

NEW MEXICO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE FIRST BUSINESS MEETING

April 23, 1964
La Fonda Hotel, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Mr. David Otis Kelley called the 41st Annual conference of the New Mexico Library Association to order at 10:15 a.m. He asked if any member could recall any information regarding the First Annual meeting probably in 1923. He suggested that a brief written history of the association might be both interesting and valuable.

Mr. Kelly announced the following appointments:

Nominating Committee: Sophronia Dewey, chairman, and Mrs. Mildred Neal. Their report is to be presented at the second business meeting on Friday.

Parliamentarian: Miss Mary Ellen Soper

Resolution Committee chairman: Mr. M. Eugene Hodges

The treasurer's report will be given at the Friday afternoon session.

Mr. Kelley called for reports of the standing committees.

Octavia Fellin reviewed activities of the Historical Material Committee. She summarized findings of a questionnaire sent to librarians with reference to local history collections.

Mr. Kelley mentioned the possibility of receiving a grant from some Foundation if we would present a request for some project to benefit NMLA. He emphasized the importance of submitting a very well written statement to interest the Foundation and the possible need for an oral presentation. The committee to consider such a project consists of Miss Fern Young, Miss Helen Ketola and Mrs. Crowell Dean. Any association member is asked to make suggestions to Miss Young.

Miss Ruth Farley was not able to be present so Mrs. Messerschmidt read the Report of the Institutional Libraries Committee. Conclusions of this committee included these statements: (1) The State Mental Hospital, Las Vegas, and the State Penitentiary, Santa Fe, seem to be the most logical areas to concentrate on next year. (2) It would be helpful if the State Library staff member whose duties included aid to institutional libraries could be a permanent member of this committee.

Mrs. Lynch, chairman of the Legislative Committee, reported that, since this was the odd year, her committee had not been particularly active.

The Scholarship and Recruitment Committee report was read by Mrs. Messerschmidt. Eight

inquiries had been received from individuals interested in the scholarship award. The committee selected Miss Linda Hugg, who is completing her work at Eastern New Mexico University this spring, as recipient of the award. Actual announcement of the award will be made at the Banquet, Thursday evening.

Mr. Streeter was not present to report on the Intellectual Freedom Committee.

All reports were accepted. Those not presented at this meeting will be called for in the Second Business Session.

Special Committee reports followed.

Miss Theresa Gillett, of the ALA Membership Committee, urged participation and support of ALA by all members of the NMLA. 148 association members belong to ALA, a gain of only 2 over last year's figures. She gave comparisons of other states and expressed the hope that New Mexico would increase its ALA memberships in 1965.

Mr. Kelley also stressed the responsibility of each of us to further the work of NMLA, SWLA and ALA. He reminded the group of the SWLA meeting in Little Rock in the fall of 1964 and the ALA meeting in St. Louis in June.

Mrs. Gary spoke for the Trustee Division urging all to join both ALTA and ALA.

Mr. Kelley spoke of the trend toward smaller local associations. Those established in the state are the Albuquerque Library Association, the Pecos Valley Library Association, and very recently the Santa Fe Library Association.

Mr. Linscheid, ALA Councilor, was not present for a report.

Mrs. Ewing presented the exhibitors, introducing each.

Miss Watkins called on Mr. Ross Dooley and Mrs. Doris Lester to review activities of the State Library.

Mr. Dooley gave a most interesting summary of progress on the State Library Building. He invited all to view the blueprints and architect's painting of the new building. Highlights of his report:

1. A basic statement of goals and functions prepared by the librarian is fundamental to all planning.
2. A-checklist of items to be observed, checked, discussed and planned must be drawn up.

Special points to consider:

1. Is the building flexible?
2. Are departmental relationships logical?
3. Are fixed units well placed?

He brought out many details in the planning and mentioned the pleasant working relations with the architect. The new building will afford more than twice the present area - with 5 levels and chiefly open areas throughout.

Mrs. Lester reviewed the new Library Services and Construction Act which was passed by both Houses of Congress and was signed by President Johnson on February 11, 1964. The New Mexico plan for services is currently in draft form. Miss Ruth Hendrickson, Coordinator for LSA and Extension Service, has taken it to a regional meeting in Texas for suggestions and refinement, after which revision the draft will have to be approved by the State Library Commission and certified by the Attorney General before being sent on to Washington for approval.

Mr. Kelley gave a brief report of building progress of the University of New Mexico Library.

Miss Phoebe Hayes, director of the Rocky Mountain Bibliographic Center, told of plans of new programming and trial programs of Wyoming and Colorado. She discussed the Wyoming plan to allow the State Library to underwrite service the state libraries are requesting. She reviewed the Western Slope Demonstration Project with headquarters at Grand Junction, Colorado. Future possibilities of the Bibliographic Center were projected. She proposed ultimately coordinating regional collections with the Library of Congress and finally tying all into a National Library.

A letter was read from Mary Elizabeth Gallegher suggesting a joint committee of NMEA Library Section and the NMLA. It was decided that the Executive Board study this and take action later.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elinor A. Messerschmidt, Secretary