

NDLA Executive Board
Minutes of Electronic (e-mail) Discussion/Action
April-September 2001

The NDLA Executive Board conducted official business via e-mail on several issues following the March 30, 2001 Board meeting. As directed by the Board, the Secretary printed each of the messages delivered to her via the NDLA-Executive Board electronic discussion list for inclusion in the Secretary's permanent files. Copies of these files are available from the Secretary upon request.

Emporia MLS Program

On April 3, President Dockter notified the Board that a North Dakota University System ad hoc committee is working with Emporia State on offering an MLS program in the state. NDLA has been asked to be a sponsor of the program. Dockter indicated that NDLA sponsorship would involve a letter of support and notifying NDLA members of the opportunity. Susan Dingle, Archivist/Historian, raised several questions about the real meaning of sponsorship, e.g., endorsement, monetary contributions, etc. Dockter indicated that the ad hoc committee had raised similar questions. The Board will wait for additional information before taking action.

NLDA Resolution Supporting ALA Action Against CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act)

At the March 30 Board meeting, Suzanne Morrison, Intellectual Freedom Chair, was directed to draft a resolution supporting ALA Action against CIPA. On April 20, Morrison posted a draft for Board comment and action. Marlene Anderson, Secretary, suggested some changes and made a motion that the resolution be adopted as amended. Mary Bianco, Academic & Special Libraries Section Chair, seconded. Motion carried. Morrison was asked to forward the resolution to ALA and to Theresa Norton, NDLA Web Master, for posting on both web sites. The resolution was also printed in the June 2001 issue of *The Good Stuff*.

Corps of Discovery II

On June 13 President Dockter forwarded a message from Cheryl J. Hesel of the Rosebud County Library in Forsyth, Montana. The message reported on the progress of the National Park Service Corps of Discovery II project.

Summer Reading Program Request

On June 27 President Dockter posted a message to the NDLA Membership electronic discussion list from the children's librarian at McPherson Public Library in McPherson, Kansas. As part of the summer reading program, McPherson Public Library planned to send a stuffed buffalo named Max to visit other public libraries across the country. Those interested in participating in the project were asked to respond directly to Holly Engle of the McPherson Public Library.

First Book's Drive for Literacy

Marlene Anderson, Secretary, forwarded a message to President Dockter and to Diane Briggs, Fargo Public Library Outreach Coordinator, about First Book, a nonprofit organization devoted to providing books to low-income children participating in tutoring, mentoring, and family literacy programs. First Book was scheduled to be in Fargo on August 20. First Book would like NDLA to be involved in their organization. North Dakota is one of six states without a First Book chapter. The Board did not take action on this issue.

Reinvestment of Funds

Mike Safratowich, Treasurer, asked for Board input on courses of action to take regarding reinvestment of funds in the Rudser and NDLA CDs. The Finance Committee will look at options and make a recommendation to the Board. No further action taken.

2003 Conference

On July 31 Marilyn Johnson, Past President, notified the Board that the 2003 NDLA Conference in Bismarck, which is scheduled for September 24-27 (Wednesday-Saturday, although we have now changed to a Wednesday-Friday format), conflicts with Yom Kippur. President Dockter did further investigation and discovered that in 2003 Yom Kippur will be October 5-6 and Rosh Hashanah will be September 26-27. Since Conference business should be done by the afternoon of Friday, September 26, the conflict is minimal. In the future, the Board needs to take these holidays into account when scheduling conference dates.

LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act)

On August 15 President Dockter forwarded a message to the NDLA membership list from ALAWON (American Library Association Washington Office Newsline). ALAWON called for library supporters to contact Senate and House Conferees re: action on LSTA.

NDLA Election 2001

On August 6 President Dockter posted a message about the dearth of NDLA President-elect candidates. As of that date, only one person, Kaaren Pupino, had agreed to run for the office despite a lengthy search for candidates. Dockter asked Board members to help identify someone to run for this office.

On August 30 President Dockter notified the Board of complications with the 2001 NDLA ballots. The bylaws state that there must be a minimum of two NDLA members on the ballot for the offices of President-elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Also, the Executive Board must approve the ballot before it is mailed to the membership. Neither of these bylaws was followed. Another election problem was that the Health Science Information Section did not submit a ballot for their section before the ballot was mailed to the membership. When HSIS asked for a separate mailing to correct that problem, an error was made. Section members were mailed a second ballot for the Executive Board election in addition to the HSIS ballot. Dockter asked the Board for their input on possible solutions. Discussion followed. Liz Mason, Technical Services Chair and Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies Committee Chair, made a motion to suspend bylaws Article III, Section 1A, which reads, "The Nominations and Elections Committee proposes a minimum of two NDLA members for each of the NDLA offices of president-elect, secretary, and treasurer and reports nominations to the Executive Board. The Executive Board approves the nominations prior to the printing of the ballot." Kathy Thomas, Government Documents Roundtable Chair and Membership Chair, seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Janet Essency, Nominations and Elections Committee Chair, made a second motion to accept the ballot as mailed. Thomas seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

On September 11 President Dockter posted a message to the NDLA membership about the irregularities with the 2001 election, apologized, and explained Board actions to rectify the problems.

Major Benefactor Award

On September 12 Marilyn Johnson, Past President, asked for a motion to approve the recommendation of the Major Benefactor Award Committee to give the award to Clarence and Clarice Johnsrud of Williston. Johnson included the nomination letter and other documentation with her request. Kristen Rall, Information Technology Roundtable Chair, made a motion to approve the recommendation of the committee. Marlene Anderson, Secretary, seconded. Motion carried.

Election Tiebreaker

On September 19, Janet Essency, Nominations and Elections Committee Chair, reported the election results and noted that there was a tie for Chair-elect of the Public Library Section. President Dockter stated that the bylaws do not address this situation, although the bylaws do state that the Executive Board must validate the election before anyone is told the results. Kathy Thomas, Government Documents Roundtable

Chair and Membership Chair, quoted from the North Dakota Century Code with regard to ties in North Dakota elections: “The persons then shall publicly decide by the toss of a coin which of them must be declared elected.” Discussion followed. On September 21 President Dockter proposed using the best 3 of 5 coin tosses to determine the new chair-elect of the Public Library Section. The toss would be done by Michael Safratowich, Treasurer, in front of these witnesses: Sally Dockter, current NDLA President, Barb Knight, former NDLA President, and Lila Pederson, former Treasurer. Board concurred. The results of the election were posted later that same day.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Anderson, Secretary