendance at the event: (1) just for the morning session, or (2) just for the luncheon. In both instances the registration cost would be reduced accordingly, perhaps a half-day charge, and media specialist registrations would be handled specially. In general discussion, several points were made as follows: The school people's presence is needed in the legislative effort. If a merger of GLA and GLMA is to happen in the future, a solution to this matter might be simplified if we wait until then. The cost of the luncheon might have to be raised for those who do attend if the media specialists don't come. It is too late to make any changes for the upcoming Legislative Day, but maybe this could be settled by next year's event. President McLeod asked Wiley to have his committee make a specific recommendation to the executive board.

Susan Bailey, Chair of the Administrative Services Committee, reported to the board regarding GLA membership renewal plans, i.e., calendar year vs. anniversary date renewals. Some members have been wanting to have individual anniversary date renewals rather than one-time-for-all renewals of GLA dues. Bailey said SOLINET could probably do this without having to raise the contract price of \$12,000 per year significantly. Regarding pro-rating the dues for late sign-ups, at the present time the dues paid at annual conference or thereafter are credited to the next year, whereas dues paid up to conference time are for the current year. If this is changed to a different plan, there might be a cash flow problem the first year, but after that it should even out to a steady flow.

Credit card payment for membership renewals and event registrations was discussed at length. If credit card payment for membership were to be on-line, SOLINET would have to raise their fee for services, since this would mean a significant increase in their work for GLA. They could take credit card information on paper, however, and linking the records of card # and member would take about 15 minutes per transaction. If a high volume of members used credit cards, it might turn out to be cost-effective.

Tom Budlong said the COMO committee may investigate the possibility of paying for the conference with credit cards. However, using credit cards for event registrations is not likely to happen any time soon. Barbara Durham brought information about the use of Verisign, with first year costs around \$500, going down to \$340 in following years. Discussion on this will continue with more information at the January executive board meeting.

There may be other bids on GLA's administrative services to include payment on-line with credit cards. Our current contract ends December 31, and SOLINET would be willing to give us a 3 or 6 month contract for this one next period, which would throw annual contract renewal dates into spring or early summer in the future. This would make it easier to give each year's committee time to look at the existing contract and make good suggestions before signing up for the next year's agreement.

Susan Bailey inquired about maintaining the GLA web site, and what is it to include? President McLeod said it would need regular tweaking, especially if the GLA calendar is included, so it would be up to date. The question about allowing advertising on our web site brought suggestions for library vendors only, tasteful and acceptable ads only, extra revenues realized, and ads already appearing in Georgia Library Quarterly. Other questions about the calendar itself included logistics about how it would be compiled, maintained, verified, etc. President McLeod suggested that an "official" GLA person receive calendar items on e-mail, then forward them to the web master who will move them onto the web site.

Tom Budlong moved that we adopt an online GLA calendar on the GLA web site. He further

suggested that Doug Goans develop and implement this project. The motion was seconded by Doug Goans. In discussion it was suggested that the calendar be limited to GLA-related events, that timeliness would be all-important, that an index might be easier to navigate but we might not be that "big." Doug will experiment and get reactions to the first version, then there will be a perpetual calendar set up for year after year. On call for the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Susan Bailey returned to the floor to say that her committee recommends the adoption of a six-month contract for administrative services with SOLINET using the terms of the existing contract at prorated cost. This will give her committee time to investigate other possibilities. President McLeod requested Doug Goans to serve on the Administrative Services Committee. For the committee recommendation, no second was needed. On call for the vote, the recommendation passed unanimously.

Minutes of the GLA Business Meeting of October 12, 2000 and Executive Board Meetings of October 11 and 13, 2000 were reviewed and corrected. Gordon Baker moved the minutes be accepted as corrected, Tom Budlong seconded the motion; the vote to approve was unanimous.

The Treasurer's report was given by Gordon Baker. GLA is slowly rebounding from the years when the annual conference event lost money. The spending guide for current members of the executive board is automatic authorization for expenditures of \$50.00 or less, and voucher for reimbursement can be submitted to President McLeod after the purchase. If the expense will be more than \$50.00, talk to her first. Tom Budlong moved to accept the Treasurer's report, and the vote was unanimous.

Susan Cooley, editor of The Georgia Library Quarterly, reported that they are using a different printer now, closer and more accessible. Cost was \$1250 for 850 copies, postage less due to lower weight per journal. They have four COMO papers to publish in upcoming issues, plus the excellent speech given by JoEllen Ostendorf at this Leadership Conference. The editorial board will meet December 15 in Decatur. Deadlines for upcoming issues are printed in the journal.

Susan Cooley gave the report for Bill Nelson of the Long-Range Planning Committee. The mission of GLA may need to be updated to increase memberships by broadening the mission areas. President McLeod said she wants to make this a standing committee, since we "always need to be looking ahead." The by-laws will need to be amended at the next COMO conference with membership approval to make this a standing committee.

Dick Leach has indicated that he will not be heading up the ALA Legislative Day effort this year, so President McLeod will talk with Darro Willey and Charles Beard about possible leadership for this.

Dates and locations for future meetings include the following:

January 25, 2001 - at Georgia State University, Pullen Library South, Colloquium Room

April 20, 2001 - to be announced later

July 13, 2001 - at Union Grove High School

October 30, 2001 - at Jekyll Island with COMO Conference

President McLeod declared that Leadership Conference has been a success with a total of 74 people attending the event. The Executive Board meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Ray, GLA Secretary

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