

AWSL Fall Business Meeting
WLA Conference
Lake Geneva Resort & Spa
November 3, 2004

Meeting called to order by Chair Arden Rice at 12:15 p.m.

Present: Arden Rice, Chair; Connie Von Der Heide, Conference Planning and Bylaws; Kay Ihlenfeldt, Nominations; Barbara Arnold, Careers; Sylvia Brown, Past-President; Mary Janeck, Vice Chair/Chair Elect; Mary Struckmeyer; Loretta Harmatuck, Vice Chair/Chair Elect; Mary Kotschi, and Karen Nowak, Secretary.

- I. Vice Chair/Chair Elect report: Loretta Harmatuck reported on officer elections for 2005. Both Harmatuck and Mary Struckmeyer served on the committee. Vice Chair/Chair Elect is Mary Janeck & WLA Board Rep. is Mary Kotschi. Welcome to the newly elected AWSL Board members.
- II. Barbara Arnold made the motion to accept the AWSL bylaw changes seconded by Sylvia Brown. Motion carried.
- III. Arden Rice indicated that the position of newsletter editor is vacant. Nominations or volunteers are welcome to fill this position.
- IV. Another issue raised was the format of the newsletter. The board decided to keep it as an electronic publication with only highlights provided on the AWSL website.

Arden Rice spoke on the campaign of promoting special libraries in trade publications. Karen Nowak is assisting with the project. Nowak has collected some contact information and will continue to search for potential contacts. Arden Rice presented a sample letter that might be mailed to contacts. Rice suggested members interested in participating could be part of a committee with the objective of promoting special libraries/librarians. Another suggestion brought up was to generate a list of potential authors/topics.

- V. Chair's report: Arden Rice served as a representative to the WLA Board. Arden found through her experience on the WLA Board she was able to learn a lot about the history of WLA and how it operates. Particularly, Arden recognizes how much Lisa Strand does for the units, sections, and roundtables of the Wisconsin Library Association. Rice was quite impressed by the number of active and long-standing volunteer members in WLA. Arden Rice recommends that whoever can serve on the WLA Board or on a WLA standing committee should do so to find appreciation of the far reach of the WLA organization. This was an interesting time to serve with the WASL division disbanding and then establishment of a dual membership agreement with WEMA. Arden is not sure a similar agreement could be reached between AWSL and the various organizations of special librarians in Wisconsin. Over the past year, Rice created a handout promoting state agency libraries on the square for Library Legislative Day and updated AWSL's executive handbook.
- VI. Vice Chair's report: Loretta Harmatuck proposed AWSL's 2005 program based budget request and submitted it by the deadline of October 25, 2004. The budget request was for the amount of \$590. There is a \$50 difference between the '04 and '05 budgets. The 2005 budget includes an additional \$50 amount to allow the project of mailings to 100 businesses in 2005, to accommodate the goal of soliciting state and local publications to promote special libraries in Wisconsin.
- VII. WLA Committee on Organization (COO) report: Connie Von Der Heide announced the intention of COO to eliminate several standing committees. Several of them duplicate efforts already handled within Sections or Roundtables. The purpose will serve to consolidate structures to enhance communication and make it easier in finding leadership. Revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws were submitted to the WLA Board and it was approved to revise documents. COO also recommended the separate structures of the Constitution and Bylaws be merged into one document, called Bylaws. With membership approval, WLA members will receive a ballot in December 2004. Upon passing (2/3 majority of all ballot votes), revisions will take place as soon as possible in 2005.

VIII. Membership update: Arden Rice reported for Ulrike Dieterle that AWSL's membership over the past twelve months has remained steady, with one additional member joining since October 2003.

IX. Library Careers/Issues discussion group: Barbara Arnold-The WLA Library Careers Committee met in early fall to award the following scholarships: Diversity, Gloria Hoegh for Rural Librarianship and George Bauer Continuing Education. There were not too many applications, but worthy winners. In early October, the committee met again to award the Library Education and Sally Davis scholarships. There was a great group of applications for review for award to those well-deserved applicants. WLA did not receive any applications for the Vida Stanton scholarship. Therefore, the application deadline has been extended. A committee focus will be on encouraging U.W.-Milwaukee faculty and students to apply. The committee will meet again in December 2004.

Library Issues Discussion Group met on September 29, 2004 at the WLA office. Rick Grobschmidt reported that the state superintendent Libby Burmeister was successful in separating the state wide contracts from DTCL's budget. Thus, the contracts will not be part of the ten percent budget cuts that DPI is experiencing. Investment and public lands board would like to be able to invest in the state retirement system. Badgerlink is exploring adding an encyclopedia to its offerings. Kate Bugher is the new school library consultant. Notation was made that this position should be funded with state general purposes revenues funds, not federal grant funds, as is the case at this time. John Debacher, former Monona Public Library Director, is the new public library consultant.

Barbara Arnold is serving on the Governor's Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND). AWSL members with policy concerns should contact Arnold.

The WLA Foundation is investigating developing a statewide library advocacy program. WLA members will need to build the foundation resources to fund the effort. Ideas are welcome.

X. Nominations Committee: Kay Ihenfeldt extended thanks to those who ran as candidates in the WLA officer election.

XI. LD & L Committee: Arden Rice announced Library Legislation Day is February 8, 2005. GIRT is sponsoring an attendee who would like to speak to legislators regarding library issues.

XII. Conference Planning Liaison for 2005-Barbara Arnold volunteered for the position.

XIII. Old Business: Emily Wixon has become webmaster for AWSL after serving as past chair in 2003.

XIV. New Business: None other than what was previously discussed.

XV. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Nowak
Association of Special Librarians (AWSL) Secretary