

NMRT Executive Board Meeting
ALA Annual Conference
Washington, D.C.
Renaissance Mayflower Hotel, East Room
June 25, 2007
8:00am-10:00am

Present: Nancy Gibson, guest; Sally Bickley, Networking Director; Kara Whatley, Secretary; Catherine Collins, Treasurer; Amy Ferguson, Assistant Treasurer; Nanette Donohue, Vice-President/President-Elect; Amanda Roberts, President; Courtney Young, Councilor; Katie Dunneback, Member Services Director; Marilyn Hinshaw, BARC Liaison; Patrick Griffs, Internships Task Force Presenter; Laurel Bliss, incoming Vice-President; Akeisha Heard, incoming Secretary; Holly Wilson, incoming *Footnotes* Assistant Editor; Maureen Barry, Scholarship, Research, and Writing Co-Chair; Karen Davidson, Scholarship, Research, and Writing Co-Chair; Michelle Millet, Leadership Director; Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen, incoming Member Services Director.

Meeting Chair: Amanda Roberts, NMRT President

Recorder: Kara Whatley, NMRT Secretary

Parliamentarian: Alice Daugherty

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Amanda Roberts called the meeting to order at 8:08am, and introductions were made. Eight voting members were present.

Marilyn Hinshaw is the ALA Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC) liaison to NMRT, and she attended the board meeting to review information relevant to NMRT. ALA is concerned about the kinds of things that professional organizations and professional conferences do—i.e. how do we do conferences that people find relevant and actually want to go to. ALA is trying to change and offer a broader spectrum of professional development and educational opportunities. (Conferences and dues are the two major revenue sources for ALA and thus the concern.) ALA has established a development office to seek grant funding and asking long-time members to remember the organization in their wills. ALA is also working to develop a magazine for the general public focusing on reading and other related topics. This is one of the projects that ALA is seeking grant funding for. ALA is also working to develop a local advocacy program that would help libraries with their local issues. This program will be called Advocacy Now.

II. Minutes of Spring E-Board Meeting

The minutes of the Spring E-Board Meeting Minutes were approved. The minutes of the Midwinter Board Meeting will be discussed at the next board meeting.

III. Old Business

A. Appointment Openings

The 3M Ad-Hoc Committee needs members, and Amanda Roberts asked for volunteers. Catherine Collins agreed to chair the committee, and Michelle Millet and Kara Whatley agreed to serve as members.

We have no candidates for the three-year position of Fundraising Coordinator position, so we should be thinking about potential candidates. We may contact committee chairs to see if we can find someone with fundraising experience. Another idea was to send out a call for candidates and review resumes using a criteria checklist to evaluate the candidates.

B. NMRT Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008

The draft budget for the upcoming fiscal year was discussed. Catherine Collins outlined some important issues surrounding a few budget items. In the item labeled ALA # 5523 Proj# 6304, Postage /Email Alerts, ALA is not currently charging us for our email alerts. However, we should keep this item in the budget because ALA is not sure if they are going to continue this courtesy. Under the category One-Time Expenses, there are two items with zero balances—President's Program expenses and NMRT Booth purchase. We may or may not make use of these lines, but listing them will give us the opportunity to use them if we need them. Finally, concerns have been voiced about the high free balance we are carrying, and it was explained that we are carrying a higher free balance because of our anticipated booth purchase.

This motion was tabled to discuss the brochure proposal, and the discussion was resumed after the brochure proposal was approved. The budget was approved 7-0.

C. NMRT Budget—Request for increase in brochure funds proposal

The motion was made to increase the funds available for the NMRT Membership Promotion, Diversity and Recruitment Committee to print NMRT brochures. We have previously allocated \$200 to cover this expensive. However, our previous brochure printing was cheaper because we piggybacked on another print job. \$500 is a more realistic figure for brochure printing, and ALA suggests a \$550 figure in case any printing changes are needed. We may not need new brochures every year, but we should keep this as a line item each year. The idea of redesigning the brochure so that it looks more like our other publications was also discussed.

The motion to amend the budget to increase the brochure budget to \$550 passed 7-0.

IV. New Business

A. Emerging Leaders Proposal

The motion was made that NMRT nominate one of its members for the 2008 Emerging Leaders Program. Initial discussion on this motion centered around our

commitment to supporting emerging leaders who are active in NMRT if we decide to move forward with this proposal. Other concerns included the tight application deadline and the extensiveness of the application packet for this program. The NMRT Board or its ad hoc committee would need time to review any applications submitted to NMRT, so the deadline should be even sooner.

