

Georgia Library Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Columbus, Georgia
Wednesday, October 7, 2009, 11 a.m.

Present: Gordon Baker, Heidi Benford, Jim Cooper, Bob Fox, Carolyn Fuller, Ann Hamilton, Jeff Heck, Lyn Hopper for Wallace Koehler, Chris Huff, Cathy Jeffrey, Lori Lester, William Nelson, Betty Paulk, Barbara Petersohn, Shelley Rogers, Gene Ruffin, Carol Stanley

Call to Order and Welcome – Jim Cooper

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m.

Approval of Minutes – Jeff Heck

Bill Nelson moved to accept the minutes as amended. Jeff seconded.

Vote – all ayes

Treasurer's Report – Cathy Jeffrey

Cathy reported both checking and Morgan Stanley accounts. What is reported here is accurate, but the Quickbooks version of the Morgan Stanley accounts is not yet resolved. The Morgan Stanley accounts decreased slightly in the most recent statement because of service fees. The last page of the report reflects the scholarship account, composed of CDs, so this account showed an increase.

Jim noted Cathy also is serving as the treasurer for the COMO conference, which is greatly appreciated.

Cathy described the difficulty of getting a second signature on accounts to allow the new president access to the account in the new year. She asked if it would be possible to add Bob or Gordon on the account as a legitimate signer.

Motion – Cathy Jeffrey is currently treasurer and has authority to write checks on the account. It is moved to add the president-elect as an additional signatory, to change each year with the new president-elect, effective as soon as the change can be made.

Carolyn Fuller made the motion, Gene seconded. The new signer will be Carol Stanley for next year.

Vote – all ayes. The motion is approved.

Membership Report – Bill Richards

Gordon noted that we expect fluctuations, but current membership is not what we should have. 202 former members have not renewed in the past year. We all need to work harder to recruit.

Carol Stanley suggested that board members take brochures to distribute at meetings they attend.

Administrative Services – Gordon Baker / Bob Fox

Bob reported that administrative services had handled inquiries from publishers about GLQ, in addition to their normal activities. Gordon has rosters of divisions which he passed around to the board.

GLQ Editor's Report – Jeff Heck for Susan Cooley

Jeff distributed a copy of the most recent charges for issues, which was provided by Susan. The October issue has been sent to the printer but not yet distributed. The next issue deadline is December 1 for the construction issue, which has been popular each year.

ALA Councilor's Report – Ann Hamilton

Ann encouraged board members to attend the presentations made by Camila Alire, president of ALA.

SELA Representative – Bill Nelson

The SELA board will meet Friday, October 9, 2010. Conferences are planned in Little Rock, Arkansas for 2012, which will be a joint meeting with GLA; SELA is looking to add a 2011 conference as well. Bill reminded the board that SELA publishes a journal, comprising two internet and two print editions. The print issues are available on the web site about six months following printing. The summer issue is a news issue, presenting an opportunity to publish news about Georgia libraries. Items may be sent to Bill.

Division Reports

Academic Library Division – Gene Ruffin / Lorene Flanders

Gene reported Lorene Flanders will be incoming chair, with Sarah Steiner as incoming vice-chair. Eva Lautemann will lead the academic papers review next year.

Public Library Division – Carolyn Fuller

Carolyn reported on the authors' reception. One author we had planned on attending had a heart catheterization a few days ago and will not attend. Two additional authors, Ann Jones and Karen White, will not be able to attend; the latter sent books, for which there will be a drawing. There should be 29 authors in total, about six fewer than last year. Lyn asked if the reception would include wine and cheese. Jim reported we will supply them, along with a cash bar. Carolyn noted the planning layout was good, as attendees see the authors in moving to the food. Barnes and Noble will have a booth in the hallway. Lyn asked if authors will sell books; Carolyn said they will but they were required to bring their own books and collect their own money.

School Library Division – Tim Wojcik

The SLD report was emailed and attached to this report.

New Members Round Table – Shelley Rogers

Shelley continues to contact new members by email as they join. The NMRT is ready for the résumé sessions they are offering and for the new members reception this evening.

The NMRT requested money be approved by the board in support of an event hosted by the Emerging Librarians group. Last year the NMRT requested \$200; Shelley proposed \$250 for the repeat of the event next January. Bob Fox added that this is a great marketing opportunity for the GLA.

Bill Nelson seconded the motion.

Vote – all ayes

Paraprofessional Division – Heidi Benford

The division sponsors a paraprofessional program titled, “Are You Smarter Than a ParaPro?” to be held Thursday. Heidi noted that there was a need for at least one professional to attend as a contestant. There will be a prize, which includes a DVD in the Librarians series, popcorn, and diet Coke. There also will be a program on resources for paraprofessionals. The division will hold its business meeting Thursday, at which they will plan to select next year’s chair.

Trustees and Friends – Wallace Koehler

Lyn Hopper reported for Wallace. The division is cooperating with Friends of Georgia Libraries to produce a session titled, “Ten Stupid Things That Board Members Do to Mess Up Their Organizations.” A speaker for the event has been imported from Colorado. On Friday, (all events are clustered on that day to draw more attendees) a session using a friends/trustee team to share ideas, etc., also will be held.

Interest Group Council Report – Joan Osborne/Tessa Minchew

No report.

Committee Reports

Awards – Lori Lester

The Awards Committee is on track for the awards banquet. The plaques and checks are ready. Lori asked who should do photography for the event. Bob Fox volunteered to take photos. Lori wants a profile on the event for the Georgia Library Quarterly; she will write the text for the article.

