

Paraprofessional Section Board Meeting
June 9, 2006
Nebraska Library Commission

Chair Matt Rohde called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. Board members in attendance: Janet Greser, Maria Medrano-Nehls, Jenni Puchalla, Gayle Roberts, Matt Rohde, and Jennifer Wrampe.

A motion was made by Maria Medrano-Nehls to accept the agenda with addition, seconded by Janet Greser. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Maria Medrano-Nehls to accept the minutes, seconded by Jennifer Wrampe. Motion approved.

Old Business

Preconference: Maria Medrano-Nehls stated that a contract had been signed for the 1316 Jones Street building to be used for the preconference. The building is a remodeled building in the Old Market in Omaha. We had to use a building other than the Qwest Center because rooms were not included in the conference contract for Wednesday so we would have had to pay \$6000 for a room. The current building contract requires we use their caterer so a contract has been signed with them as well. A bag has been chosen for the preconference, the bags will be black with white lettering and pink sunglasses. The next issue will be to choose a site for the evening event. We have begun to receive registrations for the preconference because Mary Jo Ryan and Kit Keller have been handing out fliers at every meeting they attend.

Spring Meeting - Janet Greser stated that Jennifer Wrampe is working on placing spring meeting pictures up on the web. Janet also stated she did not know when the Commission would send Jenni the check to pay NETV. Janet sent NETV parts of the evaluation that pertained to them, such as the camera moving around too much. Maria has agreed to be next year's spring program chair with assistance from Janet.

New Business

Paraprofessional of the Year – No nominations have been received at this time. Janet Greser stated she had some ideas that she would work on. Jenni Puchalla stated that we don't have to have a Para of the Year if no applications are received.

Fall Sessions – Gayle Roberts reported that we have two sessions set for fall conference. Cultural Competency is scheduled for Thursday, and the Great Library Safari is scheduled on Friday. Jennifer Wrampe will make a basket full of board and card games to raffle at the conference. It was also stated that Jennifer has the choice to change the basket theme or to make more than one basket. Matt Rohde stated that he would check to see if we need to have permission to do a raffle at conference.

Slate of Candidates - LaRain Chiak has submitted her name for Vice-Chair and Bonnie Henzel has submitted her name for Secretary.

Reports

Nominations –A discussion was held concerning the NLA Board notice that each section must have two persons nominated for an elected position. The para section needs to fill two elected positions, the Vice-Chair and Secretary positions. They also need to fill the membership and by-law positions. A suggestion was made to ask Jim Atkins if he is interested in filling the by-law position, Janet volunteered to ask him. Janet will serve as web page chair. Gayle Roberts suggested we develop a new flier to promote and recruit, the flier should state ways it would benefit the person. We must attempt to extend our board with new members. It was suggested to conduct a survey and ask what it is our members want from the para section. Jenni Puchalla made a motion for every board member to contact two people and ask them to run for office or to join the para section. Janet Greser said that she would be willing to run for secretary.

Membership – The board decided to offer twenty \$5 scholarships to persons wishing to join the para section as their second section. Motion made by Jenni Puchalla, seconded by Janet Greser. Motion approved. Jenni offered to send out an e-mail to announce the scholarships.

Scholarships - Janet Greser made a motion to donate \$100 to the Louise Nixon and Duane Munson scholarships. No second was made, motion dropped. Jenni Puchalla made a motion to offer six, \$50 scholarships to Para's wishing to attend NLA/NEMA fall conference, seconded by Maria, motion approved. Deadline for scholarships is July 31.

Keynote - Keynote - Janet Greser stated that the next *Keynote* deadline is August 15 and will be mailed September 1. Janet stated that she needs an article from Matt as outgoing chair, and an article from Gayle as incoming chair. Janet will submit an article on the final spring meeting report, advertise scholarships, notice of Fall conference with Para sessions, lunch, and basket raffle.

Chair Report – Matt attended the Innovative Users Group conference in Denver and spoke to Para's from all over. Matt will write an article for the next issue of the *Keynote* on his attendance.

Vice-Chair Report – No report

Informal

Matt Rohde stated that the expansion at UNO library will soon be completed.

Maria Medrano-Nehls reported that she is working on her second class for the LTA program. She is also working on the Nebraska Library Commission's recruitment and retention grant gather information to assist in the recruitment of minorities. She attended

UNL's, People of Color conference and will be attending the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color in Dallas, Oct. 11-15.

Jenni Puchalla reported that she is busy getting ready for the System Administrators annual meeting and staying busy with her babies.

Jennifer Wrampe reported that she got two new ferrets.

Gayle Roberts reported that she has been busy at work with the new expansion and marketing promotions and projects.

Janet Greser reported that she recently changed the color of her hair and people have to take a double take before they recognize her. Work always keeps her busy.

Next Meeting

Chair Rohde reported that the next meeting will be held August 11 at the Nebraska Library Commission. There will also be a meeting on September 15.

Adjournment

Chair Rohde adjourned the meeting at 12:45