

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
March 24, 2006
10:00 a.m.**

Call to Order

The meeting of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, March 24, 2006, at the Library of Michigan, by Elaine Logan, Chair.

Attendance

Members Present: B. Denise Bartlett, Barbara Bonge (alternate for Chief Justice Clifford Taylor), Cliff Haka, Elaine Logan, Fran Pletz, Nancy Robertson, Francis "Bus" Spaniola

Members Absent: Representative Fran Amos, William Anderson, Senator Irma Clark-Coleman, Linda Farynk, Senator Tom George, Nancy Skowronski, Representative Aldo Vagnozzi

Staff Present: Elaine Harrison, Judith Moore, Jennifer Sipe (recording secretary)

Visitors: Jill Costello, Gretchen Couraud, Jim Seidl

Agenda

BARBARA BONGE MOVED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA. FRAN PLETZ SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Minutes of
January 13, 2006
Meeting**

Barbara Bonge noted one change to page 5 of the January minutes. The correct title of the play mentioned is "Malice Aforethought." The change will be made.

BARBARA BONGE MOVED APPROVAL OF THE CORRECTED JANUARY 13, 2006, BOARD MINUTES. CLIFF HAKA SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board Reports

**Board Chair's
Reports**

Elaine Logan attended a digitization conference at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, highlighting UofM's Google project. It was a good conference and varying opinions were expressed on where digitization should be headed. Issues addressed include copyright, storage of hard copies and opting out. Cliff Haka noted there is national legislation about orphan works that addresses the issue of opting out.

Elaine spent an afternoon at MIT, with people who are working on the new version of the worldwide web. This meeting was very interesting and addressed human/computer interactions and the possibility of the future replacement of the keyboard and mouse.

**Board Members'
Reports**

Fran Pletz gave a presentation two weeks ago on the Library of Michigan to a group in Northern Michigan. Many people in attendance were not aware of the Library and its programs and services. Fran noted that the

Charlevoix Public Library is moving ahead with construction; they will have a beautiful building available in November.

**Legislator
Reports**

Jill Costello, representing Senator George, reported that the Senate will soon begin their budget hearings. The Department of History, Arts and Libraries will be addressed on April 18th; and the Library of Michigan budget is tentatively scheduled for May 9th. Jill noted Senator George's interest in digitization and his intention to keep the momentum going. He is anticipating the next round of digitization grants.

**State Librarian's
Report**

Nancy attended the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) meeting in San Antonio, Texas, in January. In addition, she attended a REMC 17 Advisory Council meeting in Oakland County and visited libraries in Jackson, Royal Oak and Milford. Nancy was interviewed on Senator Toy's cable program, WGVU radio and on JTV. She attended an MLA Executive Board meeting and the digitization symposium in Ann Arbor. She also attended a "Hogarama," with author Kelly DePucchio as keynote speaker; Kelly gave an excellent program. Ms. DePucchio is the author of this year's One State/One Preschool Book, entitled "Bed Hogs." Nancy gave a talk at last Friday's MLC Board meeting, speaking about the direction of the state library and her goals as state librarian.

Nancy reported that the recently formed school libraries group subcommittee is moving forward with their marketing plan. The school group meeting was a very productive meeting about media centers - what they do and what they can be. The subcommittee will meet again next month, with the full group meeting again in the near future. The Library of Michigan is facilitating these meetings.

Nancy reported the departure of Julia Meredith, LM's Youth Services Specialist. Julia will now serve as director of the Independence Township Library. It is expected that the Youth Services position will remain vacant at least through the beginning of the next fiscal year. Interviews are currently being conducted for the MeL Coordinator position and the position of State Data Center Coordinator also needs to be filled.

The Gates PAC HUG program is being looked at; this program will replace outdated computer equipment in libraries, purchased as a result of an earlier Gates grant. LM hopes to hire a coordinator for this grant program, to be paid out of the administration portion of the funding. It is anticipated this will be a 2-year position, and then transition to a consultant position serving libraries statewide.

Nancy reviewed her goals as state librarian for FY 2006 through FY 2007.

Cliff commented that MeL helps everyone in the State of Michigan. The Board encouraged the Library to continue maintaining MeL, without reduction. Nancy stressed the importance of marketing and making MeL more visible to Michigan's citizens. She added that the Library of Michigan cannot continue to spend federal LSTA dollars on MeL. Denise Bartlett expressed her support for the return of LSTA subgrants, adding that it helps Michigan's small, rural libraries. Gretchen Couraud added that the Library of Michigan and MeL are on the MLA Annual Conference agenda this fall. Fran urged Board members to speak often about MeL from their own experience; the Board agreed. The recommendation was made that Sheryl Mase put together a MeL "Train the Trainer" program for the Board at the May meeting. Jill also suggested that the legislators share information on MeL in their district newsletters. She will speak with Senator George and their communications office about this possibility and report back to the Board.

Elaine Logan expressed the eagerness of the Board to support Nancy as state librarian. She urged Nancy to come to the Board anytime she needs assistance.

Jim Seidl explained "deep web" to the Board, adding that a presentation was given to Representatives and their assistants at a HAL Subcommittee hearing, resulting in a better understanding. Gordon Macomber, president of Thompson Gale, gave this presentation and perhaps could give this same slide presentation to Board members at a future meeting.

LM Foundation Report

Judith stated that she encounters people daily who know nothing about the Library of Michigan; she urged educating the public about this wonderful organization and how it serves Michigan's citizens. Judith shared the LM Foundation's recent publication entitled "Building a Better Library for the People of Michigan." The report, which contains testimonials, was designed to inform people about the Library of Michigan and its Foundation.

The Foundation's annual campaign has gone out; 650 letters were mailed to past, present and new donors.