Conference – Jim Cooper

More than 730 people registered for the conference, which totals within 20 or so of the most recent COMO held in Columbus. Jim hoped to encourage attendance by Alabama and Atlanta area librarians with this venue. One problem noted for this site is Internet access. There is a 10-dollar charge for access per computer on the wireless network. Conference organizers have arranged for runners to go to each room to distribute the required password before the beginning of each presentation, since passwords are only effective once per computer for a two-hour span. Carol Stanley is coordinating volunteers to help with Information Technology. An IT warehouse has been set up to hold six PCs and one projector brought by Jim; they will be available for presenters to use. Callie McGinnis has provided 20 projectors. We asked each presenter to bring their own equipment, but these are available for backup. Jim asked board members to check in 10 minutes prior to each session at the IT registration area to offer their help. The conference organizers are providing network access if it’s necessary for a presentation. Bob noted that we may want to negotiate network access in advance in future. Ballroom C will be where general sessions will be. Jim noted an errata in the program; the second

general session is shown as 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the program, but it should have been 5-6:30 p.m. The event may run over into the author's reception a little as a result. Bob noted a different problem, that all attendees were to receive tote bags but only 100 had been printed by the company through which the order was placed.

COMO Store – Rhonda Boozer

Ann announced that we have a great new store. We cleared out all products from the store last year. JanWay provided bags that fold down and snap, cellphone cases, mugs from ALA, new t-shirts (slip shirts), seven ALA posters, and ALA pens. Ann added that the store is located to the left at the entrance to the vendor area.

Constitution/Bylaws – Mike Seigler

No report.

Governmental Relations – Chris Huff

Legislative Day

Chris reported the annual Legislative Day will be held Feb. 25, 2010. Bob added that a meeting place has been chosen. Jim provided background on the event, how it has been structured, where it has been held, etc.

Format

One difficulty in arranging the event is that legislators' schedules may change minute to minute, depending on current legislation. Each legislator may or may not be able to attend, including legislators invited to speak. Another difficulty is that it's hard to balance giving recognition with keeping the program short, since there are representatives for GMLA, GAIT, GPLS, and BOR. However, Jim thinks that despite the distances librarians must travel, it's important to have this unified, statewide effort. Chris noted that he had spoken with the Georgia Council; they didn't decide to pull out of Legislative Day, but they may want to add regional meetings. Jim thinks we should proceed as have done before. Problems will just need to be addressed next year. Lyn attended Georgia Council meeting and she supports the statewide effort. She recommends training for the lay person about the role of the trustee and library advocacy. After further discussion, the committee chose a layout that includes speeches from legislators, an introduction of the leaders from the different groups, about 20 minutes of trustee training, then open time to go meet with legislators. Gordon noted this would allow the event to start later.

Memorabilia

Jim said some object is needed to turn give each legislator for his or her desk to remind them that it's Legislative Day for libraries. Carolyn suggested bookmarks for legislators' desks. Jim suggested a mug with a bookmark tied to it, since we want something more 3-dimensional. Ann suggested the new cell phone cases could work. Bob was concerned this would bump up the cost, since we've usually spent about one dollar per person so far, and the case would cost about five dollars per person. Jim said legislators should be the focus.

Sponsorship

Lyn asked if FOGL could co-sponsor library day. FOGL has no money but did want to be involved.

Lunches

As to lunches, the box lunch not elegant, but there's a cost issue for buffets or other hot meals. We used to do a buffet at the depot, but we now don't have enough participants to make it economical. 800 would be needed to be effective, 500 to break even; though we're close to that, the buffet at the depot is not currently affordable. We also are trying to keep the cost low for attendees.

Photo Session

Carol noted members wanted photo opportunities on the steps of the capitol. Jim noted it had been tried before with limited success. Lyn suggested David Baker could do a good job with a photography session, and Jim agreed to try the photo session this year.

Honorary Resolution

Bob asked if there was a chance we could have a resolution to honor libraries that day. Jim thought he attempt this, as the legislative speaker is in his district. Gordon suggested we let public librarians know so their local commissioners could also honor libraries locally.

Miscellaneous

Carol asked for the names of Government Relations Committee members. Jim said he could round up more members from the public library sector. Carolyn Fuller volunteered to work on committee.

Jim said the point to be decided is money – do we invest or cut back. A lobbyist was discussed, but hiring an effective lobbyist would be beyond the funding limits of this group.

Handbook – Jeff Heck

No submissions for change this meeting.

Membership – Bob Richards

Gordon noted the second vice president will take over the materials for the committee.

Nominating – Liz Bagley

No Report – elections have been completed.

Public Relations – Sarah Steiner

No report.

Scholarship – Barbara Petersohn

The booth is being set up. Donations for the raffle are down, but the ones we have are creative. Barbara encouraged all board members to buy tickets.

Student Media Festival – Gordon Baker

The festival will be held at Clayton County Schools Professional Learning Center location due to Georgia Public Broadcasting renting out of the space usually donated for the competition. At the GAIT breakfast, the committee will be honored for continued leadership.

Old Business

none

New Business

none

Adjournment at 12: p.m., moved by Carol, seconded by Cathy.

Report

School Division – Georgia Library Association

October 7, 2009

The School Division will have a program at COMO on Friday (10/9) at 8am. Three topics will be covered including:

- Information Literacy Standards
- The Information Literacy Conference held in Savannah last weekend
- Teaching more research skills, and thus information literacy, in high school

Dr. Judi Repman will share what she learned in Savannah at the Information Literacy Conference. And, she is still the heir apparent to take the chair of the School Division.

Submitted by Tim Wojcik
Chair, School Division