

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
January 13, 2006
1:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

The meeting of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees was called to order at 1:00 p.m., on Friday, January 13, 2006, at the Library of Michigan, by Cliff Haka, Chair.

Attendance

Members Present: William Anderson, B. Denise Bartlett, Barbara Bonge (alternate for Chief Justice Clifford Taylor), Linda Farynk, Cliff Haka, Elaine Logan, Fran Pletz, Nancy Robertson, Nancy Skowronski, Representative Aldo Vagnozzi

Members Absent: Representative Fran Amos, Senator Irma Clark-Coleman, Senator Tom George, Francis "Bus" Spaniola

Staff Present: Elaine Harrison, Kim Laird, Sheryl Mase, Julia Meredith, Judith Moore, Kris Rzepczynski, Jennifer Sipe (recording secretary), Lance Werner

Visitors: Roger Ashley, Randy Dykhuis, Ann Holt, Roger Mendel, Jim Seidl

Agenda

Cliff Haka recommended modifying today's agenda to accommodate two LM staff presentations.

NANCY SKOWRONSKI MOVED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA CHANGE. DENISE BARTLETT SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Kris Rzepczynski of the LM staff announced final committee recommendations for the 2006 Michigan Notable Books program. A formal press release will be issued soon. The Library of Michigan has been involved with Michigan Notable Books since 2002; however, the program goes back to 1991. Each year, the committee reviews approximately 300 titles, paring the list down to 20 books representing Michigan, its history and culture. Committee membership was broadened this year to include bookstores, cooperative directors and newspaper writers from across the state. To celebrate this year's selection, many of the authors will visit the Library of Michigan on May 6th, each giving a presentation on their experience writing their books, and being available to answer questions. Also on May 6th, a "Night for Notables" event is being planned for the evening. Judith Moore will present more on this event later in today's meeting.

Julia Meredith, also of the LM staff, read this year's winning *Michigan Reads!* preschool book entitled "Bed Hogs," by Kelly DiPucchio. The LM Foundation secured sponsors for this program, and it is hoped that a

copy of this book will be placed in every Michigan library, as well as be provided to Head Start programs statewide, for a total of 2500 books. Clinton-Macomb Public Library, Ms. DiPucchio's home library, will be hosting a special event in honor of her award-winning book and the *Michigan Reads!* statewide program.

**Minutes of
November 18, 2005
Meeting**

REPRESENTATIVE VAGNOZZI MOVED APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2005, BOARD MINUTES. BARBARA BONGE SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Board Reports
Board Chair's
Reports**

Cliff again raised the issue of the board's Executive and Finance Committees. The decision was made at an earlier board meeting to table discussion pending the appointment of a permanent state librarian. The question was deferred to Nancy Robertson whose recommendation it was to appoint and call these committees together in an ad hoc fashion, as needed. Discussion followed concerning by-laws language. The chair and the state librarian will present revised language for full board approval at the March meeting.

**Board Members'
Reports**

Fran Pletz noted that she is continuing to serve as a board member representing the general user, as no new appointment has been made by the Governor to date. Fran was asked to give a presentation about the Library of Michigan and its services to a Friends Group in northern Michigan, and has now been asked to do a presentation for the Charlevoix Public Library in March. Fran extended her gratitude to Elaine Harrison, whom she met with earlier today, for the information provided.

Cliff reported on an initiative MSU is involved with called Portico. The purpose of this initiative is to assure that today's electronic records will still be available in 10-30 years. Electronic records would be standardized and hopefully in five years or so would be transportable to modern configurations. This project is in its beginning stages and details are still being worked out. It is hoped a model can be created and that there will be broad participation. Cliff noted that Portico would not be used to access records; rather, it would keep records available if a publisher was to go out of existence. A second initiative that is sometimes confused with Portico is the LOCKS (Lots of Copies Keeps Things Safe) program. Both initiatives are fairly important as they are working towards preservation solutions for the future.

**Legislator
Reports**

Representative Vagnozzi reported that the legislature has been out of session since mid-December; full sessions resume next week. A small surplus of money is available and will result in a 3% increase for Michigan's schools. Representative Vagnozzi reminded board members

that 2006 will be another year of struggles and library groups need to be very vigilant.

