

**MINUTES
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010
ROBINSON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY**

- I. **Call to Order** – Joy Gaetano called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

- II. **Determination of Quorum** – Quorum established.

- III. **Public Comments** – None.

- IV. **Consent Agenda** – MOTION by JoEllen Kenney, Carnegie Library of McKeesport, and seconded by Becky Colbert, Crafton Public Library, to approve the minutes of the January 2010 meeting. MOTION carried.

- V. **Requests For Additions or Changes to Agenda** – None.

- VI. **Reports and Communication**
 - A. **President's Report** – Gaetano reported on the three sessions of the Board Retreat and among the items discussed were the Library Code, standards, and the role of ACLA. She affirmed the role of the ACLA Board which is driven by the bylaws: to employ the Executive Director to provide broad management of ACLA, to structure agreements and procedures, to manage funding and facilities, to perform a full fiduciary role, and to develop a long-range plan to bring to the Members supporting the vision of ACLA.

 - B. **Executive Director's Report**
 1. **RAD Library Committee** – Jenkins reported the taskforce met in regard to the RAD question of what are the primary purposes libraries serve that warrant public investment? Responses have been received and are being processed. Regarding the formula, the committee met and designed a preliminary process to gather Member input around the formula concerns articulated by RAD. Several recommendations were sent to the Members and responses received. The Board authorized a Special General Membership meeting on June 21 to consider a proposed distribution formula for 2011.

2. *Table Gaming Funds* - Jenkins reported she followed up with Senator Costa and the State Librarian and the table gaming money is a legislative mandate. It is yet to be determined how frequently the funds will be gathered and how often they will be distributed. There has been no official ruling as yet from the State on whether the funds will be ruled local funds for State Report purposes.
3. *State Funding* – Jenkins reported on her meetings with legislators. The majority of legislators have agreed to support a level funding request.
4. *RAD Formula Committee Report* – Debes reported on the recent meeting with the Library Committee which focused around the questions from RAD regarding the purpose of why libraries exist, why libraries are an asset, and why they should be funded. The Library Committee expects answers to those questions from the Members as well as responses to the original Committee concerns relative to the formula.
5. *Future of Libraries* – Fish reported a Fall seminar is in the planning stages to encourage thinking about the future.
6. *eiNetwork Report* - Serey not present. Jenkins reported the eiNetwork Board met and discussed critical issues relative to technology and points of risk and recommendations. These recommendations are to be reviewed by the Steering Committee and LAC. The eiNetwork Board also discussed Commonwealth Libraries’ interest in a Statewide ILS system. Development of that system is only preliminary and there are many questions relative to cost, functionality, and governance. The Board asked that Serey, Cooper, and Jenkins continue to track those developments.

VII. Specific Topics for Discussion and Motions

A. Structures Task Force

1. The first MOTION presented by the Critical Issues Structure Task Force is as follows:

The ACLA Board should be comprised of one representative from each of the five regions of the county, one representative from the ARAD, and three representatives elected at-large. If ARAD elects not to appoint a representative, the slot for the ARAD representative shall be designated as an at-large representative slot to be elected in accordance with the bylaws.

Kenney noted the committee decided a LAC representative not be included due to a conflict of interest. Yates and Richey disagreed noting it is beneficial to have a practicing librarian on the Board to address current

issues facing libraries. Gaetano suggested a voting position versus a reporting position.

MOTION carried, 25 in favor, 10 opposed, no abstentions. This is a position statement from the Members. It will require a bylaw amendment. A draft amendment reflecting this position statement will be brought to the Members at the October General Membership meeting.

2. The second MOTION presented by the Critical Issues Structure Task Force is as follows:

Expand the Governance Committee of the ACLA Board to include representation from the Membership for the limited purposes of identifying, vetting, and proposing ACLA Board members.

MOTION by Bob Moll, Andrew Carnegie Free Library, and seconded by Mike Romano, Whitehall Library, to table the MOTION in order for the Governance Committee to document a process that includes Member input by the October General Membership meeting.

MOTION carried, 23 in favor, 8 opposed, no abstentions.

- B. Standards Presentation – Jenkins presented information regarding State standards and Sandra Collins, Northland Public Library, presented the recommendations from the Standards Taskforce.
- C. RAD Question - *What are the primary purposes public libraries serve that warrant public investment?* Comments on this question included:
 - Libraries are offer nondiscriminatory access to information for no fee.
 - Libraries are an efficient use of public tax dollars, leveraging resources countywide.
 - Libraries support all of the organizations supported by RAD.
 - Libraries enhance each community.
- D. Sto-Rox Library – Debes reported Sto-Rox and Sewickley libraries successfully executed the management services agreement. This provides a good service model for other libraries in similar circumstances.

VIII. Public Comments & Announcements – Kathy Robinson, Crafton Public Library, noted she was concerned that the Board’s new emphasis on being “member-focused” ignores ACLA’s mission statement that the organization should be focused on service to the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Britton Dozier, Secretary