

MLA Board of Directors, Executive Director, and MLA Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to represent the Michigan Library Association as a Chapter Councilor at meetings during the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas this past June. The following is a summary of meetings, discussions, and resolutions. The full text of resolutions, tributes, and other reports and documents will all be found on ALA's website.

ALA Council/Executive Board/Membership Information Session Saturday, June 28, 2014

Reports received by Council at the meeting were as follows:

Highlights on ALA Key Initiatives –

- ALA President Barbara Stripling spoke on the three major ALA Initiatives - Literacy, Community Engagement, and Innovation. She noted that ALA has a new Literacy Officer.
- ALA President-Elect Courtney Young presented her appointments to different committees and boards.
- ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels reported on the Workforce Investment Act, the newly formed Center for the Future of Libraries, and commented on innovation spaces in libraries. The Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded ALA a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant to establish a Center for the Future of Libraries. Its goal is to provide library planners and community leaders with information resources and tools that will help them better understand the trends reshaping their libraries and communities and help them incorporate foresight into their planning processes.

Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC) Report

Patty Wand presented the BARC report. BARC is the committee that, among other things, reviews the possible impact of prospective ideas and resolutions on the ALA budget.

ALA Treasurer's Report –

The fiscal Year 2015 budget includes strong Midwinter and Annual conference sites (Chicago and San Francisco).

ALA Endowment Trustees Report –

Endowment Trustee Chair Rodney Hersberger presented the Endowment Trustees Report. The endowment did well this fiscal year. One interesting note is that the Margaret Edwards Trust, which has been managed separately with proceeds going to YALSA, will now be rolled into the main ALA Endowment and proceeds will continue to be received by YALSA.

ALA Membership Meeting Saturday, June 28, 2014

Memorials for the following individuals were offered:

- Eliza Dresang
- Marilyn Miller
- Emily Stewart Boyce
- Margaret Mary (Maggie) Kimmel
- Birdie MacLennan
- Nancy Garden

A tribute for the following association was offered:

- 75th Anniversary of the Association of College and Research (ACRL)

A discussion on the newly formed Presidential Task Force on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion was headed by ALA President Barbara Stripling and Martin Garner, Co-chair. The task force is an outgrowth of discussions initiated by the Black Caucus and the other ethnic affiliates. The Task Force is charged to develop a plan and strategic actions to build more equity, diversity, and inclusion among our members, the field of librarianship, and our communities.

Chapter Relations Committee June 28, 2014

Chapter Relations Office staff Michael Dowling and Don Wood gave an update on Engage, the new program to replace Capwiz.

ALA Chapter Relations Meeting I –

Several important topics were discussed at the meeting.

ALA will be switching to another software product instead of Capwiz which will make it easier for chapters to contact legislators for advocacy purposes. MLA will use software called Engage, through ALA.

ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels spoke on a new Presidential Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, which met for the first time at the conference.

Emily Sheketoff, head of the ALA Washington Office, shared that the Workforce Investment Act has been passed by the Senate and is expected to pass in the House. This bill includes libraries as viable partners in employment, education and training programs which will open up more dollars in funding. ALA has been working on this language to be included for many years – this may be a big boost for library funding for employment education and assistance. Network neutrality continue to be a concern and ALA is fighting on a high level to make library needs known.

Council I – June 29, 2014

John C. Sandstrom presented a report on the Presidential Task Force on Electronic Communications for the ALA Council (CD#10) regarding management of the electronic Council list, the posting of Council documents, and the future review of the guidelines. The Task Force reviewed the original communications guidelines (which were written in the 90's when listservs first became available) and made reasonable recommendations. The resolution passed after much discussion of when the guidelines should be reviewed again. I voted yes on this resolution – it is a small step in the right direction of becoming more virtual, saving paper, and making it easier for councilors to participate through Connect.

Sari Feldman - ALA President-Elect- offered a report from the Digital Content Working Group (CD#30), of which she is outgoing co-chair. Since the beginning of the DCWG, the Big Six publishers all sell to libraries now, albeit at prices that continue to be high. Key activities of the DCWG this past year included the June

2014 digital Supplement to *American Libraries*, "Digital Discoveries"; outreach at the Public Library Association National Conference, the State of Connecticut Ebooks workshop, the Paris Book Fair; and a review of library ebook issues published in the 2014 *Library and Book Trade Almanac*.

