

Wisconsin Health Science Library Association

WHSLA 2020 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING – Draft of minutes

Thursday, November 12, 2020

Held virtually

Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM by president Holly Egebo.

Attendees

Holly Egebo, Brenda Fay, Debra Knippel, Karen Hanus, Kathy Koch, Robert Koehler, Annie Lipski, Allan Barclay, Gwen Shorter, Jennifer Deal, Dora Davis, Michele Matucheski, Jennifer Schram, Mini Prasad, Liz Suelzer, Jacqueline Leskovec, Xou Lee Va Vang, Heather Jett, Liz Witkowski, Ashley Zeidler, Elissa Kinzelman-Vesely, Nick Lim

Announcements

Liz Suelzer is our Librarian of the Year. Liz Witkowski surprised Liz Suelzer at her home with a presentation of the physical award and some flowers. We'll talk more about the award later in the agenda. Congratulations, Liz!

Officers' Reports

Secretary's report and approval of minutes:

Karen Hanus reported for Barb Ruggeri. Draft minutes of the 2019 business meeting were approved as submitted with no changes.

Treasurer's report:

A written report was submitted and distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. Robert Koehler reported. WHSLA is in great financial shape with a balance of \$20,046.78 as of October 17, 2020. Our income is coming mainly from membership dues right now.

Members' at Large report:

A written report containing the results of the WHSLA Wishes needs assessment was submitted and distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. Deb Knippel reported. A call went out asking WHSLA members to identify their three wishes for WHSLA. We had eight respondents. Four people mentioned the WHSLA Wisdom chat. There were also several mentions of the need to get help from other people. Someone mentioned getting support for copyright issues. Another related a need to get short-term assistance. Holly said there are some very good ideas. She agreed that continuing the WHSLA Wisdom chat would be worthwhile. The results will be submitted to the board for consideration whether these would require special committees to be set up or if they could be assigned to existing committees.

Committee Reports

Archives Committee:

Karen Hanus reported. Much of the information that is of lasting importance to the association is housed on the WHSLA web site. Even older information is archived there. The physical archives are housed at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Ashley Zeidler is the caretaker of the physical files. No other updates regarding archives since the last business meeting.

Communications Committee:

Brenda Fay reported. We are continuing with the blog. If you have ideas or would like to be a blogger, we'd be excited to welcome you aboard. Next blog update will be next week. We would like more people contributing, so please reach out if you'd be interested in participating.

GMR Health Science Librarian Focus Group:

Dora Davis reported. Things are on hold until February of 2021. They are waiting for confirmation that they are going to be awarded the NNLM contract to continue at University of Iowa.

Professional Development:

A written report was submitted and distributed via email prior to the meeting. Dora Davis reported. We are continuing to submit applications for funding for webinars through the GMR. Two are coming up. Dora just finished filling out the application for Explore Your Identity to Improve Your Practice. She's working with Paije Wilson at UW to ask for funding for Grey (Literature) Matters. Several codes are available for several webinars. Two of those expire at the end of this year. This is a great time to reach out and get the code. The committee also sent out a survey regarding how the membership would like to be able to use professional development awards. The majority voted for the proposal where we would offer two awards at \$500 each, but the recipient would have a choice of using funds toward AHIP or conference/CE event. The board agreed to make those changes to our guidelines. If you are eligible and win, you can now use the \$500 toward a conference or the cost of an AHIP membership. If you use the money for AHIP, you may only accept the amount you needed for the AHIP membership. Guidelines regarding eligibility are still in force. You must be member in good standing. Service back to WHSLA is required of winners. Coordinate with WHSLA president and Dora to fulfill your service back to WHSLA. If that doesn't happen, you lose eligibility for the award forever.

Midwest Chapter/MLA rep:

Kathy Koch reported. There's not much news. Midwest Chapter web site does list all state associations and their meeting dates. So, when we have a meeting for 2021 solidified, we'll ask them to post information on their web site.

Old Business

None

New Business

Mystery Item/Librarian of the Year:

We were trying to keep the award a secret so it was listed as “Mystery Item.” Liz Suelzer is our 2020 Librarian of the Year. Liz was nominated and selected in recognition for her efforts in the research of citation behavior around retracted articles. WHSLA provided a floral bouquet, a crystal plaque, and a cap with “WHSLA Super Librarian *2020*” embroidered on it. A photo of the plaque and cap were displayed. A photo of her with her floral bouquet was sent out by email during the meeting.

2021 Budget:

The proposed 2021 budget was submitted by Ashley Zeidler and distributed by email prior to the meeting. The total proposed expenditures are \$2,234. Michele Matucheski noted that no expenses for the 2021 meeting, which are currently unknown, are included. Ashley and Brenda attended a recent, special meeting to discuss the budget and reported that it was decided that if there are expenses expected for the 2021 meeting, the meeting committee will go back to the WHSLA board mid-year to secure approval for the funding.

Professional Development Funds in Guidelines:

Holly reported that the guidelines were changed and distributed via email prior to this meeting. The new guidelines regarding the professional development funds are on page 10.

2021 WHSLA Meeting:

A written report was submitted and distributed via email prior to the meeting. Brenda Fay reported. WHSLA schedules a full meeting every other year. Our 2017 conference was held virtually. Our 2019 conference was held jointly with the Midwest Chapter/MLA meeting. We are on track to have a conference in 2021. Deb Knippel, Kathy Koch, Michele Matucheski, and Jennifer Schram are working with Brenda. Brenda launched a poll. The first question asked attendees what their preferred format for the 2021 meeting is. Most people voted for virtual or “depends on covid.” A second question asked what you were hoping to see at the WHSLA 2021 meeting. Lots of ideas were submitted for the meeting. Karen Hanus asked if it’s planned for fall. Brenda said that was the plan, but they are open to moving it if people think it should be at other times. There are lots of other meetings in fall, so perhaps moving it to another time would be desired.

