

MINUTES
ALLEGHENY COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 12, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sanjay Saha, Sara Jane Lowry, J. Terrence Farrell, Cynthia Richey, Dorothy Davis, Diane Yates, Shawn Flaherty, and Michael Kumer.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Kollar.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Marilyn Jenkins, Ronald Stout, Carolyn Toth, Rebecca Serey, Mary McIntyre, Kimberley Hrivnak, Sally Coyne, Sharon McRae, Kathy Robinson, Sharon Helfrich, Jo Ellen Kenney, Kathy Firestone, Diane Ragan, Tina LaMark, Robyn Hammer-Clerey, Michael Romano, Janet Forton, Mary Monaghan, Sheila Jackson, Dennis Luther, Marianne Sforza, Marilyn Klingensmith, Joel Minnigh, Ernest Williams, Brad Wulfkuhle, and Mark Greenblat.

7:05 P.M. Call to order – Sanjay Saha

A. Public Comments:

Jo Ellen Kenney (Carnegie Library of McKeesport): Ms. Kenney read a written statement on behalf of eleven of the thirteen members of the East Region encouraging the ACLA Board not to move on Scenario 2 at this time. She urged the establishment of a Technology Council, separation of ILS system funding, and additional time for gathering information and making decisions. She asked that the Member Libraries be called upon to help the Board in making decisions regarding eiNetwork services.

Sally Coyne (Community Library of Allegheny Valley): Ms. Coyne indicated that a majority of Members feel they have not been given adequate time to make decisions regarding eiNetwork and urged a process for these decisions similar to that being used for the formula development.

Sharon McRae (Shaler North Hills Library): Ms. McRae agreed that the timeframe for this decision process is frustrating but hopes that participants will recognize the role that the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has played in the County and its willingness to share resources and expertise. She recommended adding three more representatives to the eiNetwork Board who would be mutually satisfactory to ACLA and CLP and who could bring outside and technology expertise.

B. Introduction of new Board member – Saha introduced Michael Kumer, the new ACLA Board representative from the West Region, who will be filling the unexpired term of Wendy Smith.

- C. ACLA Board Officers – MOTION was made by Flaherty and seconded by Farrell to elect Saha as President for the remainder of 2008. MOTION carried unanimously. MOTION was made by Farrell and seconded by Davis to elect Richey as Vice President for the remainder of 2008. MOTION carried (6 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention).
- D. eiNetwork discussion – Saha introduced the topic and indicated that Kollar who was not present had expressed concerns about the RAD's willingness to fund two parallel systems. Kollar felt it advisable in as much as possible to maintain a unified system. Saha indicated that the structure of the eiNetwork Board is an issue for two reasons: 1) with regard to information sharing and 2) in terms of the even number (four appointed by each member). He urged that there be a focus on next steps and coming up with solutions. Lowry reported on a conversation with a member of the RAD Board who indicated that the RAD had not come to a position on any of the Scenarios but that it was waiting a joint recommendation from ACLA and CLP. It was quite clear that RAD does not want to be lobbied independently by libraries. Farrell indicated that libraries in the East Region are concerned that the ACLA Board is not listening and that the process should be slowed down, allowing for information gathering and evaluation. He encouraged the formation of a Technology Council and consideration of some changes to the structure of the eiNetwork Board. Flaherty cited eiNetwork bylaws that call out staggered appointments of Board members. MOTION was made by Flaherty and seconded by Davis to remove all four ACLA representatives to the eiNetwork Board so as to set new appointments compliant with the requirement for staggered terms. Kumer indicated that compliance could be established by re-setting the terms of the existing representatives without removal. MOTION failed by a vote of 4 in favor, 4 opposed. MOTION was made by Saha and seconded by Richey to request the resignation of one or the ACLA representatives to the eiNetwork Board so that an individual, designated by the Member Libraries, with technology expertise could be seated by June 30. In addition terms for seated representatives would be set to expire on a staggered basis as follows: Calabrese (12/31/08), Taylor (12/31/09), McIntosh (12/31/10). MOTION carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Terrence Farrell, Secretary