

NORTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
SECOND GENERAL SESSION
SEPTEMBER 24, 1999

Barb Knight called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. A quorum was present.

Ellen Kotrba passed out evaluation sheets for THE GOOD STUFF; she asked members to complete and leave them on the tables.

Scott Stradley brought copies of THE BROKEN CIRCLE: AN ECONOMIC HISTORY OF NORTH DAKOTA, which he donated to the libraries in North Dakota.

The auction raised \$ 1,018.50 for the online STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF NORTH DAKOTA.

Melody Kuehn introduced Marilyn Hinshaw, president of MPLA, who addressed the membership.

The first reading of the resolutions followed.

Knight read Resolution #1, from the Executive Board. Rhonda Schwartz read Resolution #2, from the New Members Roundtable.

Diane Briggs read Resolutions #3 and #4, from the Public Library Section. Kuehn read Resolution #5, from the School Library and Youth Services Section.

Dennis Page gave the ALA Councilor's report. Kuehn gave the MPLA Representative's report. Page gave the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council report.

Other Business.

Knight read the section from the constitution concerning bylaws change, Article 9, Section 1. She then referenced Section II, part C under the bylaws, concerning changes in dues structure. At the Executive Board meeting on May 21, the Finance Committee recommended an increase of \$ 5.00 in all membership categories, with a cap on institutional membership at \$ 100.

It will not be possible to change the dues structure at this meeting; this must be done by mail ballot 30 days prior to the next annual convention. This convention is operating under the old bylaws. Knight will recommend to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies committee to take the wording from the bylaws change and use it for the dues change.

The committee will need to send out a mail ballot if there is to be a change; it may come BEFORE 30 days before next year's conference. The change will allow more flexibility in changing the dues in the future.

Discussion followed. Tom Jones felt that the \$ 100 maximum for institutions is far too low and that larger institutions could contribute more to the association. Page suggested a maximum of \$ 250 for institutions. There are about 10 institutional members. Marilyn Johnson pointed out that there have been no dues increases for the last 8 to 10 years, and that after seeing what membership in other professional organizations costs, she would like to see a \$ 10 increase. Members should consider the benefits they receive, especially THE GOOD STUFF. The association has many volunteers working as a labor of love; APT, as the association management firm is providing wonderful backup. It now will be responsible for THE GOOD STUFF, and the association may need more money to finance this endeavor. Benefits also include networking and friendships. Pedersen inquired about the dues for other organizations. NDEA charges \$317 per year. Some school librarians will not want to pay \$ 10 more to belong to NDLA, as many are part-time; NDEA pro-rates the dues for them. A sliding scale like MPLA's would make dues more equitable.

Kelly Hell reported that some library organizations used a sliding scale. A few made reference to X dollars for an annual subscription to their newsletter. Some associations had lower rates, but not many. Briggs remarked that it is hard to put a convention together when the funds for speakers are so low, and Hell reminded the group that the conference does not always make money.

Knight asked members to email Johnson, herself, or Leila Bina with other comments. Dues will be discussed at the next two Executive Board meetings. Notice of the vote will be published at least 30 days before voting, which will be by a mail ballot. Kotrba asked if this would require two mailings, one to change the bylaws and one to change the dues; it may, or the dues vote may come with the election ballots in the fall. If the ballot were sent out right away, it would be more than 30 days before the next conference and the association could raise the dues before January, 2000, instead of waiting for 2001. The implication in the bylaws is that the increase would take effect following the next conference; some members did not feel that this implication was valid.

Knight asked for other business; hearing none, she thanked Marilyn Hinshaw, who received applause.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Ann K. Bratton,
Secretary