

**MINUTES  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
JULY 7, 2008**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Robert Kollar, Sara Jane Lowry, Diane Yates, Michael Kumer, J. Terrence Farrell, Brad Fish, and Shawn Flaherty.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cynthia Richey

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Marilyn Jenkins, Ronald Stout, Esq., Carolyn Marks, Connie Galbraith, Tina LaMark, Rebecca Serey, Mary McIntyre and directors and trustees of the following libraries: Andrew Carnegie Free Library, Andrew Bayne Memorial Library, Bethel Park Public Library, Brentwood Library, Community Library of Allegheny Valley, Carnegie Library of McKeesport, Crafton Public Library, Dormont Public Library, Hampton Community Library, Moon Township Library, Northland Public Library, Oakmont Carnegie Library, Plum Borough Community Library, Scott Township Public Library, Shaler North Hills Library, Sewickley Public Library, and Whitehall Public Library.

**6:05 P.M.     Call to order – Sara Jane Lowry**

A. Determination of Quorum – Quorum established.

**B. Public Comments**

1. Sandra Collins, Northland Public Library director, read a written statement supporting the eiNetwork Taskforce recommendations.
2. Michael Romano, Whitehall Public Library board president, read a written statement also supporting the taskforce recommendations and supporting the appointment of Kumer, Fish, and Lowry to the ACLA Board.
3. Shannon Dunn, Oakmont Carnegie Library director, presented a written statement supporting the taskforce recommendations and commented on the importance of consensus.
4. Kathy Robinson, Crafton Public Library director, presented written statements in support of the taskforce recommendations and also the appointments of Kumer and Fish to the Board.
5. Robyn Hammer-Clarey, Whitehall Public Library director, read a statement commending those who participated in the eiNetwork process and urging others to open their minds to consensus.
6. Kathy Firestone, Community Library of Allegheny Valley director, urged the Board to put aside the conflict of interest issues and begin moving forward.
7. Diane Ragan, Andrew Carnegie Free Library director, noted the positive comments regarding Kumer in the current PALA bulletin, and also read comments for Bob Moll noting CLP should provide contractual guarantees for technology services.

8. Janet Forton, Scott Township Public Library director, read a written statement supporting the taskforce recommendations.
9. Dennis Luther, Brentwood Library director, read three letters in support of Fish as the South Region representative.
10. Marilyn Klingensmith, Plum Borough Community Library director, noted ten of the thirteen East Region libraries voted in favor of the taskforce recommendations.
11. JoEllen Kenney, Carnegie Library of McKeesport director, asked the Board to listen to the members in support of the taskforce recommendations and to stop politicizing critical library operations.
12. Diane Yates, ACLA Board member, presented communications from two libraries endorsing Cynthia Richey for Board president.

C. Request for Additions or Changes to the Agenda - None

**Action and Discussion Items**

- A. Appointment of eiNetwork Board Member – Pallotta reported the LAC taskforce interviewed the three candidates and has recommended Dr. Joseph Marrone to replace Paula Calabrese as ACLA representative to the eiNetwork Board. The ACLA Board received resumes from all three candidates. MOTION was made by Farrell and seconded by Flaherty to accept the recommendation. MOTION carried unanimously.
- B. Board Response to Amended eiNetwork Taskforce Recommendations – Lowry reported a straw vote from the June 24 Special General Membership meeting resulted in 23 - 9 votes in favor of the eiNetwork Taskforce recommendations. An electronic poll was taken of Members not in attendance, resulting in a final tally of 32 Members in support of the task force recommendations, 9 opposed, 1 abstaining. Discussion ensued regarding the financial portion of the RAD submission for eiNetwork. Kollar presented a letter from Dr. Barbara Mistick dated July 7, 2008 requesting the ACLA Board support CLP as fiscal agent for eiNetwork for 2009 (letter attached). MOTION made by Kumer and seconded by Farrell to accept the eiNetwork Task Force recommendations as amended by the members at the June 24 General Membership meeting. Flaherty noted he was unsure what the final recommendations were. Lowry confirmed the vote was for the changes incorporated in the report to the General Membership at the June 24 meeting which was also distributed to the Board via email. Flaherty asked if the recommendations shared consensus with CLP. Lowry noted CLP did not elect to participate in the task force process (except by observation) but its needs were considered in the task force report. MOTION carried with a vote of 5 – 1 with Kollar abstaining.
- C. Authorization of RAD Financial Request for 2009 – Jenkins noted the 2009 draft budget is due to the RAD on July 15 and asked for the Board's decision on whether to request funding for eiNetwork. After discussion, MOTION made by Kumer and seconded by Fish for the Board to authorize Jenkins to request full funding for eiNetwork including an additional \$50,000 for new technology. The request would be consistent with the taskforce recommendations. MOTION carried with a vote of 6 – 1.

- D. Governance Committee Statement of Interest – Kumer addressed the Board noting the nature of his work at the Nonprofit Leadership Institute and his extensive experience in the field of nonprofit management would benefit ACLA in matters of governance. MOTION made by Lowry and seconded by Kollar to appoint Michael Kumer to the Governance Committee. MOTION carried unanimously.
- E. Consideration of Board Conflict of Interest Procedures – Kollar suggested the Board institute new procedures for conflict of interest including annual review of all statements and requirement that members notify the Board if changes to statements occur during the year. Stout was to research whether the annual statements are a matter of public record. MOTION made by Flaherty and seconded by Yates to table the vote pending direction from counsel. MOTION carried unanimously.
- F. Report from Taskforce on Fish Conflict of Interest – Flaherty noted the taskforce had not met and the issue was tabled until the September meeting.

### **Minutes and Reports**

- A. Approval of Minutes – Farrell and Yates noted they had each received two letters of support for Cynthia Richey for President and should be included in the June minutes. Approval of minutes was held until the next meeting.
- B. President – No report.
- C. Ombudsman – Jenkins reported that the ombudsman had received correspondence from three libraries regarding conflict of interest issues. Information was provided to those libraries regarding ACLA policy and procedures and decisions made at the June Board meeting.
- D. Treasurer's Report – Kollar presented the audited financials as of December 2007 and the unaudited May 2008 financials. He noted the 2008 reports were in the process of being updated to incorporate audit adjustments and addition of monthly depreciation estimates.
- E. Executive Director – A written report had been provided to Board members. Jenkins noted she was working with a broker regarding a consortium-wide health plan and additional information would be available at the September meeting.
- F. Formula Process Oversight Committee – No report.
- G. Written Reports
  - 1. LAC – Robinson submitted a written report which is attached to these minutes.
  - 2. District Services – No report. A newsletter is now being provided highlighting District activities.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

---

**J. Terrence Farrell, Secretary**