**State Librarian's
Report**

Nancy reported on the excellent meeting held earlier today between Library of Michigan staff, school media center staff and MAME people. The group discussed issues relating to school libraries. These same issues will be raised at next week's COSLA meeting in San Antonio, so Nancy was pleased to have this opportunity. A subcommittee of this group will be formed for the purpose of creating a marketing plan for school media centers and highlight their cause. The group was committed to this idea; it is vital to make the importance of school media centers known. Another meeting is planned for April. Denise Bartlett added that this meeting with the Library of Michigan meant a lot; it was needed collaboration. Denise stressed that Michigan's students need schools and school media centers with a knowledgeable, skilled workforce.

A meeting will be held this week with the Department of Management and Budget (DMB) regarding moving the Law Library into the Michigan Library and Historical Center. There is a work order and money for this move, and an architect will be brought into the process possibly as early as the fall. Nancy noted that in addition to Law Library manager Susan Adamczak, Elaine Harrison and Ann Sanders are also very involved with this move. The state librarian will be pleased to have all Library of Michigan operations in the same building. The result will be better service for Law patrons; better patron parking; expanded hours for the Law Library; and a cost savings from no longer paying rent at the Williams Building. Staff issues are being worked out.

The Library of Michigan is facing further staffing challenges. Darren Warner, the State Data Center Coordinator, has accepted a position with the Department of Education. Ken Darga, the State Demographer, along with Ann Sanders of Documents will cover Darren's responsibilities for now. The MeL Coordinator position remains vacant; options are being looked at.

Nancy will be in attendance at the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) meeting, in San Antonio, Texas, next week.

Lastly, Nancy mentioned the Michigan Library Consortium (MLC) quarterly training report from Suzanne Robinson who reported that a soldier in Iraq completed an on-line college course utilizing resources available through MeL via authentication using his Michigan driver's license!

Sheryl Mase reported on the application for a 21st Century Librarian Grant available through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The application has been a collaborative effort between LM,

Wayne State University and the University of Michigan. If successful, \$400,000 will be received; ½ of which will go to support students, and ½ of which will go to other staff that have worked in Michigan libraries, other than in a professional librarian capacity, targeting current library issues. It is expected the grant will be awarded this summer.

A second grant (PAC HUG) is being applied for through the Gates Foundation for the purpose of obtaining public access computers for Michigan libraries. Sheryl noted that municipalities serving over 300,000 can apply directly to the Gates Foundation for their computers. One of the first requirements was an inventory of the equipment provided by the Gates Foundation in the first round, in the 1990's; that has now been completed with 100% success. The second phase of applying is crafting the program and writing the grant of possibly over \$2 million. The computers received by libraries in the 90's now need to be replaced and these libraries will receive high priority. The remaining libraries will have until 2008 to get their computers in place. The money can also go toward support, installation and extended warranties. Sheryl will report back to the board frequently on progress.

LM Foundation Report

Judith is pleased to have received very generous funding for the Michigan Notable Books program this year; \$55,000 in sponsorships was received. Two years ago, sponsorships totaled \$3,000. Author visits this year have increased from 36 to 48. The authors will also be in attendance at some book festivals this summer, and posters and bookmarks will be distributed statewide. On May 6th, at the "Night for Notables" event to be held at the Michigan Library and Historical Center, Kevin Boyle will be the keynote speaker. Mr. Boyle was a notable author last year, for "Arc of Justice." It was noted that Mr. Boyle is a very dynamic speaker and it should be an enjoyable evening.

Michigan Reads! support is at \$20,000. This year's program will involve visits and tours, and the Foundation will contribute to placing the winning book in libraries and Head Start programs.

The LM Foundation Board will be meeting on January 24th. Robert Wilson is the new chair and the board will be reviewing a gift fee policy. Judith noted that Larry Lipton, the former chair, had agreed to serve in that capacity for one year; he remains on the board.

A program with the Bar Association, in conjunction with the Law Library is being looked at and is in the initial stages. The Bar Association has expressed great interest in working with the Law Library.

Bill Anderson mentioned the strong potential of HAL, triggered by Kevin Boyle being this year's keynote speaker at the "Night for Notables." Governor Granholm has been stressing the importance of a value driven

administration and teamwork. HAL is looking at how it can be more inclusive and is currently reviewing department boards, as an example. The department is in serious discussion with the University of Detroit Mercy to bring back the play "Malice Aforethought - the Sweet Trials." To do this would increase awareness that race continues to be an issue in Michigan and help in creating dialog. Bill feels it is important to have libraries help in increasing awareness, perhaps by reading Kevin Boyle's book "Arc of Justice." It is a good opportunity to have theatres and libraries working together in a coordinated effort.

