

NDLA Board Report
March 10, 2005
MPLA Representative – Sally Dockter

The MPLA Executive Board held its first full board meeting via conference call on February 22, 2006.

In April the transition to the new organizational structure should be complete. The Board will consist of elected officers, state representatives, committee chairs, and paid staff. Electronic Communities, i.e. interest groups, will be in place. MPLA did a survey to identify what areas of interest might become an electronic community. The final list will appear in April. A registration process will be announced and email lists created, and moderators appointed.

Sharon Osenga said that the conference in Wyoming was heavily attended but MPLA's share of the registration was smaller than in previous years. Since there is no MPLA conference in 2006 the budget is a little tight this year.

Under the new structure there is now an Administration Committee consisting of the President, VP, Pres-elect, recording secretary and 3 other appointed members. This Committee met via conference call in January and reviewed manual of procedure updates and established where and when the next Board meeting would be (Denver, July 14th). They discussed Board reimbursement for travel procedures, created a draft budget, talked about the interest group survey, training needs, getting a bus to go to the New Mexico conference. They also talked about the free memberships given out at state conference. they were concerned that it didn't really increase membership. They decided to limit free memberships to only 2 per state conference. At the March 10th meeting the full Board reversed this decision after statistics were presented that 50% of the free membership winners actually renewed their memberships the next year.

State Representatives were encouraged to do what they can to get members to renew their memberships as the numbers are down from last year.

Judy Zelinski, the new Executive Secretary, Sharon Osenga and Carroll Hammond are all doing a huge amount of work transitioning the organization into its new self. Board Manuals of procedures are mostly all rewritten, online membership renewal is up and running. The one area they will be focusing their attention now is sending out an RFP for a trainer to develop tutorials on holding online meetings. Writing a new long range plan will begin soon.