Nominations Suggestions for President-Elect, 2 members-at-large:

Holly reported that she hasn’t been able to find anyone to step up for these roles. She asked what we would do if we cannot find candidates for these offices. Karen suggested that this should be brought to the WHSLA board.

Discussion of Marketing and anything else you would like to share:

Holly asked whether anyone was doing anything special or interesting to market their library or services.

Karen reported that even now it’s the same-old problem of getting the word out. Continuous marketing is important to keep libraries visible.

Robert said it's difficult because all the meetings are virtual. His office is no longer in the library itself. With everyone overwhelmed with COVID, it's hard to reach people to let them know about the different services available.

Holly asked what people are doing now during the pandemic and whether they are doing a lot of searches for information on COVID or what.

Karen reported that Advocate Aurora has been very active with issues around Diversity & Inclusion and Employee Wellness. Their library obtained new resources on Diversity & Inclusion topics and put together a web page linking users to resources on racism in health care, medical education, unlearning racism, and LGBTQIA. The institution is also very concerned about employee wellness and we were tapped to do a book club to support employee wellness and provide a forum for people to get together to discuss. Our first book club discussions are to be held in December. Michele asked which book was selected. Karen reported that we selected MK Czerwiec's book *Taking Turns*. It's a graphic novel and a quick read, so people shouldn't find time to be a barrier. We were also able to purchase an unlimited electronic copy, so all Advocate Aurora team members should be able to access it. The HIV/AIDS care unit on which MK worked was at Illinois Masonic, which is one of the Advocate Aurora hospitals. And it has themes around diversity and inclusion and an epidemic, so it checked all the boxes for us for a good selection right now.

Dora Davis mentioned that she has also been volunteering with a non-profit group helping with a book club. Help minority students that were talented, but having trouble doing applications to get into school. The non-profit had to show how they reached the students during the pandemic, so they started a social justice book club. They look at different issues related to disparities of health. There are pre-med students, dentists, librarians and others participating. They invite anyone to attend. They meet the last Wednesday of the month for an hour. Mini asked Dora to send a link with information about the group. Dora will send it or maybe do a blog post.

Liz Suelzer said they are doing a lot of rapid searches about COVID for MCW community. Dr. Raymond, CEO and president of MCW, is being called the Dr. Fauci of the Milwaukee area. He provides advice to Tony Evers and others in government in planning for COVID. He asked the library for information early on about transmission of the disease, wearing masks, and other topics. Three or four librarians have been breaking up the search into topics and they put the information into a paper and that's shared with faculty and graduate students who write up reports. It got the library a lot of recognition. Every couple of weeks they get a request for those rapid searches. Holly asked if they are doing that for other topics. Liz said it's really just being done like that for COVID searches.

GMR Speaker:

Jacqueline Leskovec presented a GMR Update. Jacqueline is the Network Librarian for the Network of the National Library of Medicine. Located at University of Iowa. University of Iowa is competing to retain the contract for the next contract period (2021-2026).

Liz Kiscaden took a new job with Creighton University. Derek Johnson is the new GMR Associate Director. Derek was previously health professions outreach specialist. He has a lot of non-traditional library work in his background.

Sam Watson just moved to Burlington Public Library in Iowa. He was commuting a long way to University of Iowa and his new job is in his hometown. He's going to be a new father; so this is perfect for him.

Nora Barnett was hired as Outreach Coordinator. She's working from home in Oregon right now and if they are awarded the contract, she will hopefully stay on and relocate to Iowa.

Their Year 5 Goals are coming along well.

The GMR's region is going to be cut down to 7 states for the upcoming contract period. ND, SD, and KY are switching to other regions. They hope that they will continue to be the next regional medical library for region 6. In the new contract period, there will be no names for the regions, just numbers. News about the proposal will come out early in 2021.

Have upcoming and on-demand trainings. Trying to do more training with COVID. Kernel of Knowledge is an expert-speaker webinar series from the Greater Midwest Region which provides one-hour sessions on topics of interest to Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM) members throughout the year. Check out the training on the web site.

Happy to see WHSLA are engaged with the GMR's sponsored webinars.

Two big funding awards are available right now. The Quick Response COVID-19 Health Information Outreach deadline is November 30th. The All of Us Awareness and Virtual Engagement Award deadline is November 30th. Both awards have a funding ceiling of \$49,999 and a short period of performance Jan-April 2021. If you have an idea, take a look at the funding site.

The Expert Speaker Award is funded up to \$2500. No current deadline. Funding can cover honorariums, speaker fees, travel expenses. Would have to have the speaker and everything paid for by the end of April 2021.

Partner outreach libraries of MCW and UW Madison have helped GMR a lot in their mission.

Newsletters to check out: Academic and Health Science Libraries Newsletter and NLM Technical Bulletin.

Coronavirus Updates available on [MedlinePlus.gov](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/) as well as [nih.gov/coronavirus](https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus), and [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

PubMed-New features include custom date filter and clinical queries for COVID-19.

Any other items?

No additional items were brought up.

Holly was thanked for her leadership this year.

Adjournment

Holly adjourned the meeting at 11:16 AM.