Partnership
Reports
Cooperatives

Roger Mendel introduced Jim Seidl to speak about this year's Tigers baseball event at Comerica Park. Last year's event was a first and raised over \$15,000; 9 libraries received a grant as a result. This year's baseball event is scheduled for May 21st; the Tigers will play the Cincinnati Reds. The cooperatives and their libraries will be selling tickets, and information is just coming out. The library that sells the most tickets, based on their service population, will throw out the first ball. In addition, the library that sells the most tickets overall will hopefully receive a baseball autographed by Ernie Harwell and Alan Trammell. Details are still being worked out. It is hoped this will become a yearly event.

MLA

Linda Farynk reported on behalf of Gretchen Couraud, MLA's executive director. The court case involving the Bloomfield Public Library will now be appealed and goes to the Supreme Court of Michigan. MLA will continue to monitor this case. MLA is working on budget issues and preparing a case for support to be presented to the legislature in February. It is MLA's hope that their case will improve library funding for Michigan's libraries. May 9, 2006, is Legislative Day; a good turnout is being hoped for. The Spring Institute for Children and Teens is coming up and involves collaboration between MLA and LM utilizing LSTA funds. MLA continues work on summer reading programs also. MLA is reviewing the possibility of an elected board, with broader reports and membership encompassing the whole state. Such a board would result in a better state library association.

MLC

Randy Dykhuis reported that 30 additional libraries have joined the MeL delivery service - 21 in the Upper Peninsula and the rest in the Lower Peninsula. Cliff noted that he recently needed a certain book, and within two days he had it, adding that this is a great program!

MAME

Roger Ashley commented on this morning's school librarians meeting, thanking the state librarian for putting it together. He too felt this was a successful collaboration. MLC and MAME are working on a grant application together. If successful, the money received will be utilized to

train teachers in Michigan how to use MeL; they in turn will teach students. The grant is offered by the Department of Education and Michigan Virtual University. This year's MAME conference will contain a distance-learning component; a portion of the conference will be made available in the Upper Peninsula. Three intermediate school districts are collaborating in this effort. MAME is also working with a number of universities in the state to reiterate the importance of media centers in all schools, based on the model at Western Michigan University. A group has been traveling to classes to explain the importance of media centers in the educational process. MAME has expressed their desire to MLA to participate in this year's Legislative Day. Finally, Roger noted that for over 10 years he has belonged to the National Freedom to Read organization; it is hoped there will be a collaborative effort with ALA's Intellectual Freedom group.

Board Action

Cliff Haka presented a board tribute of gratitude to Fran Pletz for her years of service on the board and to Michigan libraries. In addition, Representative Vagnozzi presented a legislative tribute to Fran, signed by her area legislators and Governor Granholm. Fran's appointment ended in October 2005; however, she continues to serve on the board, pending a new board appointment from the Governor. Fran will not seek reappointment; however, she will continue her work for Michigan's libraries. Fran will be sorely missed.

**Nominating
Committee**

Cliff introduced Bill Anderson as chair of the Nominating Committee. Other committee members included Denise Bartlett and Linda Farynk. Elaine Logan was nominated as the new board chair, with Linda Farynk as vice-chair.

REPRESENTATIVE VAGNOZZI MOVED ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS. NANCY SKOWRONSKI SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Nancy thanked Cliff for serving as chair; his time has been very much appreciated.

**2006 Meeting
Dates**

The 2006 LM Board of Trustees meeting dates were discussed and chosen as follows: March 24th; May 12th; September 22nd; and December 8th. The meetings will be at 10am, in the Board Room. Jenny will email the board and confirm the dates once the room reservations are accepted.

**Board Discussion
Items**

Lance Werner presented a draft "Library of Michigan Board Advocacy Policy" for review. Following discussion it was determined that Lance and Nancy will rework this policy and put it into layman's terms, making it clearer and more specific. The draft policy will be sent in the next board packet in preparation for discussion and approval at the March meeting. Board members are welcome to send possible advocacy

scenarios to Jenny via email, for presentation and discussion at the March board meeting.

The USA Patriot Act is virtually unchanged to date. Discussion of the Act was deferred to the March meeting also.

Old Business

No Old Business was brought before the board.

New Business

Sheryl Mase shared MeL marketing materials with board members, thanking Thomson-Gale for their assistance in preparing these materials.

Public Participation

Visitors introduced themselves. Roger Mendel mentioned that Fran Pletz has been working for libraries since at least 1970, when he first met her.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board is Friday, March 24, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

BARB BONGE MOVED ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING. FRAN PLETZ SECONDED.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Cliff Haka, Chair

Nancy R. Robertson, State Librarian