



e-news

from the Literacy Section

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Literacy Section

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Executive Meeting and Assembly Meeting - April 2009 California Library Association Sacramento, CA

Literacy Section Representative to the Assembly member Lynne Price attended meetings for the Executive Committee and Assembly of CLA on April 14-15, 2009. As you know, CLA is undergoing changes; this report was prepared to provide a better perspective as to the level and amount of change taking place.

As members, we've been a part of the restructuring of the organization; Alan is leading us, working to determine how the Literacy Section should continue; to assist Sections and groups, a Transition Toolkit was created by CLA. (It can be downloaded at www.cla-net.org/included/docs/Transition_Tool_Kit.pdf.) However, the organization change has been only one aspect of the changes deemed necessary for CLA. There are many changes taking place to elevate CLA and make it a stronger organization:

- Sale of the CLA building/relocation of CLA offices.
- Search for an Executive Director.
- Need for a special election to identify new CLA President for 2009-10.
- Governance changes.
- Need for update to CLA office technology.
- Legislative updates and positions.
- Other issues as they arise...

On April 14th, members of the Executive Committee met to interview potential candidates for the position of Executive Director of CLA. Prior to the interviews, a subcommittee had screened the candidates and recommended those they felt were best qualified. As a result of the Monday interviews, the Board chose a potential Executive Director, who subsequently turned down the offer. As of May 15th, Barbara Roberts, CLA President, and Claudia Foutz, Interim CLA Executive Director, began scheduling a second round of interviews. Executive Committee members are kept apprised of progress, and are working together for the interviews.

On May 15th, Lynne attended the Executive Committee meeting. Action items for the meeting were as follows:

1. Election of 2009 President Elect and Board of Directors and timeline for transition.

A new candidate for CLA President is necessary, as Dr. Ken Haycock resigned the position in February 2009. Monique is leading the search committee and a special election is planned for early June 2009.

2. IT Task Force Recommendations.

Based on a January 2009 Business Assessment and Best Practices Reviews Report, a recommendation was made to perform an evaluation on the technology currently used in the CLA offices with the goal of updating to an environment that accommodated the vision of the Executive Committee. A task force consisting of members from the CLA IT Section was created with a charge to recommend the best technology to improve website usability, identify tools to encourage virtual collaboration and communication. The task force made a number of recommendations that will enhance CLA's abilities overall.

3. Standing Rules, Organization and Bylaws Committee Report.

A subcommittee was created to amend the Standing Rules of CLA. Committee members made suggestion as to additional content necessary. The subcommittee will revise and present the update report at the June 2009 meeting.

4. 2009-10 Budget report.

Annette and Claudia presented a **very** lean budget for 2009-10, some of which will rely on the sale of the CLA building in Sacramento.

5. 2009 Legislative Committee report: legislative positions.

6. Review of the contract for Michael Dillon and Associates, CLA lobbyists.

Michael Dillon and Christina DiCaro attended the meeting to provide updates to the agenda for Legislative Day, April 15th in Sacramento. (They are also working to facilitate an appointment for State Librarian, a post vacated by Susan Hildreth in February.) This year, in addition to the opening session, a press conference was added which took place on the Capitol steps. New print material was provided both to Legislative Day participants and the representatives they met with. The new brochures replaced the folders given out in the past. Easier to handle, participants can identify the talking points quite easily (Legislative Representative Carey Gross did a great job of including CLLS overview and information); recommendations for visits were included.

7. Corporate Resolution to sell the CLA building.

A decision to sell the building was made due to increasing maintenance costs. The building was purchased as an investment, but has not been a good one for the association. As of this writing, the sale has been completed, and the CLA offices have relocated near the Sacramento airport, renting space from the California Pharmacy Association (CPhA), located at 4030 Lennane Drive, Sacramento 95834, (916)779-4573.

Other Program updates and reports were the update on the recruitment of an Executive Director; the invitation to submit a grant application by the Packard foundation; update on CLA's new presence on social networking systems, including Second Life, Facebook and Twitter – also discussed was a proposed E-newsletter. Updates on membership, marketing of CLA, and a Conference update were included. Regarding Conference: 130 proposals were submitted with the final program to include 90. This may change and depends on the space available for programming. Taking place Halloween weekend in Pasadena, Paula Poundstone will be part of the opening session. The keynote will be the creators of "Unshelved"; the Awards dinner is scheduled for Friday night, and the Librarian's breakfast Saturday morning. Events for Saturday evening are still in the planning process. Much is being done to reduce hotel rates and conference fees.

Following the Executive Committee was the Assembly meeting (34 members, but about 20 attended). President Barbara recognized the Assembly members for their service. With the restructure approaching, this was the final meeting for the Assembly, so all were presented with certificates of appreciation. The EC will exist until the new CLA Board is in place. An invitation was extended to all Assembly members to run for the new CLA Board. The Board terms will be staggered, and will be based on the length of service left on the nominated Assembly members' term. Lynne has submitted her name as a candidate for the new CLA Board, in hopes that the Literacy Section maintains representation to the CLA Board.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for June 2009.

May 22, 2009

Page 2 of 2



-news

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