2016 National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Biennial Conference

Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, CA

**Midlands Conference Business Meeting Minutes**

**Sunday, April 3, 2016**

Recorded by: Terry Soave, Midlands Secretary

Will Reed, Midlands Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:55pm.

Top Ten “Real” Reasons to Attend the NLS Conference – Will Reed

**I. In attendance:**

Maggie Ansty, IN

Jackie Connor, MSCE

Pamela Davenport, NLS

Catherine Durivage, MN

Patrice Johnson, IL

Hillary McHenry, KS

Lue Moran, MI

Scott Norris, MI

Will Reed, OH

Barbara Shipman, MI

Terry Soave, MI

Annette Toews, MN

Laurie Townsend Stuart, MI

Linda Vincent, WI

Ruth Weimer, (?)

Marka Will, OK

Sarah Willeford, IA

Laura Williams, IN

Andrew Wilson, MI

Michelle Wisniewski, MI

**II. Approval of Minutes of the 2015 Business Meeting**

Linda Vincent moved, and Annette Toews seconded, the approval of the Minutes from the 2015 Business Meeting as corrected. All approved.

**III. Treasurer’s Report**

Scott Norris presented the following 2016 Midlands Conference of Librarians Treasury Report:

Beginning balance 05/29/2015 $7,776.94

Closing balance 02/29/2016 $6,758.94

Service fees ($2 per month) $18

Disbursements 06/09/2015 $1,000/00 Indiana State Library check number 1019

03/20/2016 $200.00 Sarah Skaggs check number 1020

Deposits 03/28/2016 $1,238.73 Indiana State Library

Current balance 03/31/2016 $7,797.67

The $238.73 to the good from the Indiana State Library covered the $200.00 fee for the Midlands program presenter, Sarah Skaggs. Minus the service fee, the account balance is $20.73 higher than the beginning balance from 05/29/2015.

**IV. Committee Reports**

Collection Development Advisory Group (CDAG)

Midlands Representative: Laura Williams, IN

Laura Williams reported that recommendations from the CDAG were sent to NLS 02/25/2015, and a phone-in meeting is scheduled for May for the group to check in.

Public Education Advisory Group

Midlands Representative: Sammie Willis, OK

Sammie Willis was not in attendance.

Reading Technology Advisory Group (RTAG)

Midlands Representatives: Sharon Ruda, IL and Sarah Willeford, IA

Sharon Ruda was not in attendance. Sarah Willeford reported that there is a phone-in meeting scheduled for April 26. RTAG is looking for more people to test the next version of the BARD media manager tool.

Will Reed reported that NLS is looking to add a consumer representative to the RTAG group and is soliciting candidates from regional chairs. The goal is to have this person in place in time for the April 26 meeting.

**V. 2017 Regional Conference Update**

Will Reed reported that an invitation was extended for Midlands to join with the Northern Conference, but we are still awaiting a formal response.

The WLBPD@AADL, the subregional library in Ann Arbor, MI, extended an invitation for the Midlands (and Northern) Conferences to meet in Ann Arbor in 2017.

*Before the meeting commenced*: Mark Lee, PA, entered the meeting and on behalf of the Northern Conference, formally accepted Midlands’ invitation to join us for a bi-regional conference in 2017.

*Before the conference commenced*: the Midlands and Northern Conferences accepted the WLBPD@AADL’s invitation to host the bi-regional conference in Ann Arbor in 2017.

**VI. Bylaws Update**

Will Reed provided a brief explanation for how the current version of the proposed revisions of the 1995 Bylaws came to be drafted.

The issue of voting was revisited. After a lengthy discussion it was determined that voting will remain as it has taken place to date, that all individuals representing a Midlands library who are present during the time a voting issue is put forward, will get a vote. It will be left to the Chair’s discretion to determine if there are not enough individuals present to make a representative vote.

Linda Vincent moved, and Maggie Ansty seconded, to accept the 1995 Revised Bylaws with additional changes to reflect the outcome of the discussion on voting. All approved.

**VII. New Business**

Resolutions

Will Reed reported there has been no response from NLS to the Midlands Resolutions submitted in 2015, and as a result there are no updates on those particular resolutions.

The floor was opened for any new resolutions to be considered for submission in 2016.

Other Business

Will Reed reported the NLS asked that Midlands present a conference program on the topic of patron satisfaction surveys.

Soliciting Midlands members’ input, and in consultation with the research department at the Cleveland Public Library, the consensus was there are better ways for network libraries to determine patron satisfaction. With this in mind, Will reached out to the business community and sought out a user-experience researcher to present an alternative perspective. The fee for the Midlands presenter, Sarah Skaggs, was $200.00.

Will also reported that he and Danielle Miller, WA, will be addressing the topic of patron surveys versus research methods during the NLS Standards review process. They would appreciate input from the network on this topic.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02pm.

Midlands Officers

Chair (2015-2017)

Will Reed

Ohio Library for the Blind & Physically Disabled, OH

Vice Chair (2015-2017)

Sue Chinault

Braille & Talking Book Library, MI

Secretary (2015-2017)

Terry Soave

Washtenaw Library for the Blind & Physically Disabled @AADL, MI

Treasurer (2015-2017)

Scott Norris

Braille & Talking Book Library, MI