Judith is pleased about this year's Michigan Notable Books program; 51 libraries are scheduled for author tours. The schedule was distributed to Board members and Board members were urged to attend events in their areas if possible. Judith asked that Board members inform her of their plans to attend; she will in turn inform the library that an LM Board of Trustees member is present. 13 notable authors are participating in this year's tours. Elaine Logan recommended having Foundation pledge cards and envelopes available at the libraries for those interested in donating. Jenny Sipe will have pledge cards and envelopes available for

Board members at the May meeting. Judith reminded everyone about the May 6th "Night for Notables" event at the Library of Michigan. Board members were invited to attend. Kevin Boyle, author of *Arc of Justice*, and a former Notables author, will be the keynote speaker. This should be a wonderful event; admission is \$25 and wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Al Zehnder, former LMF Board president, and Judith met with Lt. Governor Cherry about opening doors to new donors. This was a good meeting, and a meeting has already been secured with the Mott Foundation. It is hoped that other new prospects become available as a result of the Mott Foundation meeting. A program for new donor acquisition and retention is being looked into; Board of Trustees members were urged to suggest possible new donors also. Judith would be glad to make contacts if and when she is provided with names and contact information.

Partnership
Reports
Cooperatives

Jim Seidl reported on the second annual "Library Day" Tigers baseball game at Comerica Park, scheduled for Sunday, May 21st. Ernie Harwell is again lending his name to this event, in support of Michigan's libraries. Dollars made from the sale of tickets will, for the second year, result in grants to libraries for establishing endowment funds. Jim noted that the Detroit Public Library, which houses the Ernie and Lulu Harwell Collection, is opening its doors to baseball attendees on that Sunday for viewing the Harwell Collection. Ernie Harwell will be present at DPL. Thomson Gale is graciously providing buses for attendees to ride from DPL to Comerica Park.

MLA

Gretchen Couraud reported that legislators are looking for bills to introduce, so this is a good opportunity to make the importance of libraries known and perhaps find new funding sources. Gretchen stressed the importance of sharing information about MeL and having this information, in turn, shared with constituencies; legislators need to be tied to Michigan's library programs. It is also important to make MeL known throughout the community. MLA's presentation to the House was successful; a presentation will now be given to the Senate. Gretchen urged Board participation in this process. Bus Spaniola indicated that, based on his years of experience with the legislature, legislators don't know everything about everything and, therefore, urged face-to-face meetings. Bus indicated that the best way for legislators to be reelected is to listen to their constituencies, so these types of meetings are very powerful. Jim Seidl also stressed the importance of getting the message across to legislators on how important libraries are to citizens and communities. Elaine Logan said it is great to have MLA assisting in getting Michigan's libraries funded. Cliff stated there are large portions

of the population that don't have computer access and won't for a long time. Libraries are an important place where adults and students can go to do homework or to connect to the Internet. Nancy added that the Historical Museum is trying to have an annual program where packets of information are given to legislators. The suggestion was made to coordinate efforts among the department's agencies and perhaps have a "HAL Day" event. Nancy will be meeting with Museum staff on this endeavor.

MLC

The Michigan Library Consortium report was included in the Board packet. No questions were raised.

MAME

The Michigan Association for Media in Education report was included in the Board packet. No questions were raised.

Board Discussion
Advocacy
Guidelines

Draft Board Advocacy Guidelines were presented to the Board for discussion. There are two ways for the Board to advocate - officially and individually. It is important to clarify whether you are speaking as a Board member or as an individual. The Board felt it is important to present its official positions in writing to Bill Anderson, adding that the Board needs to become more proactive in communicating its position. The Board was asked to carefully review this draft document and provide suggested changes. Fran was pleased to now have a clear guideline on advocacy. Elaine Logan said the draft guidelines, with suggested changes incorporated, will go out in the next Board packet and she will call for an endorsement at the May meeting.

LM Foundation
Board
Representative

Elaine Logan, as Board Chair, agreed to serve as the Board representative on the Library of Michigan Foundation Board of Directors. The Board was supportive of Elaine and thanked Cliff for his participation in the past.

Bylaws Changes

Revisions to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees Bylaws were reviewed. Cliff recommended one additional change on page 7. This change will be incorporated.

CLIFF HAKA MOVED APPROVAL OF THE REVISED BOARD BYLAWS. FRAN PLETZ SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Old Business

Denise Bartlett attended a local consortia meeting in the Upper Peninsula. At that meeting, concern was expressed about MeLCat delivery. Denise promised to share those concerns with the Board. Nancy will share the concerns expressed with Anne Donohue of MLC.

New Business

Elaine Logan reviewed agenda items for the May Board of Trustees meeting: the Advocacy Guidelines will be voted on; MeL advisory

training and digitization projects will be discussed; and Lance Werner may be asked to give a Board presentation on the recently passed USA Patriot Act. MLA is considering conducting a symposium on how to “stay legal” with the Act.

Barb Bonge inquired about the Library of Michigan closing on Sundays. Nancy reported this as another staffing/budget issue. It is hoped that the reduced hours will be temporary; however, it is contingent on the budget. The Library of Michigan remains open on Saturday. Bus Spaniola urged informing the legislature of the reduction in hours.

**Public
Participation**

Visitors introduced themselves. Elaine Harrison indicated that Michigan is still looking for delegates for May’s National Library Legislative Day in Washington, DC. Interested Board members can contact Elaine. Thomson Gale will be providing lunch for the delegation and the congressional staffers.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board is Friday, May 12, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

BUS SPANIOLA MOVED ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING. CLIFF HAKA SECONDED.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Elaine Logan, Chair

Nancy R. Robertson, State Librarian