The motion to nominate a NMRT member for the Emerging Leaders Program carried 7-0.

The next motion was for the creation of an ad hoc task force to be appointed by the president to oversee this nomination process during the period of June-August 2007. The ad hoc task force may not be needed if the Board is willing to fill the duties of calling for applications and selecting an NMRT Nominee. We could ask that the Board serve in this capacity for this year and re-evaluate the need for a task force next year.

The motion to create an ad hoc task force did not carry with a vote of 0-7.

There was a follow-up motion for the Board to create an action item to develop criteria, select the nominee, and evaluate the process for the Emerging Leaders Program. The criteria should be made available to the NMRT membership by July 6, 2007.

This motion to create such an action item carried 7-0.

There was an additional motion to support the NMRT Emerging Leaders nominee for conference attendance with \$1000. Discussion centered around the issue of spending membership money on a program that not all of our members are able to apply for. We may want to consider adding a ballot question on this item for our membership. Additionally, we can ask our Fundraising Coordinator to seek funding for this program. The motion to provide funding carried 7-0.

There was an additional motion to make part of the criteria that the funding is a one time funding opportunity unless this is made a permanent line item by the membership. This motion carried 7-0.

B. Scholarship, Research, and Writing Committee revised duties proposal

There was a motion to approve the described committee responsibility changes for the NMRT Scholarship, Research, and Writing Committee. Amanda is going to work with ALA Publishing to create a template to make *Footnotes* publishing easier.

The motion carried 7-0.

C. NMRT Participation in ALA Pavilion

There was a motion for NMRT to participate in the ALA Pavilion planned for the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim next June. ALA would like us to have a bigger

presence in the ALA Pavilion, perhaps instead of having a booth of our own. However, we are concerned about the amount of space afforded by the ALA Pavilion. We should give our feedback about this to our staff liaison, Kim Sanders. The ALA Pavilion is being expanded for ALA Annual in Anaheim next year. We would like to have a PC with internet access in the Pavilion, especially if we were to favor it over a booth of our own. Participating in the Pavilion would potentially save us money on our booth. However, we are not now considering giving up our booth. This may be an item for discussion at the Midwinter Board Meeting.

The motion is for NMRT to participate in the ALA Pavilion at ALA Annual next year. The motion carried 7-0.

D. Resolution to Recognize NMRT's 75th Anniversary

There was a motion to approve this resolution for submission to the NMRT Council's Resolution Office. A copy of this resolution was distributed via NMRTBD.

The motion carried 7-0.

E. Conference 101 Session

There was a motion to continue working with ALA to present the Conference 101 session. This year's session was an overwhelming success. The attendees overflowed the room, and the feedback has been very positive.

The motion carried 7-0.

V. Discussion Points

A. NMRT participation on Emerging Leaders Task Force

There was an announcement this spring calling for people to serve on the Emerging Leaders Task Force. Several new members will be selected, and we need to make a case for NMRT being represented on the task force. Our memo will serve as that justification as well as our nomination of Nanette Donohue as the NMRT representative. Copies of the memo were distributed to the Board, and an official copy was signed by each Board Member for presentation to ALA President Leslie Burger.

B. NMRT survey results

The survey will be discussed on NMRTBD.

C. Inline Booth

We are considering purchasing a permanent booth structure for NMRT. This will offer continuity in the NMRT booth from year to year and take some of the pressure

off of the NMRT Booth chair and committee. Quality Books currently stores our small board, and they are willing to store and transport any structure we acquire. The permanent booth structures cost around \$3000, depending on which we decide to purchase. However, we may need to defer this purchase until we see how the ALA Pavilion develops.

D. Internship Task Force Report

This task force began its work to discover what ALA Divisions and Roundtables were doing to promote mentoring and internship opportunities. NMRT is hoping to use this information to promote the available opportunities to our membership. Kim Sanders volunteered to run a report on ALA committees that have internship programs to provide the task force with additional information.

E. Ownership/Moderation of NMRT-L and NMRTBD Listservs

We need to seek new list owners for our NMRT-L and NMRTBD lists. The Web Committee has continuity in its structure with the co-chair becoming chair every second year, so it makes sense to have these duties lie in this committee. This will be effective today. Amanda Roberts will contact Bill Jenkins and Bill Armstrong, the current list owners, to let them know that they have been relieved of their duties after many years of excellent service.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16am.

Respectfully submitted, June 26, 2007.

Kara M. Whatley