

**South Dakota Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
February 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 (1 p.m. CST/12 noon MST)**

The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Jones-Lutter at 1:04 p.m. CST.

**Roll Call:**

Board Members and Committee Chairs present:

Sarah Jones-Lutter, Elizabeth Fox, Jamie Formanek, Danielle De Jager-Loftus, Melanie Argo, Krista Ohrtman, Kelly Henkel Thompson, Craig Johnson, Joshua Easter, Katherine Eberline, and Daniel Burniston.

Board Members and Committee Chairs not present:

George Seamon, Kris O'Brien

Others Present:

None.

**Changes/Additions to agenda:**

Motion by Melanie Argo second by Danielle De Jager-Loftus to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Consideration of Minutes for the November 14, 2023 meeting:**

Motion by Katherine Eberline, second by Danielle De Jager-Loftus to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Report of Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Krista Ohrtman:**

Krista noted that her February report had been shared with the executive board via email. Krista highlighted that she had been in contact with KMWF regarding our required professional audit every three years and there is an agreement in place. The Audit Committee and Executive Board will get a copy of the results letter. Krista completed the annual credit card processing compliance certification as well as an insurance provider questionnaire. The first half of this year's lobbyist payment was made. Krista also shared the 2023 year-end budget summary and noted that we were up about \$2,000. It was noted that the \$2,000 invoice from our website vendor was not paid still due to no revised invoice or explanation regarding the doubling of the annual fee. \$4,000 was moved from savings to checking to cover the start of year bills and shows up in the budget as uncategorized income. This means that we did have to dip into savings last year to end up where we did.

**Report of President, Sarah Jones-Lutter:**

For correspondence, Sarah reported that she will be participating in a congressional fly in early March along with Nancy Swenson and Kathleen Slocum. The American Library Association is paying for the trip to DC to meet with legislators.

For the September conference, Sarah has coordinated with the South Dakota Humanities Council and the South Dakota Festival of Books for a featured speaker. We have a second speaker lined up. Sarah has

been trying to get One Book Siouland author Achut Deng also. The third speaker is pending based on the cost of the other speakers.

**Report of Vice President/President Elect, Elizabeth Fox:**

Elizabeth reported that she has gone through the bylaws and reviewed them thoroughly. The procedures have not yet been reviewed. Elizabeth presented some suggestions for discussion and consideration including:

- Removing the reference to the Bookmarks newsletter benefit from the honorary membership section as this is now free online.
- Changes to the membership fee are currently already under discussion.
- Possible increases to the institutional membership dues.
- Any need to change membership renewal from the time of renewal to the fiscal year.
- Updating vice-president duties formatting to match the president and adding language about communicating meeting times with committee chairs.
- In the meeting section 8.02 changing the special meeting wording from one month to one week. With Zoom meetings people are not usually traveling and a special meeting would usually indicate a more urgent need to gather.
- Editing meeting section 8.04 to also be one week to match the special meeting section.
- Change the wording in 9.05 to reflect just roundtables and remove interest groups to match the procedure using just roundtables.
- Committees 11.01 possible merger of Intellectual Freedom and Library issues as well as Social Media and Public Relations.
- Clarification regarding the SDLA Historian whether they should be on the executive board.

The possibility of adding language to the effect that every two years membership dues will go up by a set amount was mentioned. Elizabeth will be working on the formatting and will put together a better draft of the proposed changes that can be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Report of Past President, Jamie Formanek:**

Nothing to report

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

The Library Issues committee will be meeting immediately after this executive board meeting with the SDLA lobbyist and an ALA representative to talk about upcoming legislation.

**Report of Sections:**

Academic/Health/Special Libraries, Kristin Echtenkamp:

Nothing to report.

Public/Trustee, Katherine Eberline:

Nothing to report.

School/Library Media, Kris O'Brien:

Kris provided Sarah with a draft of some proposed changes to the YARP Committee procedures. It was decided to put this with the other procedure reviews planned for April, this may also allow Kris to be available to present the changes.

Support Staff Section Chair, Joshua Easter:

Josh reported that he has been talking with people about 2025 Branchout.

**Report of ALA Councilor, Danielle De Jager-Loftus:**

Danielle reported that she contacted the ALA office of chapter relations and public policy and government relations to meet with the Library Issues comment after this meeting. Danielle attended ALA LibLearnX from Jan 19-22. The first council meeting was Jan 20 and the council adopted new meeting rules. The membership committee chair presented the group report on updated membership models and fees. ALA membership dues starting in 2025 will be cheaper. There was discussion on a resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, which was referred to the international relations committee. On Jan 21 the Intellectual Freedom Committee presented their report including a resolution condemning the damage and destruction of libraries and other cultural institutions in Gaza which was passed. The Bylaws Committee discussed virtual attendance and the addition of sections outlining the process for councilors and executive board members to participate virtually. The Freedom to Read Foundation President and the Core Values task force provided updates on a proposal for updated core values of librarianship. Updates include access, equity, intellectual freedom, privacy, public good, and sustainability. It was also recommended that the executive board assign groups to write interpretations about these values. The resolution for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza was defeated due to being outside of the scope of ALAs purview as well as the other resolution on the destruction of cultural institutions which did pass.

**Report of MPLA Representative, Melanie Argo:**

Melanie reported that MPLA is going through some staff transitions. They've just hired a new webmaster who is from South Dakota. The executive secretary is retiring after 14 years and the position is currently open and being shared. MPLA is still going through their procedures and bylaws. May 8-10 is the 2024 conference in Utah and the ALA president is one of the speakers.

**Report of the Bookmark's Editor, Kelly Henkel Thompson:**

Kelly reported setting up two new services from ALA. One Click Politics for social media to assist with contacting representatives, and Bill Tracker. Kelly has built the base for the conference website and has the call for proposals out with one already coming in. Bookmarks will be going out mid to late February. Kelly is looking to start a new featured member's section with a quarterly interview, Melanie and Sarah volunteered to help.

**Report of the Federal Relations Coordinator, George Seamon:**

Nothing to report.

**Continuing Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Sarah presented the results of the fees survey and reported the majority preferred to increase conference fees, then no opinion, then membership. Sarah proposed consideration of increasing

membership fees plus the additional tier of \$75k and over. This can be reviewed with the other upcoming bylaws changes. For conference fees the proposal was increasing Wednesday only by \$10 to \$105, Thursday Only by \$15 to \$160, Friday only by \$10 to \$105, and full conference by \$20 to 235. For non-members it was proposed to increase Wednesday only by \$35 to \$155, Thursday Only by \$40 to \$225, Friday only by \$35 to \$155, and full conference by \$50 to 350. Krista noted that when the current fees were adopted at the annual conference in 2020 it was a 15% increase across the board except students. It was part of the motion that the board would consider membership increases every three years. There was a discussion regarding the conference and membership fee changes. Motion by Malaine Argo seconded by Josh Easter to adopt the conference fee increase proposed by Sarah. Motion Carries.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting will be in April.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Melanie Argo seconded by Craig Johnson to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by Sarah Jones-Lutter at 2:13 p.m. CST.