

**Paraprofessional Section Fall General Meeting Minutes**  
**October 27, 2006**  
**Quest Center, Omaha, NE**

Chair Matt Rohde called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Introductions were made around the room. 22 Para's were present.

A motion was made by Kathy Dukes to accept the agenda, seconded by Gayle Roberts. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Jenni Puchalla to accept the spring general meeting minutes, seconded by Nancy Meyers. Motion approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Preconference:

Blockbuster Marketing with the Hollywood Librarian. Maria Medrano-Nehls, Chair of the Preconference was not able to attend so Janet Greser reported in her place that there were 125 registered, and about 100 actually came.

Section Name:

Matt Rohde, Chair, brought this up at the Spring Meeting and asked Para's to email him if they had any questions or discussion on this matter. He had not received any emails. Janet made a motion "Table the idea of changing our section name at this time and it may be brought up again in a new administration." Mary Geibel seconded. Jenni Puchalla objected to the motion.

Legislative Day/Scholarships:

Jennifer Wrampe, our Publicity Chair reported:

**2006** - Scholarships given for:

Legislative Day - \$15 each –

Karen Frank, Greenwood Public Library

Maria Medrano-Nehls, Nebraska Library Commission

Joining the Para Section - \$10 each:

Martha Grenzeback, Abrahams branch of the Omaha Public Library

Fall NLANEMA - \$50 each -

Martha Grenzeback, Abrahams branch of the Omaha Public Library

LaRae Worden, Northeast Community College Library, Norfolk

Margie McCandless, Bellevue University

LaRaine Cihak, Gilbert Public Library, Friend

Jenni Puchalla, Administrative Assistant, Southeast Library System

Linda Black, Reference Support Specialist, Bellevue University

2006 Fall Conference Sessions:

Gayle Roberts, Vice Chair\Chair Elect reported that our sessions were good and well attended

The Great Library Safari: Dinos, Llamas and Lizards, Part 1 had 53 attendees

The Great Library Safari: Dinos, Llamas and Lizards, Part 2 had 24 attendees

Cultural Competence had 20 attendees; Troy Romero did a very informative presentation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2007 Spring Meeting:

Maria Medrano-Nehls, Chair of the 2007 Spring Meeting was not able to attend so Janet Greser reported in her place, each of the attendees received a handout at the meeting indicating that it will be Wednesday, March 14, 2007, it will be a videoconference, and the theme is: "Explore and Experience Your Library".

Elections/Withholding of Funds:

Matt Rohde, Chair, explained the process of the new NLA Policy concerning elections, if we do not have 2 opponents for each office, as indicated by the NLA Bylaws, our portion of the Para member's dues will be withheld until we resolve this matter. In this past election we had 2 offices running unopposed; this new policy will not go into effect until 2007. Matt explained that Maria, Chair of the Nominations Committee had talked to most of our Para Members via phone or email about becoming officers and was unsuccessful in obtaining any more than 2 candidates for our 2 open offices. Matt spoke about the time requirements needed for officers, and members of the Para Board. Matt said he had a wonderful experience as the Vice Chair & onto the Chair, went places he'd never been, met people he hadn't know. He talked our section being a vital section because of our teleconferences, our non-profit table at NLA\NEMA, we usually have something for a raffle, how we network with other section members. We just need to get the word out to our membership so we can viable candidates to fulfill our needed positions.

Citations/Awards

Nancy Meyer, Citations Chair gave out the Para of the Year Award to Mary Gubbels from Sump Memorial Library in Papillion. Then Nancy gave a Certificate to Matt for his time as our Chair.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nominations:

La Raine Cihak, Gilbert Public Library, Friend, will be our new Vice Chair \ Chair Elect. Bonnie Henzel, Nebraska Library Commission, will be our Section Secretary for 2 years.

*Keynote:*

Janet Greser, *Keynote* Editor, reported that the next issue will be coming out in the spring, please feel free to forward me any articles you'd like to see published.

Treasure's Report:

Jenni Puchalla, Treasurer had the latest budget for all attendees; we have a balance of

\$446.05. Jenni had done a fast count of the money collected from our basket raffle and we may have profited \$175.

Chair's Report: None

Vice-Chair's Report:

Gayle Roberts, Vice Chair, reported that she had fun setting up our Para table and doing the 2 sessions for the Para's.

Installation of Officers:

Matt Installed Gayle Roberts as the New Chair of the Para Section, then he installed La Raine Cihak as the new Vice Chair\Chair Elect, and then he stepped down to become our Past Chair for 1 year.

Informal:

We raffled off the door prizes:

- Ceramic Worm Bank reading a book donated by Gayle Roberts, went to Mary Geibel of the Nebraska Library Commission
- Vase filled with candy went to Gwen Showers, Keene Memorial Library in Fremont
- Table People went to Karen Frank, Greenwood Public Library

Food, Fun, and Favorites - Raffle Basket went to:

- Gayle Roberts, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Nannette Bedrosky, Creighton University Medical Center

Matt's final comments included thanking Jennifer Wrampe for taking care of the Basket raffle. Gayle's were thanking Janet Greser & Jennifer Wrampe for hosting her Para session.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm. Next General meeting will be at the Spring Meeting March 14, 2007.

After the meeting pictures were taken of the new Para Board.