

AWSL Minutes Spring Business Meeting 2011  
UW Madison, Lakefront on Langdon  
March 16, 2011 - 4:30 p.m.

**1. Introductions:** Attendees: Carrie Doyle, Molly Hamm, Anne Moser, Amy O'Shea, Bob Shaw

**2. Approval of 2010 Fall Annual meeting minutes** – Approval postponed until the fall business meeting

**3. Changes to the Agenda/Announcements** – Anne would like to add a discussion about potential officers for next year.

**4. Officer Reports**

a) Chair – Carrie Doyle

Carrie discussed her experience at the WLA leadership meeting where she and Molly had to come up with a strategic plan for AWSL. The three main points they had to develop a plan for included: membership, communication and professional development. The plans that Molly and Carrie developed included:

- Building membership of AWSL - Carrie has spent sometime identifying WLA members who could join AWSL (she found 5) and would like to do the same with SLA members, encouraging them to join WLA and AWSL.
- Design and distribute an AWSL brochure – Carrie is going to work on this, others volunteered to help as well.
- Continue to publish the AWSL newsletter
- Provide social opportunities as a means for members to share professional experiences and network with other special librarians.

Anne brought up that SLA is a great recruiting pool and the president, Kyle Naff would be open to having AWSL members speak at a SLA meeting to promote AWSL. Students are also potential members for AWLS to reach out to.

Carrie would like to continue Anne's platform of hosting social engagements. Anne reflected on the recent lunch of special librarians in the Madison area, at the Great Dane- Hilldale. It was a successful gathering in a central location and those who participated would like to meet regularly. There was a brief discussion about opening up the lunch invitation list to all of AWSL. The next lunch will be held Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup>, also at the Great Dane- Hilldale.

b) Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect – Molly Hamm

Molly is in charge of planning for the WLA fall conference. Molly reported that WLA conference planning is a bit behind this year and that April 1, 2011 is the deadline for program proposals. To date Molly has submitted a proposal for a tour at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Molly got in touch with the MAM librarian who was very receptive to the idea of giving a tour. Because of the small size of the library the tour would be limited to 12 people at a time. The MAM librarian said she and a colleague could accommodate two groups of

twelve. We would like to see if 48 people could go, or four groups of twelve as there is sure to be that many librarians interested. We were also wondering if there is any cost involved. Molly will follow up with our questions and get back to the group.

The other proposal Molly submitted is for a program with the director or one of her staff at the Marquette Law Library. The MLL has no actual physical space and is considered a library without borders. Someone from the library can talk about the challenges, issues and fun of the library's planning, design and actual function. Everyone agrees that this sounds like a great topic.

So far both programs are planned for Thursday of WLA.

Carrie will send out an email to AWSL members with a call for program proposals before April 1, 2011.

Bob brings up the famous Milwaukee historian John Gurda who might be a possibility for another program.

Anne suggested Harley Davidson as another option for a program, either a tour or a presentation. Molly will follow up.

c) Past-Chair – Anne Moser

Anne reports that nominations for future committee members are the past chairs responsibility, but it would be helpful if we have any suggestions. It is suggested that all of us look at AWSL membership on memberclicks to get some ideas of who could serve. Molly suggested Cynthia Bachhuber as a possibility. Currently the chair-elect position is really the only position needed, but there are other AWSL volunteer opportunities for anyone that maybe interested.

d) WLA Board Representative – Anne Moser

Anne is enjoying being the WLA Board rep, especially now with the budget issues that are coming up. Anne went to the February board meeting. There were about 25 people at the meeting. Rhonda Puntney, WLA President reported on ALA training which sounded very dynamic. The WLA annual conference budget was discussed; there will be a minor increase on conference registration because it costs more to host the conference in Milwaukee. There was a presentation by the manager of the WLA investment portfolio. Even though WLA recently took a 60% hit, investments are back on track and on the whole the association is in good financial footing now. The board discussed the 2011-2013 strategic plan and voted on it. Anne would like us to write down any questions we may have and she will bring them to the board.

As part of the new strategic plan, Anne was appointed to the ad hoc committee on professional development. As part of this duty, Anne will be involved in continuing to developing a relationship with SLIS.

Two groups that had no leadership were dissolved: the Social Responsibility Roundtable and the Library Research Roundtable. The responsibilities of these roundtables will go elsewhere.

WLA is redoing its website, using an open source content management system.

Julie Schneider, WLA rep to ALA, talked about ALA's response to the potential reauthorization of the Patriot Act, specifically to portions relating to libraries. WLA, as part of ALA, will be sending letters of support to Tammy Baldwin, a strong advocate for libraries.

The WLA Board unanimously voted on a statement crafted by WLA leadership that expressed WLA's concern about Walker's cuts to library budgets, contained in his 2011-2013 proposed budget. There is a special meeting of the WLA Board on March 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss WLA's ongoing response to legislative activities. Included on the agenda was discussion about Library Legislation Day is on Marcy 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011. It was noted that even if you are not attending the day officially, you are encouraged to go to the Monona Terrace and march with the group to the capitol.

The Library Alliance of Wisconsin, a loose coalition of representatives of a wide range of library advocates (that includes WLA), met on March 7, 2011 from 1-4 p.m. Invited speakers include library advocates as well as lobbyist for various library associations. There was a general overview of what the budget repair bill and the 2011-13 budget contains for all libraries. Anne has the minutes of the meeting if anyone is interested in reading them.

## **5. Committee Reports**

a) Committee on Organizations – Vacant.

b) Library Development & Legislative Committee – Julie Schneider is our representative.

c) Newsletter – Bob Shaw

The newsletter deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup> and it will be out about a month after the deadline. The articles in it will include: a president's report, an article on growing AWSL membership, a piece on WLA, a profile of a special librarian who is retired and a profile of a student interested in special libraries, kind of a past and future piece. It was suggested that Mary Kotschi the recently retired librarian from Winnebago Mental Health Institute be profiled. Bob will send out a call for any other articles. Anne said she will write up a piece about AWSL's social events of the last year, possibly with some photos. The scholarship will be announced in the newsletter. Bob will continue creating the newsletter next year with help from Shelia, which we all appreciate!

d) WLA Foundation Scholarship Committee – Barbara Arnold (?) – Absent

e) Webmaster – Anne Moser – Nothing to report

## **6. 2011 Activities**

a) Scholarship to 2011 WLA Annual Conference

The scholarship will be in the newsletter. We would like to have a student receive it. Carrie will check on the amount (\$140). It would be good to publicize the scholarship through WLA's memberclicks as well as the SLIS and SOIS listserves. Anne will make an announcement to the SLA student chapter. The students have to write an essay on why they want to be a special librarian as part of the application process. There is no criteria per se when deciding who gets the scholarships, we will just read the applications and decide. There

was some discussion on pushing back the submission timeline so that first year students could be involved.

b) Meeting with students from SLIS Special Libraries class – It was agreed that we would like to meet with the SLIS special library class again, if it is being offered this summer.

c) Social activities at the WLA Annual Conference – Everyone agreed that we should try and do something but actually setting a time was put off until a later date. Carrie will see if SOIS is doing a special library class and that may affect our plans and how formal our meeting at WLA is. There will be more discussion on this in the future.

d) Anything else?

It was agreed that there was really nothing else to discuss at this point.

Carrie motioned to adjourn and Anne seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30

Submitted by Secretary Amy O'Shea

March 23, 2011