

NEW MEXICO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

First Business Meeting
Albuquerque, New Mexico
April 23, 1986

The First Business Meeting of the New Mexico Library Association was called to order by President Marcy Litzenberg at 7:55 PM in the Cotillion Room of the Clarion Four Seasons with 95 people in attendance. Marcy introduced Frank Martinez from the Mayor's Office, who welcomed the librarians to the City of Albuquerque. He pointed out the high cost of illiteracy and recognized librarians for their part in combating it.

Marcy apologized for the Association's scheduling of the conference during Passover and assured members that the situation would not arise in future.

MINUTES

Betty Reynolds asked if there were corrections to the minutes of the 1985 business meetings as printed in the conference edition of the Newsletter. Joe Sabatini pointed out the misspelling of Gail Doherty's name in the report of the SLCYASD during the second business meeting. Upon motion (Irma Holtkamp/Lois Godfrey) the minutes were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Denis Roark noted that copies of the treasurer's report were available at the back of the room. Advertising revenue has begun to increase but interest rates are down which will effect next year's income. Lois Godfrey asked for an explanation of the miscellaneous item. Upon motion (Linda Avery/Lois Godfrey) the treasurer's report was approved.

ALA COUNCILOR'S REPORT

Lowell Duhrsen announced that he had some extra copies of his report available. Lowell attended both the summer and midwinter conferences. Among the most notable activities of the past year have been acceptance of the Lacey report on freedom and equality of access to information and the divestiture of ALA's South African investments. ALA's investments overall made a 17.8% increase.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Virginia Downing Hendley reported this to be a successful year for cooperation of NMLA and the State Library on the Library Systems 2000 project. House Joint Memorial 13 passed this session requesting a study of library funding but a committee has not yet been formed. Clara Apodaca, Cultural Affairs Officer, now oversees the work of the State Library. There has been an 11% cut in the State Library's budget and while no layoffs have been made, there is a hiring freeze. Books by mail has been transferred to federal funding. An electronic mail system will be put into effect for small libraries which are not on OCLC. Virginia is serving as chair at the Diamond Jubilee of Statehood and the Bicentennial at the Constitution Committee and is looking for ways to involve libraries in the celebration to be held in 1987.

CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

Elaine Shannon said there were 375 people registered for the conference. Chuck Baldonado acknowledged the assistance of all the members of the Conference Arrangements Committee. The banquet scheduled for the Wool Warehouse, for which 181 tickets had been sold, has been changed to the Four Seasons with a hosted cocktail hour and musical entertainment by Bayou Seco and Albuquerque Civic Light Opera added. There are 67 paid exhibit spaces and pre-conferences drew 50 people to the Online Round Table program and 90 to the Publicity Committee program.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Cherrill Whitlow announced that there are no major changes in the conference program other than the banquet contingency plans already mentioned. All events will be held at the Four Seasons except the SLA dinner Friday evening. Guest speakers from out of town are staying at the Four Seasons and can be identified by their speaker ribbons.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Daryl Black and Chuck Baldonado reported that the year had been one of change for the Newsletter with changes in format and printing firm. Five issues were printed and the editors are pleased with the new firm. Deadlines for future issues are May 9, July 11, October 3, 1986 and February 6, 1987. There will probably be no December issue this year. The editors welcome articles by members which must be double spaced but need not be ready for printing as the staff can do editing work on articles submitted.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Harris Richard reported that the mini conference held in Portales October 26, 1985 had attracted 15 attendees.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Bylaws Committee

Joe Sabatini reported that the major project undertaken by the Committee this year was the updating of the procedural handbook to take into account the changes made in the bylaws in 1984. During the year 75% of the pages were replaced. Joe will be presenting two bylaws changes later in this meeting.

Conference Site Committee

Denis Roark announced the choice of the Inn of the Mountain Gods in Ruidoso as the site of the 1987 conference on April 1-3. The 1988 conference site may be Las Cruces on April 13-15 pending Executive Board approval.

Education Committee

Sarah Henderson said that the Marion Dorroh Scholarship winner would be announced at the banquet. Four education grants were awarded during the year, and another grant was awarded to Marcelina Estrada.

Legislation and Intellectual Freedom Committee

Karen Watkins reported that the Committee's primary concerns this year were with beginning to develop a statewide legislative contact network. The State has been divided into five regions. Many volunteers are needed in all areas as local contacts. This will be an ongoing part of NMLA's lobbying effort. A legislative packet is available for the local contacts. An intellectual freedom handbook has been prepared and will be distributed to librarians in need of help on censorship issues. Jim Benefiel conducted a survey on censorship challenges in the state and will report at conference. Karen attended National Legislative Day in Washington. Marcy thanked Karen for her hard work in bringing the legislative network to reality.

Library Development Committee

Theresa Connaughton stated that this committee serves as a watchdog for NMLA by helping to prepare the goals and work program for the Association as a whole and for the individual divisions, round tables and committees. The work program has been completed and the document will be reviewed and adopted at the next Board meeting. The committee holds an orientation for new Board members in June of each year. Another aspect is fundraising and to this end the committee is holding its second silent auction tomorrow.

