

**Public Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting ALA Midwinter Meeting
Anaheim, CA
June 27 & 30, 2008**

Draft ACTIONS

Present: Jan Sanders, President; Susan Hildreth, Past President; Carol Sheffer, President Elect;

Issues and Concerns Cluster: Carolyn Anthony (Chair), Ann Cousineau, Michael Golrick, Larry Neal, Neel Parikh; Marcia Warner;

Library Development Cluster: Alan Harkness (Chair), Irene Blalock, Sara Dallas,

Library Services Cluster: Marcellus Turner (Chair), Audra Caplan, Sari Feldman, Eva Poole, Cathy Elizabeth Sanford, Lillian Snyder;

PLA Councilor: Norman Maas;

PLA Staff: Greta Southard (Executive Director) Linda Bostrom, Kathleen Hughes, Julianna Kloeppel, Joseph Potazcek, Louisa Worthington;

Visitors: Nann Blaine Hilyard, PLA representative to ALTA; Emily Sheketoff, Washington Office; Mario Gonzalez, ALA Board Liaison.

Excused Absence: Josie Parker (Library Development), Kathleen Reif (Library Development), and Dale Ross (ALTA Representative);

Unexcused Absence: Danis Kreimeier (Library Development).

During the PLA 2008 Annual Conference Meeting in Anaheim, CA the PLA Board of Directors took the following actions:

Friday, June 27, 2008:

1. **By consent** approved the adoption of the agenda with the addition of reading the letter of commendation from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation thanking PLA and the PLA staff for the fine work on the grant project managed by PLA. Requested staff to add letter to the minutes.
Consent
2. Discussed the following issues related to the passage of the 2008 bylaws revision (2008.56) and made the following decisions by consent:
 - Fall board meeting will begin Friday morning, suspend Board meeting to participate in the ALA joint Executive Committees and Executive Board concurrent session Friday afternoon; reconvene Board meeting Saturday morning.
 - Determined that for the 2008-2009 service year, the Board will convene one meeting at the ALA Midwinter (MW) meeting. At the 2009 MW meeting MW the Board will meet Monday morning if possible (determined by ALA Council meeting) or Monday afternoon. All committee meeting will remain on Sunday morning.
 - Determined that the Board will convene one meeting at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference (AC) on Monday afternoon prior to the PLA President's program. All committee meeting will remain on Sunday morning.
 - Beginning with the 2009-2010 service year; PLA Board will then move to one meeting on Saturday afternoon with an all committee meeting Saturday morning, preferably at a time that does not conflict with ALA council meetings. This will be the pattern for MW and AC meetings. *Consent*

3. Reviewed the Board rotation/expiration list (2008.56A). This document outlines the transition plan to achieve the correct size of Board thru attrition. For the 2009 and 2010 election we will run presidential candidates only. The 2011 election will include presidential candidates and 2 directors at large for the following terms each:

- 1 year term 2011-2012
- 2 year term 2011-2013
- 3 year term 2011-2014

The 2011 slate will also include the office of ALA Division Councilor, 3 year term 2011-2014

Motion, as a result of the Bylaws change, service expectations have changed for 2008-1009, determined that staff should send letter to all board members advising them that the Board will now meet four times a year. New service requirements may pose a challenge for some members; there could be some attrition as a result.
Approved

4. Reviewed Revised Organizational Schemata (June 27, 2008) (2008.56B)

Motion to approve editorial edits adding the following phrase *including a chair* to any charge that did not include said language. *Approved*

5. Reviewed Policies referencing the PLA Executive Committee (2008.56C) **Motion** to approve the entire recommended slate of policy editorial changes. Removed references to Executive Committee and substituted Board of Directors or deleted reference if Board was previously referenced in the following PLA policies:

- Policy on the Use of PLA's Name
- Policy on Recognition of PLA Leaders
- Policy on Website Challenges
- Policy on Working Papers and Final Products of Committees
- Spring Symposium Policies and Practices
- Partnership and Collaboration with the Public Library Association

Approved

6. Received Communities of Practice update from staff (2008.57). Requested that the report be available at the all Committee meeting on Sunday, June 29. Board briefly discussed the notion of creating a subscription to PLA electronic products. One issue that the Budget and Finance Committee and staff have been thinking about is how to offer a connection to PLA for those who can not afford the price of combined ALA and PLA membership dues. Congratulated staff on fine work on the report and implementation plan to develop communities of practice. *No action*

Monday, June 30, 2008:

1. **By consent** approved the agenda. *Consent*
2. **By consent**, accepted the following reports: President's Report (2008.58); 2008 Midwinter Board Meeting Actions (2008.59); 2008 Spring Executive Committee Meeting Actions (2008.60), 2008 PLA Election Results (2008.61) Membership Report (2008.62); Partners Committee Report (2008.63); *Public Libraries* Magazine Report (2008.64); PLA Publications Report (2008.65); Educational Activities Update (2008.67); Every Child Ready to Read Evaluation Task Force Update (2008.79).
Approved consent agenda

