

Northern Lights Library Network
Governing Board

Minutes

April 18, 2009

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

MN State Community and Technical College
Detroit Lakes, MN

Present: Paul Bursik, Erika Rux, Lina Belar, Tom Peterson, Walt Dunlap, Gay Galles.

Also present: Ruth Solie, Deb Keena

Absent: Joan Larson, Stan Iverson, Joyce Kalbakdalen.

1. Meeting was called to order by President Paul Bursik at 10:07 AM.
2. Agenda was adopted as presented.
3. Minutes: In item #1 from February 21, 2009, minutes need to change wording from “certified” to “ratified”. Motion to ratify minutes from Feb. 21, 2009, meeting. Galles/Belar. MCU.
4. Financial Reports: Discussion of the balance sheet, the income statement, and budget to actual reports. Financial Reports approved as presented. Peterson/Belar. MCU.
5. Old Business:
 - A. Professional Engagement Funds: Reports from two librarians who have received funds were shared. Stacy Voeller did not use all of her funds in FY09 and it was moved/seconded (Rux/Dunlap) that remaining 09 funds could be applied to FY10 expenses. MCU.
 - B. Laptops arrived this past week for hands-on training sessions; the board will experiment with functionality later in the meeting. NLLN and the board will continue to explore ways to utilize to full potential. Originally budgeted \$10,000 from reserves; will likely exceed; the board will approve additional expenditures as needed.
 - C. ARRA Funds (Stimulus) – ALA has informational web page on “Recovery” program/funds. The board discussed a variety of possible funding/grant options for Libraries and other organizations.
 - D. Spotlight on Books Conference – wonderful conference; attendance was down. NLLN is fiscal agent for the conference; the conference partners are pulling back. Ruth suggested NLLN consider assuming full responsibility for the Conference. No action taken on this.
 - E. North Star Library Consortium is now a statewide project. Ruth’s role is decreasing as geographic distribution becomes wider, though she continues to be actively involved in the growth and development of the Consortium. Chris McArthur will work 80 hours over the summer for training and retrospective conversion projects. It was moved and seconded (Belar/Galles) that the \$4,000 for this work come entirely from FY2009 funds. MCU.
6. New Business:
 - A. Discussion of how NLLN can support member libraries of all types:
Public: Delivery continues to be a big issue and previous NLLN grants helped; general funding for public libraries continues to be a problem and prevents realizing goals (CE

support is one way to continue support); libraries are a step behind user expectations – workshops may help bring new ideas and develop new “coping” strategies.

School Libraries: Moorhead district is cutting – already cut 26 teachers and will likely see more cuts. Two library media specialists also cut; now will have media specialists in elementary schools 2 ½ days/week. Across the state, vacated positions will likely not be filled. One area for help would be more advocacy for school libraries; North Star program has been very beneficial.

Academics: MINITEX cuts will have a large impact on all academics; perhaps NLLN could help financially by paying for training and licenses, etc.

Specials: Continued advocacy.

Delivery demonstrations projects – In the past, NLLN has provided different amounts in different years to regional public library systems (\$5000 last year) in support of delivery services beyond their member/branch libraries. It was moved and seconded (Rux/Peterson) to provide funding for regional public library system delivery demonstration projects in FY 2009 in the amount of \$5,000/system. Funds (\$20,000) for this would come from reserve funds which will be added to the current “special projects” budget (acct 6126) . MCU

- B. Announcement of May 13th Executive Board meeting to be held in Detroit Lakes, 10am-2pm.
 - C. A wiki site is available to comment on the Shaugnessy/Smalley Draft State Library Plan.
 - D. President Bursik will see to the Director’s performance review so that results are available in May.
 - E. Rasmussen College in Moorhead is new member of NLLN.
7. Director’s Report: Ruth demonstrated some of the “things” included in the “23 Things” Project and showed how they were used for personal and professional purposes; Gay and Erika also commented on use of Web 2.0 tools. Board members also experimented with these tools using the new mobile laptop lab. A good time was had by all.
8. Adjournment: 1:26 pm

Erika Rux, Secretary