Council passed a Resolution in Support of Stable Funding for Air Force Libraries (CD#43). The two-part resolution calls on "the US Department of Defense and Air Force to restore funding to Air Force base and command libraries back to FY2011 levels for staffing, materials, services, and programs"; and "urges the administration, DoD and USAF to develop responsible information and budget management strategies for Air Force Base and Command Libraries that aligns them with directly with appropriated funds, rather than through base operations, where library funding is vulnerable to additional local cuts." One of the Councilors who works on an Air Force Base reiterated the need for libraries on base and explained the reasoning for the FY2011 level request - that was the last year that funding was at a sustainable level for the libraries. I voted yes on this Resolution.

ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels presented the Action Summary of the Executive Board actions from the 2014 Midwinter Meeting until the beginning of the 2014 Annual Conference and the Report on the Implementation of the 2014 ALA Midwinter Meeting Council Actions.

Council II – June 30, 2014

The Policy Monitoring Committee presented a report and a related resolution recommending that draft minutes from committees be posted to the ALA website within 30 days of the meeting. I voted yes. The resolution passed.

Barbara Stripling recognized outgoing Councilors and Executive Board members.

James Rettig presented a report and resolution from the Committee on Organization (COO) regarding a policy on committee chairs reporting committee work in a timely manner. Some committees do not report regularly and it is wondered whether they are still functional or essential. I voted yes. The resolution passed.

Julius Jefferson, President of the Freedom to Read Foundation, presented the FTRF report and urged all councilors and chapters to become members of FTRF. FYI – MLA just renewed and is a member in good standing.

District of Columbia Chapter Councilor Chris Corrigan presented a resolution granting the DC government budget autonomy to allow city services, including libraries, to remain open during a federal shutdown. I voted yes. The resolution passed.

Chapter Relations Committee II June 30, 2014

Ann Hamilton, the chair of the committee, introduced the 2014 Emerging Leaders Team F. They presented their project for the past year – Libraries Build Communities.

Marci Merola, from the ALA Office for Library Advocacy, mentioned again the Workforce Reinvestment Act news and that the advocacy by libraries over the year was very strong.

Doug Evans, OLC Executive Director presented an ICLAE (International Council of Library Association Executives) Report. He shared that some associations and libraries are working with risk management companies to get better prices on insurances.

Chapter Councilor Forum June 30, 2014

This forum is always interesting as it offers a chance for chapter councilors to share best practices and ask questions to better understand what is going on in other chapters. Topics for the forum, which come from the floor that day, included a report from Ann Hamilton, chair of the Chapter Relations Committee,

discussion on the incoming ALA President's initiative on career counselor training, literary landmarks, labeling issues, membership interest groups, and having ALA reps speak at your state conferences.

Council III July 1, 2014

President Stripling read the memorials and tributes that were presented at Council I.

Patty Wand gave the ALA Treasurer's Report as the actual Treasurer, Mario Gonzalez, was having knee surgery. Council passed an FY2015 Budgetary Ceiling of \$64,078,221.

John Sandstrom gave his report of the tellers for the election of members for the Committee on Committees (COC) and for the Planning and Budget Assembly (PBA). Karen Downing of Michigan was elected to the COC.

Douglas Archer, chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, presented 14 action items as revisions to the Intellectual Freedom Manual, which is set to be published later this year. After a motion to refer the section on labeling and rating systems failed—Council passed the package with an edit as a matter of housekeeping. The 10th bullet point adds two groups to make it more inclusive: people with gender identity issues or with sensory or cognitive disabilities. I voted no to refer the section on labeling as I felt enough discussion had transpired over the past two days in other committees and voted yes to pass the package with the edit as a matter of housekeeping.

Vivian Wynn presented the report from the Committee on Legislation and passed two action items on the Digitization of US Government Documents and Reaffirming Support for National Open Internet Policies and "Network Neutrality".

Martin Garnar, chair of the Committee on Professional Ethics presented a resolution on Interpretation of Copyright for the Code of Ethics. I voted yes – the resolution passed.

Luis Herrera, chair of the International Relations Committee, offered a resolution that directs ALA to become a signatory to the *Lyon Declaration on Access to Information and Development*. I voted yes – the resolution passed.

ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels reported that Annual Conference attendance was 13,019 registrants and 5,607 exhibitors, for a total of 18,626.