

Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association

Executive Meeting

Saturday, October 14, 2006, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Yorkton Room, Hilton Garden Inn

MINUTES

Present: Janet Wilkinson (Chinook), Vina Walker (Palliser), Treasurer Donna Hartley (Southeast), Maureen McGirr (Wapiti), Chair Elaine Kivisto (Regina), Sharon Armstrong (Parkland), Kae Campbell (Wheatland), Vice Chair Bev Dubois (Saskatoon), Isabelle Butters (Multitype Library Board Representative), Merrilee Rasmussen (Secretary), Joylene Campbell (Provincial Librarian)

Regrets: Lakeland and PNLs

1. Call to Order

Chair Elaine Kivisto called the meeting to order at 8:57 a.m.

Adoption of the Agenda with the addition of items 6.8 and 10.4 was moved by Bev Dubois seconded by Janet Wilkinson. Carried.

2. Minutes of May 4 and 6, 2006

Approval of Minutes of May 4 and May 6, 2006 Executive Meetings was moved by Janet Wilkinson and Seconded by Donna Hartley. Carried.

Draft Minutes of the 2006 AGM were tabled to the next Executive Meeting.

3. Business Arising from Minutes

None noted.

4. Correspondence

The Chair noted receipt of the following correspondence:

- letter from Provincial Librarian regarding the reappointment of Isabelle Butters as the SLTA representative on the Multitype Library Board;

- letter from Louise Cohran indicating that she has resigned from the Lakeland board and that a new representative to the SLTA Executive will be named in due course;
- letter from PNLIS indicating a new representative will be named to the SLTA Executive in due course.

Receipt and filing of the above correspondence was moved by Bev Dubois and Seconded by Donna Hartley. Carried.

5. Meeting with Minister

The Chair noted that a meeting with the Minister of Learning was scheduled for October 16, 2006 at 4:00 pm after the official launch of Saskatchewan Library Week in the Legislative Library. A discussion of issues to raise with the minister ensued. The following points were noted:

- the Minister should be provided with a one-page summary of SLTA concerns, including talking points that will assist her in convincing other cabinet members to take them seriously;
- the idea that libraries are just there and we can take them for granted works against our efforts to obtain increased funding;
- impact of provincial reductions is felt most severely on headquarters;
- legislation clearly states that municipalities are responsible for local library buildings etc but nothing is stated re headquarters and this leads to ambiguity about responsibility; renovations to headquarters in regions can be funded from provincial grants because headquarters support resource sharing;
- province funds resource-sharing but not local services;
- federal literacy cuts - Jan Smith's letter to David Anderson;
- American survey re value of libraries;
- make the point that libraries won't be there without more funding;
- volunteer burn-out;
- remind minister that she invited us to come back in the fall when they were doing the budget;
- Community net funding to expire Sept 30, 2007;
- community access program set to expire (federal);

It was moved by Sharon Armstrong seconded by Maureen McGirr that the primary message to communicate is that each library system needs funding

for different things and that we therefore need to increase the funding pool and let each system determine its own priorities.

6. Reports

6.1 President B Elaine Kivisto

6.2 Treasurer B Donna Hartley

The following points were noted in discussing the financial reports:

- There are only two classes of membership, Individual and Institutional, and these classes only should be identified in the financial statements;
- The item described as Aeducation expense@ should be ASask Libraries Conference@;
- It was noted that the AGM motion for a financial review for 2005 specified that a proper financial statement is to be brought to the Executive meeting.

It was moved by Sharon Armstrong and seconded by Bev Dubois that the financial statement for 2005 be brought forward to the next meeting of the Executive in February 2007. Carried.

It was moved by Donna Hartley seconded by Janet Wilkinson that the treasurer=s report as amended be accepted. Carried.

6.3 Brief reports were provided by each library system representative on current happenings:

6.4 Provincial Librarian B Joylene Campbell

The Provincial Librarian reported on the following:

- a meeting of Deputy Ministers responsible for public libraries was held at CLA;
- community access program is ending soon;
- teleconference of Ministers to decide whether or not to establish a Council of Ministers responsible for Libraries;
- 50% turnover of staff at Provincial;

- Committee for Aboriginal Library Services reviewing the 46 recommendations from Minister=s advisory committee report in 2001 to see what=s been done and what still needs to be done - will probably result in another five-year plan;
- SPM has advised that infrastructure funding will expire at the end of Sept 2007;
- new appointments have been made to the Multitype Library Board (MTLB);
- MTLB will likely look at the issue of performance measures for libraries;
- digitization grants to libraries and other types of information providers;
- database licensing program continues and is very successful;
- received ruling from Finance that PST will not apply to electronic newspapers, magazines and journals;
- decided not to put forward single integrated library plan for 07-08;
- mailing costs for organizations are under scrutiny in the department and it might be more appropriate to provide a grant to the organization rather than mail-outs.