Membership and Awards Committee

Jane Gillentine reported that as of April 21 the Association has a total membership of 563. The conference registration deadline determines the official membership for the coming year, and membership figures as of March 26, 1986 were used to determine the active/voting status of the individual divisions and round tables. All three divisions have active and voting status, the Library Instruction, Local and Regional History, and Online round tables have both active and voting status, and all other round tables except Documents have active but not voting status. Joe Sabatini pointed out that Documents Round Table, which does not have active status, would have another year to build its membership up to attain active status.

Linda Erickson announced that awards would be presented at the banquet Thursday night.

Nominating Committee

Cheryl Wilson announced the following nominations for office:

Second Vice-President, Karen Watkins
Secretary, Betty Reynolds

These officers will serve with President, Cherrill Whitlow; 1st Vice President Harris Richard, and Treasurer Denis Roark.

The bylaws provide that further nominations may be made from the floor during the business meeting provided the nominee has agreed and a petition has been signed by at least 20 association members. Officers are elected by a majority vote of those members present at the business meeting.

Publications Committee

Carolyn Dickerman reported that the year had been an easy one for the committee with Chuck Baldonado and his students at TVI getting the mailings done efficiently and promptly. Alison Almquist did a study of the feasibility of producing postcards or a calendar as a money-making project and concluded that the project would not be cost effective. Suzy Sultemeier handled mailing of the history bibliographies and Carolyn handled Newsletter claims.

Publicity Committee

Allen Schwartz was unable to attend but his report was read by Marcy Litzenberg. The committee distributed press releases and rented a billboard on the interstate between Santa Fe and Albuquerque to publicize National Library Week. They developed an information packet in conjunction with the Legislation and Intellectual Freedom Committee and will be presenting a program during conference featuring Kare Anderson.

Special Committee on Certification

Linda O'Connell reported on the activities of the special committee in looking into the issue of certification of the state's library directors. Committee meetings were held at five locations throughout the state. The final recommendation to the Board was that the current statute serves us well and should not be changed. Tomorrow there will be a panel discussion to review this issue.

Special Committee on an NMLA Executive Secretary

Nancy Ebeling was unable to attend and Joe Sabatini read her report.

The committee has already met once to explore the many possibilities of the committee's charge. Some items considered were membership and mailing, conference coordination, bulk mailings, disbursement of correspondence to the proper people, updating for ALA, data entry, and the association's printing. Yet to be discussed are NMLA's financial feasibility for a secretary, the availability of existing professional services, and what additional costs may be incurred. The committee welcomes suggestions.

Special Committee on State-wide Planning

Cheryl Wilson announced that the charge to the committee had been to work with the State Library in revising the "Coordinated Library Systems of New Mexico" document and acting as a liaison between NMLA and the State Library in state-wide planning. However, the State Library contracted with Sandia Foothills Corp. to develop a plan for the improvement of library services as the follow-up to Cresap, McCormick and Paget's work in 1984. The special committee has been reappointed for 1986/87 and will continue to work with the State Library.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Marcy announced the nominations for office: Second Vice President Karen Watkins and Secretary Betty Reynolds. She then asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, upon motion (Linda O'Connell/Irma Holtkamp) the two candidates were elected by acclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Sabatini presented two bylaws amendments. The first has to do with membership counts which determine active/voting status on the Board. The change involves percentages of all members or only of personal members. The amendment adds the word "personal" in Article XIV, Section 2 and 3 before the word "membership". The motion (Joe Sabatini/Linda Avery) to approve this change was approved.

The second change would allow for a mail ballot and the possibility of more than one candidate for each office in the election of officers.

Article VI, Section 1, delete "and it shall be presented at a business meeting at the annual conference. Nominations may be made from the floor provided the candidate has agreed and a petition signed by 20 members of the Association is submitted." and insert "The results of the election shall be presented at a business meeting at the annual conference."

Article VI, Section 2, delete "present and voting at a business meeting." and insert "by mail ballot."

Joe Sabatini moved, with Linda Erickson seconding, to make these bylaws changes. Cheryl Wilson spoke in favor of the changes to provide for all of the membership to have the opportunity to elect officers rather than only those who attend the business meeting. Dinah Jentgen proposed that wording of the amendment include a statement that additional nominations would be allowed by members before the mail ballot was distributed. Teresa Connaughton asked if anyone knew of the results of mail ballots in other organizations. Cheryl pointed out that 31% of members had voted in the last mail ballot for ALA councilor. Stan Ruckman reported on a successful procedure used in Oregon. Dinah Jentgen proposed the following amendment, seconded by Laurel Saunders, to the motion: "Nominations may be made by the membership at large by presenting a petition to the Nominating Committee signed by 20 NMLA members." The time frame for elections would be established by the Board and announced in the October issue of the Newsletter. Gloria Baca, seconded by Theresa Connaughton, moved to table the issue and James Dyke asked that the issue be turned back to the Bylaws Committee for presentation at the 1987 conference. This proposal was acceptable to Gloria and Theresa. The motion to table passed.

Marcy read a letter to Chuck Baldonado expressing NMLA's gratitude for outstanding service on the part of TVI staff during this and the 1984 conferences, and made a grant from the Executive Board of \$200 to the TVI scholarship fund.

Upon motion (Harris Richard/Irma Holtkamp) the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Reynolds, Secretary