

## **MiALA Board Meeting Minutes**

### **Thursday, March 6, 1pm**

**Present:** Mies Martin, Jessica Hronchek, Ed Eckel, Kalyn Huson, Darlene Johnson-Bignotti, Gina Bolger, Julie Garrison, Mariela Hristova, Kelli Herm, Shelia Garcia Mazari, Rebecca Tull

**Absent:** Samantha Minnis

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:01pm.

### **Board Business Meeting:**

1. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Motion to approve - Bolger
  - b. Seconded - Johnson-Bignotti
  - c. The motion passed.
2. Approval of [Minutes from February Meeting](#)
  - a. Motion to approve - Johnson-Bignotti
  - b. Seconded - Garrison
  - c. The motion passed.
3. Approval of Consent Agenda:
  - a. Motion to approve - Garrison
  - b. Seconded - Eckel
  - c. The motion passed.
  - d. Committee reports
    - i. Advocacy – No report.
    - ii. Awards – Continuing to solicit nominations. No new updates at time. (Darlene)
    - iii. Conference Planning– Planning is on track and registration is scheduled to open in early March; it was a record year for sponsorships, coming in at \$26,849.
    - iv. Communications and Marketing –
    - v. Executive – 2 (3) media training slots for MiALA Leadership from Library of Michigan and U-M School of Information (Mies)
    - vi. IDEA – Updated MiALA website to reflect accurate membership. (Katrina)
    - vii. Membership –
    - viii. Nominating – Gearing up for election season. Still very much in need of committee members. Please consider joining us if you are not planning to run for a position, or can recommend someone! (Darlene)
    - ix. Ad-Hoc Committees:
      1. Partnerships Committee (Ed, Mies, Katrina) -
  - e. Partner Reports- No updates (Mies)
  - f. Treasurer's Report - No report.

- g. Interest Group Coordinating Council - The IGCC reviewed and approved a funding request from the Cataloging and Metadata IG for \$1,000 in support of the Symposium on Reparative Description in Library Catalogs. (Mariela)
- h. Board Actions via Email
  - i. Motion: The MiALA Board of Directors approve Park Place Hotel as the MiALA Annual Conference Site Location for May 6-8, 2026 and authorize Kalyn Huson, MCLS Administrative Support, to execute a Group agreement with the hotel and pay the required \$1,000 deposit. (Garrison)
  - ii. Seconded: Eckel
  - iii. The motion passed. (9-yes; 2-unclear; 2-no/abstain)

## Old Business

- 1. [MCLS Service Agreement Renewal](#) (Mies, Gina, Rebecca, Edward, Jessica)

Hronchek - There is a header section to event planning that includes several aspects handled by MCLS for all events.

Eckel - Website tasks are covered in the Marketing and Communications area.

Martin - The creation and maintenance of website information needs to come from MiALA.

Motion to move forward with MCLS on this draft service agreement renewal -

Johnson-Bignotti

Seconded - Eckel

The motion passed.

- 2. Strategic Plan Next Steps Update (Julie)

Garrison - The Committee received feedback to combine mission and vision. The goal level language is good but tactics will be changed to "example strategies". We hope to have the next draft sent to the Board before the next meeting.

- 3. [Committee Leadership Transition Planning](#) (Jessica and Katrina)

Hronchek - Any changes to timing will not require a bylaws update.

Julie - Having someone who has been on the committee before be in a chair/leadership role will be good.

Hronchek - One thing that may not be clear is that we would like a meeting of the Board liaisons to help with picking the Committee membership.

Motion to accept the timeline proposed by the Committee Leadership Transition

Planning team to move elections up to April. - Johnson-Bignotti

Seconded - Garrison

The motion passed.

## New Business

- 1. [Thoughts on aspects of Annual Conference](#) (Julie Garrison - Discussion)

- a. Budgets and Spending

Martin - Conference co-chairs: Thad Dickenson and Christina Radisauskas

Hronchek - Historically, we have not asked the conference to make money. Surplus revenue from the conference has helped balance out the costs.

Eckel - Conference Committee could put together a proposed budget based on a template that we could provide.

Hronchek - Budget is a combination of fixed costs and flexible costs. I have helped with creating some tools to help with calculations.

Garrison - Kalyn and I put together some rough calculations when reviewing potential venues.

Johnson-Bignotti - We did have budgets in the past but told conference committees that it was not hard and fast. I'd like to see us remain affordable and I'd like us to stay that way.

#### b. Vendor Sponsorships and participation

Garrison - Record year for sponsorships this past year. Many are institutional members. We also got new vendor sponsorships. Vendors want more opportunities to engage with members.

Hristova - With travel funds being limited and it being a challenge to get to national conferences, it might be nice to have additional vendor interaction.

Johnson-Bignotti - There was a vendor presentation at the preconference last year.

Hronchek - There is a strategic opportunity to give vendors more of what they want so they can bear the burden of increased conference costs.

Martin - Attendance last year was impressive and shows our value as a conference.

Hristova - At the very least, vendors who work with MCLS could maybe host some lunches.

#### c. Relationships with other associations

Johnson-Bignotti - There needs to be a more detailed discussion about MHSLA.

#### d. Conference Logos

Tull - I think proposed logos could go to the Communications Committee and the Board as a courtesy.

Hronchek - If those expertise and excitement aren't present in the conference committee, I think resorting to MiALA branding works as well.

## 2. [FY26 Budget Planning](#) (Jessica)

Johnson-Bignotti - Our bylaws require us to accept or adopt a budget by April.

Martin - Strategic planning keeps discussing the topic of support for conference attendance or professional development. (Conference outside of MiALA).

Johnson-Bignotti - We would still be affordable if we had a substantial increase in membership dues.

Hristova - We don't want it to look like higher conference rates are being passed along to all members through membership fees.

## **Issue Bin / Future Agenda Items:**

### 1. Student Liaison Position

**Upcoming Board Meetings:**

Thursday, April 10, 11am

Thursday, May 1, 1pm