

NDLA Board Meeting  
MPLA Representative Report – 7  
September 21, 2005  
Sally Dockter

I attended an Executive Board meeting in Denver on July 23, 2005. A lot of things are changing in MPLA. The Reorganization Task Force issued its final recommendations.

Issues they dealt with include looking at the makeup of committees and sections – are they the right ones? The difficulty in getting people to run for office, who should really be the voting members of the Board, the role of committee chairs, should committee chairs also be on the board as voting members – since they do the lions share of work for the organizations. What size should the Board, what can we afford? The Goal is to streamline and make more efficient and effective Board and organization. This might be something NDLA would want to consider doing. The Board passed the recommendations which will take a couple of years to get approval from the membership. A task was appointed to make it happen. Marilyn said this will be a model for other states who might want to reorganize.

The Carl Gaumer Exhibitor's award was changed to the Carl Gaumer Library Champion award – to be given to an individual or company whose positive support to libraries in the MPLA region is demonstrated by constant conscientious endeavors towards libraries.

Dan Chaney asked if MPLA would be for setting up a blog for the conference. The Utah Rep. warned us to be careful. It passed.

Marilyn Henshaw – talked about the Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute. She said other leadership institutes in other states charge \$15,000 - \$25,000 to attend. She wanted a pay increase for Maureen Sullivan and Mary Bushing. An increase was approved.

During the 18months between fall and spring conferences states were asked to identify their continuing education needs.

The bylaws were suspended to not have a Board meeting on Sat. at the Wyoming Conference. Bylaws were also suspended to allow an electronic ballot instead of paper.

A task force was appointed to determine the effects of offering free memberships.

Dues – should they be based on salary ranges instead of actual salaries? Almost all states do ranges.

Jim Connor was unhappy about nothing being on the upcoming conference schedule for trustees. He warned us not to ignore trustees. The more they are involved the better for libraries.

The MPLA booth materials have been ordered from Joe Edelen, the executive Secretary of MPLA, for the upcoming conference in Grand Forks.