



**MINNESOTA LIBRARY**  
ASSOCIATION

**Board of Directors Minutes**  
**Monday, December 18, 2023, 4-6 pm**

P Julia Carlis, President  
P Jodi Grebinoski, President-Elect  
P Steve Harsin, Past President  
P Karen Pundsack, Treasurer  
P Mollie Stanford, Secretary  
P Hannah Buckland, ALA Chapter Councilor  
A Liz Lynch, Legislative Co-Chair

P Heather Biedermann, Intellectual Freedom  
P Preeti Gupton, ARLD Chair  
A Jamie Hoehn, PLD Chair  
P Laura Gingras, ITEM Chair  
P Katie Sundstrom, Member-at-Large  
\_\_\_\_\_

Guests/Nonvoting

P Joy DesMarais-Lanz, Executive Director  
P Sarah Hawkins  
P Molly Bostrom  
P Megan Krueger

P Jess Gould  
P Jill Smith  
P Sara Swenson

**Call to Order**

President Julia Carlis called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

**Adoption of Consent Agenda/Board Minutes**

Carlis called for a motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented.

**MOTION:** Carlis motion to approve December 2023 Consent Agenda. Biedermann seconded.  
**Motion passed.**

Mollie Stanford presented the draft November 2023 board meeting minutes. Sundstrom made one grammatical edit suggestion.

**MOTION:** Sundstrom motion to approve November 2023 MLA Board Meeting minutes with correction. Grebinoski seconded. Motion passed.

## **MLA Business**

Financials: Karen Pundsack reported the financials through the end of October 2023 with a YTD Net Income of \$14,408.30. Membership dues are still looking good for the year. Pundsack used the October budget numbers in the 2024 MLA Budget planning documents.

**MOTION:** Pundsack motion to approve October 2023 financials. Carlis seconded. Motion passed.

Conference Updates: Jodi Grebinoski reported the 2024 MLA Conference planning is underway and there is a need for conference committee volunteers. A notice will go out in MLA Round-Up. The 2024 MLA Conference theme is Communicate, Advocate, Relate, Engage (CARE).

Executive Director/Mattison Update: Joy DesMarais-Lanz reported that the MLA office will be closed December 25-26, December 19, and January 1. If there are any reimbursements or bills, they need to be submitted via the official form by January 31, 2024. Following today's Strategic Plan brainstorming session, the focus will be on creating the MLA 1st Year Strategic Operational Plan. This plan will be presented to the MLA Board at the January 2024 meeting.

Strategic 90-day Plan and Strategic Planning Process Update: Carlis reviewed the three goal areas of the MLA Strategic Plan. Board members worked together via the Jamboard platform to brainstorm strategies and tactics for all goal areas. DesMarais-Lanz will incorporate the ideas shared on the Jamboard to develop a draft 1st Year Strategic Operational Plan. The MLA Strategic Plan Jamboard can be found here:

[https://jamboard.google.com/d/1JIDdiZhHZtOF3UaldzIKr0i\\_u\\_X9LQX6rpc2mu2Zua8/edit?usp=sharing](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1JIDdiZhHZtOF3UaldzIKr0i_u_X9LQX6rpc2mu2Zua8/edit?usp=sharing)

## **Committee Updates**

Intellectual Freedom Committee Report: Heather Biedermann provided an update on the book challenge taking place in southern Minnesota. Biedermann has loved being a part of this committee and is happy to continue helping with advocacy letter templates in the future.

Approval of 2024 Budget: Pundsack presented the draft 2024 MLA budget. The draft budget includes anticipated 2024 annual conference expenses and contract renewals.

**MOTION:** Pundsack motion to approve the 2024 MLA Budget as presented. Hawkins seconded. Motion passed.

Membership Committee Report: Katie Sundstrom provided an overview of the MLA Membership report listing the membership categories/divisions.

Legislative Update: Sarah Hawkins reported Minnesota Library Legislative Day is scheduled for Monday, February 26, 2024 – registration will be open soon. Ann Walker-Smalley is coordinating a Legislator

READ poster event from Noon to 3 p.m. that day in the Cass Gilbert Library and a call for volunteers will go out to the membership. A group photo will be taken that day at 10:30 a.m.

PLD Update: Megan Krueger reported work is still being done to fill the vacancies on the PLD Board. The hope is to have an in-person event for PLD Day in 2024.

ARLD Update: Preeti Gupton reported ARLD is hoping to schedule more social events throughout the year in 2024 and money will be set aside for those events. Gupton helped to transition three new ARLD board members in and goodbyes have been said to outgoing board members. Pundsack, incoming Treasurer Jill Smith, and Gupton met to discuss the MLA budget.

ITEM Update: Laura Gingras reported she attended the ALA Chapter Advocacy workshop in Chicago and learned lots of valuable advocacy information to share out statewide and with the MLA Legislative Committee. ITEM is looking to schedule a virtual town hall in early 2024 and will be hosting a Computer Science event in February 2024. An inauguration party for new MLA Board members is scheduled for Thursday, December 28 in Bloomington – there is plenty of room to attend, so please feel free to register for this event.

### **Policies**

Policy Review: The Whistleblower and Anti-Trust policies were presented in the packet for review. Carlis and Stanford shared updates to the Nominating Committee policy based on recommendation from the Nominating Committee Co-Chairs.

**MOTION:** Carlis motion to approve the three policies presented with the edits suggested. Harsin seconded. Motion passed.

### **Items from the floor**

None.

### **Adjourn**

Carlis adjourned the meeting at 5:26 PM.