

Minutes

Citizens for Maryland Libraries Board Meeting

Saturday, December 15, 2018

Calvert Library Fairview Branch

Call to Order: President Kristen Pironis called the meeting to order at 10:00.

In Attendance: Sarah Avant, Frances Carty, Margaret Carty, Jim DeArme, Jim Fish, Pat Hofmann, Sandy Lombardo, Kristen Pironis, Stuart Ragland, Jane Terebey, Joe Thompson, Lynn Wheeler, Zeke White, and joining by phone: Al Martin, Tamar Sarnoff, Karl Schwaim, Arthuree Wright.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 2, 2018 meeting were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. Jane Terebey noted the word “upcoming” should be removed from the MLA/DLA conference portion. The minutes distributed at the meeting contained the correction. Sandra Lombardo noted the year should be corrected and her title should be corrected. **Ms. Terebey moved that the minutes be accepted with the noted changes. Jim Fish seconded the motion. All in favor.**

President’s Report: Ms. Pironis expressed thanks to Martha Grahame (not present) who is leaving the Board in 2019, following completion of 2 three-year terms, including two years as president. Ms. Pironis thanked the 2018 Board members and welcomed the 2019 Board members.

Treasurer’s Report: Stuart Ragland reviewed the Treasurer’s report showing the organization is in a strong financial position heading into 2019.

Executive Director’s Report: Sarah Avant distributed Conflict of Interest Policy and Disclosure forms and asked that signed documents be returned to her. Electronically signed documents will be accepted.

Dates for upcoming meetings were reviewed. The next scheduled Board meeting is on **February 5, 2019**, during Maryland Library Legislative Day. The Board agreed to start the meeting at **2:30 pm**. Joe Thompson offered to book the board room through Anne Arundel County Law Library staff.

Joe booked the meeting room at the **Walkersville Branch, Frederick County, for the April 6, 2019** Board meeting, which will start at **10:00 am**.

We will try to book at room at the White Marsh Branch, BCPL for the **June 15, 2019 Board meeting**.

We will try to book the meeting room at the Kent Island Branch, Queen Anne’s County for the September 14, 2019 Board meeting.

Date and location will be sought for CML Annual Meeting/Trustees Conference in October or November.

Pat Hofmann would like to hold that **December 7, 2019** Board meeting at either a Calvert Library Branch or an Anne Arundel County Public Library Branch.

November 3, 2018 Conference Feedback:

Fifty-seven people attended the CML Annual Meeting/Trustees Conference on November 3, at the New Carrollton Branch, PGCML. Conference content received positive feedback, especially for the session featuring Miguel Figueroa, director, ALA Center for the Future of Libraries, and for the tour of newly renovated branch. Frigid room temperature was the biggest complaint. Kristen thanked Tamar Sarnoff and Sarah Avant for organizing the conference.

Sarah distributed the draft minutes of the 11.2.18 annual meeting. Kristen asked the Board to review the minutes now, in case changes are needed. The minutes will be presented for approval at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Joe Thompson thanked the Maryland State Library for covering the cost of the Conference. MSL Board President and CML Board member, Al Martin, said that MSL values its partnership with CML.

MLA Legislative Panel Review:

Kristen reported that Federal Legislative Coordinator, Natalie Edington asked members to call MD Senators to ask that they oppose SB 1010, which would move the Copyright Office out of the Library of Congress.

Joe Thompson noted that the bill to fund the Museum and Library Services Act is stalled in the House.

Joe reported that the Legislative Panel is in a “wait and see” mode, as many newly elected members will be coming into the General Assembly.

MLA Library Advocacy Interest Group (LAI):

LAI chair, Zeke White brought greetings and reported that LAI is offering a brown bag learning series. Recently, Harford County CEO, Mary Hastler spoke about elevator speeches and MLA Legislative Panel Chair and Director of Calvert Library, Carrie Willson talked about advocacy at all levels. Both events received positive feedback. Brown bag sessions are bringing in 20 to 30 people. LAI is now planning a Brown Bag session with Natalie Edington on tips to prepare for an effective Maryland Library Legislative Day. Margaret Carty and Joe Thompson offered to help. Zeke referred Board members to the OCLC report, *From Awareness to Funding* report, which indicates that people no longer understand or support library funding as they have in the past. They see the public library more as a community hub. LAI members met with Customer Support Interest Group members to discuss how they could partner. LAI is helping to coordinate two programs for the MLA Conference in May.

Joe Thompson, as President of MLA, thanked LAI for their work. Kristen also shared her thanks from CML.

New Business

Proposed Budget 2019:

Stuart Ragland presented the Proposed 2019 Budget.

Margaret Carty announced that the price for MLLI will be \$1,000 per year. Pat Hofmann proposed that we give two Nettie B. Taylor Scholarships in 2019. The Board approved increasing the Nettie B. Taylor MLLI Scholarship amount from \$1250 to 2,000.

The proposed **FY 2019 Budget** with the increase to the Nettie B. Taylor Scholarship Fund **was approved by all on motion by Jim DeArmey and second by Al Martin.**

Incoming President's Report:

Incoming President, **Pat Hofmann** thanked Kristen Pironis for her leadership!

2019 Committees: Pat Hofmann distributed a CML Committee sign up sheet and led a discussion on committee needs for 2019. She asked members to sign up for committees which she will use to put together a committee roster. Pat would like everyone to get involved.

Strategic Planning Committee: Kristen Pironis agreed to chair the Strategic Planning Committee, which will get underway in 2019. Pat thanked Kristen for her willingness to head up the Strategic Planning Committee. The current plan was developed in 2016 and needs to be updated. Pat asked that the Strategic Planning Committee develop proactive advocacy initiatives in light of CML's solid financial position.

Although the **Bylaws** were recently updated, Pat asked Board members to review the bylaws in case the document needs tweaking, or new members have questions.

There was a discussion about **Communication and Membership** Committees. The membership brochure needs to be revised. Jim DeArmey offered to help update the membership database. Board members agreed that we should add "building membership" under the Communications Committee and bring in more people to participate.

Jim Fish, Pat Hofmann, former CML Board member Bill Wilson, and Lynn Wheeler will serve on the **History of CML Committee** that Lynn will convene.

Pat recommended that CML develop an **IT Support Committee**. Stuart recommended we develop a meeting support equipment checklist. Margaret noted that MLA is having a program on tech support that could be helpful to CML tech committee.

AL Martin agreed to serve on the Audit Committee, Finance Committee and Technology Committee.

2019 MLA/DLA Conference Program Committee–

The Board brainstormed additional ideas for MLA and Annual Conferences. One idea put forward was a pre-conference titled, *What If Library Friends and Foundation Members are Confident Marketers* –featuring Vickie Falcone, Robin Truslow, Laura Allison, and the owner of

Keep it Simple Computer Training in Calvert County. After the pre-conference, attendees could go to the Harriett Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park and/or take the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge driving tour.

Joe Thompson reported that there will be not be a **National Library Legislative Day in 2019**. Instead, legislative activities will be tied in to the ALA Annual Conference that will be held in Washington, DC in June.

Closed session: At 11:45 am, on motion by Lynn Wheeler and second from Pat Hofmann, the Board approved going into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

The Board moved to reopen the meeting at 12:38 pm, on motion by Sandy Lombardo and second by Jim Fish.

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 pm, on motion from Stuart Ragland and second by Jim Fish.