3. Emily Sheketoff, Director ALA Washington Office (2008.68) provided an update on the activities of the office. *No action*
4. Mario Gonzalez, liaison from the ALA Executive Board discussed several items Including:
 - ALA is looking at implementing virtual committees, securing feedback on electronic membership on committees;
 - ALA president-elect Jim Rettig has a variety of projects, including: hosting conference salons; independent development of AC programs (not tied to a committee); possibility of reducing the number of days that the ALA AC spans beginning in 2010; virtual day on the hill; ALTA & FOLUSA are looking at merging; electronic task force looking at campaigning and endorsement of individuals and officers vs. units endorsing candidates---note---PLA Board expressed the view that membership monies should not be used to support campaigns or campaigning; \$67 million budget ceiling for FY09, ALA is cautiously optimistic about FY09 finances; ALA was \$1.5 million over budget in grants due in large part to the grant that PLA secured from the Gates Foundation. *No action*
5. Nan Blaine Halyard, PLA representative to the ALTA Board came to report on the potential ALTA (Association of Library Trustees & Advocates)/FOLUSA (Friends of the Libraries USA) merger. The ALTA Board approved the bylaws and will go to a membership vote this fall. *No action*
6. Received report from Emerging Leader Community of Practice Workgroup (2008.70) presented by J.Turner, R. Lubin, A DiPilato. The Board commended the fine work the group has done in articulating how communities of practice might be used and created by PLA. Noted that PLA will be moving forward in creating communities of practice. *No action*
7. Reviewed the ALA Council agenda with PLA Councilor, Norm Maas. Discussion included that the American Association of Publisher is shopping the notion (to ALA units) of the creation of a national book award. Board pointed out that the Notable Book awards already exist and the number of awards currently in the field is most likely sufficient. Declined to review the proposed changes to the ALA Intellectual Freedom Manual (2008.73, 2008.73A, 2008.73B, 2008.73C, 2008.73D, 2008.73E, 2008.73F), recommended that we follow the lead of the Intellectual Freedom Committee. *No action*
8. Discussion of Library Support Staff Service Competencies Report, C. Anthony and N. Bolt (2008.72A). **Motion** to endorse the library support staff service competencies in concept. *Approved*
9. Received report from the Leadership Task Force, Herrera, (2008.69). In addition to the items in the report (successful preconference held at PLA's 2008 National Conference, PLA Leadership Fellows program will be announced at upcoming President's Program), the TF is considering developing a preconference proposal for AC09 and considering the development of a model for executive coaching. *No action*
10. Received report from the Gates Foundation Grant Project, Turning the Page (2008.74). *No action*

11. Received the Preliminary National Conference Final Report (2008.75). *No action*

12 Report from Budget and Finance committee chair, C. Bohrer. Reviewed the following documents:

- FY07-07 Year End Financial Analysis & Management Rpt (2008.76)
- FY07-08 Year-to-Date by Project Rpt (2008.77)

Discussion included the following points; began the fiscal year with very low fund balance, in the future, Budget & Finance (B&F) Committee recommends that we maintain a higher fund balance, B& F Cmt. brain stormed new revenue streams, one notion discussed is the idea of creating a subscription to PLA electronic products for non-members as a means to encourage participation in PLA without the financial hardship of joining two associations (ALA & PLA), looking at services that we might sell, etc. B&F Cmt. recommends reducing the size of the FY2008 endowment contribution and that PLA create a task force to determine how to increase donations to the PLA endowment. Discussed Spectrum Scholarship program, concern expressed by the Board that Spectrum Scholars are being steered to academic libraries.

Motion to reduce the existing \$250,000 transfer to the endowment, in the FY08 budget, from \$250,000 to \$175,000; and to review at the AC2009 the feasibility of making an unbudgeted \$49,000 transfer to the endowment in August of 2009.
Approved

Motion to approve the 2009 budget (2008.78). *Approved*

Motion to create a task force that will be charged with the task of developing a plan to increase donations to the PLA endowment. *Approved*

13. Received report from the 2009 Conference Program Coordinating Committee (2008.81) *No action*

14. **Motion** to endorse Resolution on E-government Reauthorization Act of 2007 (2008.82 onsite) in principle. *Approved*

15. Recognized the service of our out going board members, many thanks for their vision and stewardship:

Carolyn Anthony	Kathleen Rief	Susan Hildreth, Past President
Ann Cousineau	Marcellus Turner	Dale Ross, ALTA Representative
Alan Harkness		Norman Mass, Division Councilor

Welcome to the incoming President, Carol Sheffer.

16. Meeting Adjourned.