

AWSL Minutes: Fall Business Meeting 2005
WLA Conference
La Crosse Radisson Hotel
October 26th, 2005

Meeting called to order by Chair Loretta Harmatuck at 12:20pm.

Present: Loretta Harmatuck (Chair), Connie Von Der Heide, Arden Rice, Mary Struckmeyer, Kay Ihlenfeldt, Barbara Arnold, Mary Kotschi, Julie Schneider, Jaime Martindale, Lisa Strand, Ulrike Dieterle.

- I. **Introductions of members present.**
 - a. Current secretary (Karen Nowak) is not in attendance, therefore Jaime Martindale (secretary for 2006) takes minutes during the meeting. All meeting attendees introduce themselves.
 - b. Additions or changes to the agenda - there are none.

- II. **Approval of the 2004 annual meeting minutes** by Loretta Harmatuck.
 - a. Motion seconded by Connie Van Der Heide. Motion carried.

- III. **Report of the Chair -Loretta Harmatuck**
 - a. Mary Kotschi and Loretta Harmatuck formed the nominations committee.
 - b. Announcement of 2006 AWSL officers. There was an AWSL teleconference held to discuss elections and who should be Chair due to Mary Janeck's resignation. AWSL asked Loretta Harmatuck to be Chair for 2006.
 - c. New publicity chair is Amy Gannaway.

- IV. **Discussion and vote on WLA By-laws.**
 - a. Changes to the WLA by-laws. Copies of the changes to the by-laws were distributed. Motion made to approve changes to by-laws by Barbara Arnold. Motion seconded and carried.

- V. **Report of WLA Board Representative - Mary Kotschi**
 - a. Mary has been active in writing articles for AWSL newsletter.
 - b. Mary announces the Campaign for Wisconsin Libraries program taking place at 4:00pm on Wednesday October 26th at the WLA conference and encourages all to attend this event. Lisa Stand, Barbara Arnold, and Julie Schneider comment further on the Campaign program and talk about why we should all attend. Connie Van Der Heide mentions a brainstorming session related to the Campaign for WI Libraries program which was attended by many AWSL members. Lisa Strand expands further on this, explaining how it applied to all libraries. She urges all AWSL members to attend as well.
 - c. WLA 2006 will be held in the WI Dells at the Kalahari Resort.
 - d. Survey sent out online by WLA identified about 70 active AWSL members.
 - e. Lisa Strand mentions that the WLA Board of Directors is currently in discussion regarding the "unit viability" (ex: AWSL).

- VI. Reports of AWSL Newsletter Editors and AWSL Committee Chairs**
- a. Newsletter editors - Ulrike Dieterle and Bob Shaw:** Ulrike Dieterle provides update. Ulrike thanks everyone for their contributions to the newsletter and encourages all to submit articles. There is a need for information in the “Special Librarian” section of the newsletter, where a librarian and special library are showcased. Any special librarians interested in this section can send an email to Bob Shaw or Ulrike Dieterle and they will send a template that can be filled out. Ulrike encourages comments or suggestions from AWSL members on how the newsletter can be improved.
- b. Conference Planning - Barbara Arnold:** Barbara announces a talk on Thursday October 26th at the WLA conference about the knowledge-based economy in WI and salaries for WI library workers, and encourages everyone to attend. She also recommends attending the sessions on health and legal information on Friday October 27th (WLA Conference). Barbara announces that she will be unable to be conference planning chair next year due to prior commitments at the UW Madison SLIS. Loretta Harmatuck adds that she will be seeking a volunteer for this post.
- c. Committee on Organizations (COO) Report - Connie Van Der Heide:** Connie was not able to attend the COO meeting in April. “Unit viability” is a current issue being discussed. By mid-year next year, all new committee structures and unit bylaws will be added to the WLA handbook.
- d. Library Development and Legislation (LD&L) Committee - Julie Schneider:** State Legislative Day is Jan. 31st, 2006 (earlier than years past). Julie encourages all to sign up. There is interest in putting together a “directory” of WI Special Libraries that includes information on activities or services offered that might aid WI Legislators. Barbara suggests putting a handout together with help from information obtained from the WI Chapter of SLA. Each library will be listed with a few bullet points highlighting important facts about the library’s collections, services, or activities. Everyone discusses the creation of this handout and the group concludes that the idea is to create more than just a “directory”. Julie mentions the “common school fund” money that is being collected and distributed. The “reform bill” and the “language bill” are still in committee. Check out the WLA website for more information on these. Tom Hennen is stepping down as chair of the Library Development and Legislation committee and Jessica MacPhail will succeed him as committee chair.
- e. Membership - Ulrike Dieterle:** Historical membership data: In 2001 there were 65 AWSL members, in 2002 there were 66 members, in 2003 there were 66 members, in 2004 there were 67 members, and in 2005 there are 73 members! Ulrike encourages everyone to spread the word to get new AWSL members.
- f. WLA Foundation Scholarships Committee - Barbara Arnold:** Salim Muhammad receives a SLIS scholarship. The Sally Davis scholarship goes to Daniel Plummer, and the Stanton Scholarship goes to Linda Jerome (La Crosse Public Library).
- g. Webmaster - Emily Wixon:** Emily was unable to attend the meeting.
- VII. Campaign to promote special libraries in trade magazine(s): Arden Rice and Karen Nowak.**
- a. Arden Rice:** Composed a draft letter to send to trade publications (see minutes from 2004, section IV). Amy Gannaway has shown interest in taking over this project from Arden (who does not have the time to devote to it). Lisa Strand suggests

that this might be tied in with WLA's Foundation campaign ads. She recommended proofing this with PSA's. Loretta announces that anyone who has an interest in this project should contact Amy. Barbara Arnold volunteers to be a resource/reference for Amy for this project. Lisa Strand will talk to Jeff Berry (PR person for WLA Foundation) about these ideas.

VIII. Conference Planning 2006 – Julie Schneider

a. WHSLA is piggy-backing onto WLA conference next year. They need support from AWSL. Julie will do AWSL planning for WLA conference next year. Loretta asks for volunteers to help Julie – Mary Kotschi volunteers, as do others.

b. Lisa Strand mentions if AWSL co-sponsors WAPL, AWSL will receive part of that revenue. WAPL meets in May in Wisconsin Rapids. Ulrike will help with planning WAPL program sessions. Connie offers planning advice and some example topics to Julie for WLA conference next year. Connie will send these directly to Julie.

c. Special Libraries (ideas) in the Dells area (WLA conference site, 2006):

- HH Bennet Studio
- Crane Foundation
- Circus World Museum Archives
- Parfeys Glen
- Aldo Leopold Shack

IX. Old Business – NONE

X. New Business

a. AWSL sponsored spring event. (AWSL version of a unit conference?) GIRT may be interested in a co-sponsorship. Arden will bring this up at the next GIRT business meeting. Government Information Day 2006 – focus on local resources like legal, GIS, cemetery records, etc. Other topics are discussed. Amy Gannaway has expressed interest in brown-bag lunch meetings. Arden recommends that Amy look into further collaborations with the WI Chapter of SLA.

b. The WI Chapter of SLA is working with LLAW on a Cyber Security video teleconference, it will be advertised and members from AWSL can participate if they want. This will be in Feb. 2006. Diane Gurtner (at CUNA) is chair.

XI. Adjournment at 1:35pm

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Jaime Martindale
Map and GIS Librarian, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Association of Special Librarians (AWSL) Secretary