

NLA Paraprofessional Board Meeting
February 24, 2005

Present: Jacque Crocker, Maria Medrano-Nehls, Jenni Puchalla, Matt Rohde, Jennifer Wrampe, Nancy Meyer, Janet Greser, and Rienne Johnson.

Maria began the meeting at 10:00 am.

Chair Report: Legislative Day was well-attended. She is still fielding questions about our Preconference from the Fall Conference. She will attend a meeting next week about this coming year's preconference.

Membership is down. Our section lost a lot of people to C&U and Public Library. Part of this could possibly be attributed to the misunderstanding about institutional memberships. Maria sent out packets to all new Para members. The packets consisted of a letter welcoming them, bag, pens, bookmarks, and a copy of the latest *Keynote*. Maria also emailed all of those not renewing inquiring why they have chosen not to renew membership in our section. Rienne will check the list of last year's Spring Conference attendees to see who is not a Para member, to give us a place to begin a membership marketing campaign.

Discussion ensued about the name of our section: it was thought that maybe "Paraprofessional" had a negative connotation, and some ideas were discussed. The idea was shelved for further discussion at another meeting.

Spring Meeting: Rienne reported that our three speakers were ready to go. The only items left to accomplish were to order meals for the Lincoln site and prepare bios and handouts for each site. Additional publicity went out this week, but NLC has had a problem with their mailing lists and certain ISP's thinking the distribution lists were spam, and blocking announcements to most members with Alltel, Yahoo!, Frontier, and some Hotmail addresses. A temporary fix has been made, but this is still a problem.

Bylaws: We all read the bylaws, and suggested updates to make them more current. The changes proposed were:

Article V to be titled "General Meetings" instead of "Meetings"

Article V, Section 4 will read: A quorum will consist of all members **in attendance** at an announced meeting. "Or of the votes returned in a mail ballot" will be removed.

Article VI, Section 5, will add at the end: **The amount per mile will be determined by the Executive Board each year.**

Article VII, Section 1, will incorporate the following changes: Chair, one year, **beginning when authority is transferred at the Fall General Meeting until the next Fall General Meeting.**

Chair-Elect, one year, **beginning when authority is transferred at the Fall General Meeting until the next Fall General Meeting.**

Secretary, two years, **beginning when authority is transferred at the Fall General Meeting.**

Article VII, Section 2, will read: The Nominations Committee will prepare and submit the slate of candidates to the Executive Board by April 30 and notify the NLA Nominations Committee Chair of the slate. **The section will follow NLA guidelines for election of officers as described in their Bylaws.**

Article VII, Section 3, the words “some person” will be replaced by “a section member” in 3 places.

Article VII, Section 4, the following changes were suggested:

In the Chair section, the phrase “will have authority to draw warrants in the absence, incapacity, or resignation of the Treasurer” was stricken from the first sentence.

The Chair-Elect section, will have stricken “will appoint and Chair the Nominating Committee”.

The Secretary section will retain the first sentence. “Will maintain a list of all past Chairs and all recipients of scholarships and awards on the web page; will provide official notification of the election results to new officer's supervisors, directors or trustees as his or her final duty in office and will submit the annual report to the NLA Executive Secretary” will all be removed.

The Treasurer section will now read: The Treasurer will keep an accurate account of all money owed the group; will draw all warrants on the Treasury in payment of claims against the group; will submit a report of all receipts and financial standing of the group at each meeting, **with a report at General Meetings; will insure Section dues allocation is received from the Nebraska Library Association Treasurer; and will file quarterly and annual reports with the NLA Treasurer and Section Chairperson. In the absence, incapacity, or resignation of the Treasurer, the Chair, who is also a signatory, will act as the Treasurer, until no longer needed.**

The past chair section will add: **will appoint and chair the Nominating Committee and will provide official notification of the election results to new officers' supervisors, directors or trustees as his or her final duty in office;** after the first semicolon, and the words “serve on the Archive committee” will be removed.

A full listing and details of items added and removed is available at:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/comp/para/parabylaws.html>.

Names for officer ballots are due at the end of April, the board began brainstorming names to fill the available positions.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

The next meeting will be on April 21st, 10-12 am.
Nebraska Library Commission, Crane Room

Respectfully submitted,
Rienne Johnson
Paraprofessional Section Secretary