

Minutes - Public Library Section-NCLA

January 21, 2021 - 10:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Present: Sandra Lovely, Marian Lytle, Laura Highfill, Jeffrey Hamilton, Decca Slaughter, Morgan Paty, Joan Sherif

Sandra Lovely, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

A motion was made by Marian and seconded by Morgan to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Executive Board Minutes

Sandra forwarded the minutes, information for the last NCLA Council, PLS membership, and other attachments to Board members. She said that Robin Howard will be retiring. She said that PLS is financially sound. She wants to be transparent with all information.

Director's Report

None at this time.

Committee Reports

Marian said that it was important to recruit paraprofessionals to PLS and training. Martha Sink has retired and a new webmaster is needed. Sandra said that Rachel Webb volunteered to be the new webmaster. A new Marketing Chair will be needed. There was a discussion to combine Marketing and Programming committees especially in working toward greater PLS visibility. Sandra said that she would like to see PLS programs at least quarterly along with a newsletter to extend beyond Fabulous Fridays. She suggested Tyler Wilmoth as a possible chair for the committee. Joan will contact Tyler to discuss. Several committee members were mentioned including Anna Ward (Wake County) and Serena Scarrita (Mooresville). REMCO was mentioned as an active and visible NCLA section.

NCLA Biennial Conference

Plans are underway for the Biennial Conference. It has not been decided whether it will be virtual or hybrid. Decca is heading the Local Arrangements, and there was a discussion about the advantages of a virtual conference including safety, tight budgets, attendance, and cost. Decca said that she favors a virtual conference, and everyone agreed. February 15 is the deadline to submit programs. PLS will submit programs based on Fabulous Friday including NC Cares. Marian said that she will contact NCPLDA about recommending that NCLA be a virtual conference. Sandra will have more information in February after the NCLA Council meets.

State Library Update

Jeffrey said that the former Secretary of Natural and Cultural Resources resigned and has been replaced by Reid Wilson who was the Deputy Secretary. Secretary Wilson met with State Library staff and stressed the importance of libraries as one of the most trusted institutions.

Jeffrey said that Tanya Prokrym, head of Library Development at the State Library, announced her retirement at the end of February. The position will be posted in the spring.

LSTA grants are open and will close March 1. Announcements of awards will be announced in late June and will begin July 1.

Public Library Standards are being revised and will be available in the summer. Marian Lytle is participating in the planning with a consultant. Marian said that the group is looking at standards from several other states. The group is in favor of using a checklist/benchmark format to mix metrics and outcomes.

As there was not further business, the meeting was adjourned. Sandra will be in touch, and she reminded everyone to be safe and well.

Respectfully submitted
Joan Sherif
Secretary