6.5 Multitype Library Board B Isabelle Butters

It was moved by Marueen McGirr seconded by Bev Dubois that all reports under items 6.1, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5 be received. Carried.

6.6 2007 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference to be held in Saskatoon May 4 to 6, 2007

- Bev Dubois is the SLTA representative to the planning committee for the conference;
- conference theme is Aliteracy@;
- usually two sessions for trustees plus the SLTA AGM; could include a canvass of what systems are doing in relation to literacy;
- each Executive member should email Bev Dubois with contact person in their system re literacy programming.

6.7 CLTA B Elaine Kivisto

Chair Elaine Kivisto is Treasurer for the CLTA. She reported that the CLTA will be lobbying the federal minister responsible for infrastructure to allow libraries to qualify under the funding rules. It was noted that CLTA and FCM could partner to press these issues of common interest federally.

It was moved by Sharon Armstrong seconded by Donna Hartley that the Chair=s verbal CLTA report be received. Carried.

6.8 It was moved by Janet Wilkinson seconded by Bev Dubois that Donna Hartley=s verbal report on Saskatchewan Library Week be received. Carried.

7. SLTA Newsletter

It was agreed that the following would be provided to Merrilee Rasmussen, Secretary, by October 31 for the Fall Newsletter:

- each system representative will ensure that their library director emails the Secretary with a list of board members who are therefore members of SLTA and will cc Chair Elaine Kivisto who will harass those who don=t meet this deadline!
- each system representative is to provide a Ablurb@ about their system for the next issue - focus on partnerships;
- the Secretary will prepare a report about the meeting with the Minister and a picture;
- put in invitation to people to request newsletter by email;
- Donna Hartley will provide a piece on Sask Library Week;
- include a list of executive members.

8. Column in SLA Forum

Donna Hartley reported that a piece went out May 10 re honorary award right after the conference and the August issue contained a brief report on the new executive. The next issue deadline is November 10 and will include a report on the meeting with the Minister and picture.

9. Website

It was noted that the website needs to be updated.

10. New/Other business

10.1 Vision Statement

It was noted by the Chair that we advocate on behalf of public libraries of Saskatchewan but this isn't mentioned in our Constitution and Bylaws and a vision statement might help us to focus.

It was moved by Sharon Armstrong seconded by Donna Hartley that this item be tabled to the February 2007 meeting to be discussed on the Friday evening. Carried

10.2 SLTA Survey - Impact of Libraries on People's lives

10.3 Professional Lobbyist

These two items were discussed together and the following points were raised:

- Directors had a retreat in June, very unhappy; want SLTA to advocate on behalf of libraries and suggest that perhaps we could do a survey of people's attitudes;
- Multitype did focus groups to determine key messages for promotion campaign for libraries;
- Saskatoon did focus groups report from consulting firm - very good information in the report;
- should we focus on the problem of funding that these are proposed as solutions for?
- other jurisdictions have provided increased funding for libraries: Ontario \$15 million one time, Alberta \$20 million one time and BC \$12 million over 3 years for one card system and NB \$770,000 ongoing to add new positions because libraries should benefit from improvements in the economy;
- letter from Minister to Southeast indicates that libraries are NOT a government priority;
- impact on libraries of cuts - impact on headquarters, community net and CAP 161 communities that can be named that won't have highspeed;
- SLTA has reserve funds, why not direct these to a campaign for libraries in the next provincial election and ask all candidates where they stand; publicity for libraries;

It was moved by Bev Dubois seconded by Vina Walker that the SLTA Executive meet with library directors on December 7, 2006 from noon til

5:00 pm and that expenses related to that meeting for lunch and facilitator be paid from SLTA funds. Carried

10.4 E-JournalB SLA has joined with other associations across Canada to create a partnership. They have educational sessions on a variety of topics, can participate by phone. This is their newsletter. We should find out what this is to see if this is something we should be involved in. It was agreed that Donna Hartley will find more information and bring it back to the Executive.

10.5 SLTA brochures B Bev Dubois distributed new brochures to everyone present.

11. Meeting Communiqué

It was agreed that the communiqué could include the following:

- meeting with the minister
- louder voice for libraries
- library conference dates
- life membership
- Sask Library Week
- new brochures
- website
- Vision statement
- column SLA Forum

12. Next Meeting

- December 7, 2006 at noon with Library Directors re lobbying strategic plan
- in Regina Friday February 9, 2007 at 6:00 pm to review action plan and consider vision statement and Saturday, February 10, 2007.
- **Items for agenda to be sent to Chair Elaine Kivisto and Secretary Merrilee Rasmussen by January 15, 2007.**

13. Adjournment

It was moved by Maureen McGirr seconded by /Donna Hartley that the meeting adjourn. Carried. Adjournment at 2:36 pm.

