

**ARLIS/NA Mountain West Chapter  
Virtual Business Meeting (Adobe Connect)  
Wednesday, 7 November 2012  
9AM-11AM MST**

**Attendees:** Nicole Beatty, Joan Benedetti, Laurel Bliss, Elizabeth Ehrnst, Marly Helm, Jenni James, Meredith Kahn, Peggy Keeran, Jennifer Mayer, Val Nye, Elaine Paul, Chris Ramsey, Tom Riedel, Kay Teel, Margaret Van Dyk, Julie Williamsen.

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

- a. Chair Keeran called the virtual meeting to order at 9:02 am MST.

**2. Approval/Correction of Minutes from our Toronto meeting (March 31, 2012)**

- a. Jenni James corrected minutes as follows in red:  
2<sup>nd</sup> sentence of Item 3: 2012 income was \$805, with \$575 from dues and \$230 for the Winberta Yao award.
- b. The minutes of the Toronto Meeting were approved with corrections by unanimous vote of attending members.

**3. Treasurer's Report (Jenni James)**

- a. Balance as of October 30, 2012 is \$2689.02. 2012 income totaled \$1315.00 coming from membership dues (\$750.00), Winberta Yao Travel donations (\$265.00), and an anonymous donation for conference or other needs (\$300.00). 2012 expenses included the ARLIS/NA Welcome Party donation (\$250.00), fee to Treasure Mountain Inn for canceled room reserves for conference (\$869.90), online membership payment fees to PayPal (\$3.07). The Winberta Yao Travel Award was not given this year due to the cancelation of the Chapter conference.
- b. There are currently 30 paid members, up from 23 in 2011. Membership distribution: Arizona 3, Colorado 7, Montana 0, Nevada 1, New Mexico 11, Utah 4, Wyoming 1, outside the MW Chapter Region 3 (2 from California and 1 from Michigan). Emails regarding 2013 membership renewal will be sent before the end of November.
- c. Donation to ARLIS Welcome Party  
Some past contribution amounts have been 2009 = \$200, 2010 = \$100, 2011 = \$100, 2012 = \$250. After discussion, the majority of attending members voted to contribute \$200 to the ARLIS/NA 2013 Annual Conference Welcome Party.

**4. ARLIS/NA Executive Board Update (Laurel Bliss)**

- a. The Executive Board met in September for strategic planning. Members are encouraged to look at ARLIS Strategic Plan and Action Plan for 2011-2015  
<http://www.arlisna.org/organization/admindocs/planning/stratplan11-15actionsFINAL.pdf>  
There are items pertaining to goals for Chapters.
- b. The Pasadena Conference is on schedule and Bliss hopes to see us all there.
- c. Dates are being worked on for a conference in Washington DC. The board is discussing conference venues for 2015 and beyond.
- d. Reminder that ARLIS/NA pays for the use of GoToMeeting software for virtual meetings. The Association & Conference Manager, Guadalupe Rodriguez, can schedule that for our use if interested. She needs about 4 weeks notice.
- e. The board approved a subscription to Basecamp project management software and it is available for use by the Chapters. Training is available.
- f. A redesign of the ARLIS/NA website is being managed by the Communications & Publications Committee. They are currently seeking a graphic designer for the project and hope to have someone in place in a couple of months with the new site live in the summer.

**5. Chair's Report (Peggy Keeran)**

- a. Acknowledgements
  - i. Keeran thanked the past board members for their service to the Chapter.

- ii. She expressed appreciation to the people who worked on the Utah conference planning.
  - Julie Williamsen and Chris Ramsey for their work on developing the theme of the conference, making local arrangements, conference promotion, and seeking funding.
  - Meredith Kahn for working on the conference program and soliciting participation.
  - Chris Ramsey for creating the conference website.
- iii. Alexandria Castor and Kay Teel were thanked for their work as members of the Winberta Yao Travel Award Committee.
- iv. Jenni James was thanked for work as Secretary/Treasurer and for setting up online membership payment through PayPal.
- v. Keeran thanked Chris Ramsey for her ongoing work on the MW Chapter website and for setting up the online membership registration through the website.
- vi. Marly Helm was thanked for her ongoing work on the MW Chapter Newsletter.
- vii. Meredith Kahn, Tom Riedel, and Chris Ramsey were thanked for their work on the Nominating Committee.
- viii. All the State Coordinators were thanked for their work.
- b. Utah conference cancellation
  - i. Keeran explained that there was interest in having an in-person conference, but there were not enough proposals submitted for the program, despite extensive solicitation of members and others. Without the needed content, the difficult decision was made to cancel the conference. Over the course of the past two virtual conferences, it was mostly non Mountain West members submitting proposals. It seems people were interested in having a conference this year, but not in participation.
- c. Chapter-level mentoring (email from ARLIS/NA)
  - i. Several members shared positive experiences with mentoring. The importance of mentoring was noted as a way to help those new to the profession. Particularly as the practice of art librarianship is changing from subject specialist positions to being one aspect of one's position. Some possibilities for mentoring were discussed, including mentoring virtually, providing practicum experiences to area Information Resource/Library Science Master's programs, and reaching out to new Chapter members.
  - ii. Anyone interested in mentoring is asked to send Peggy Keeran a message.
  - iii. Keeran asked Jenni James to send her a list of new Chapter members.
  - iv. Keeran asked the State Coordinators to reach out to state members regarding mentoring.

## **6. Vision for the Chapter & Future of the Chapter (Julie Williamsen)**

- a. Williamsen wants to increase current membership. She asks that each of the members think of someone who would benefit from the MW Chapter. This might not be a formal art librarian, but someone at our institution or elsewhere who might find the professional development and connection opportunities helpful. She also wants to encourage more networking and sharing of ideas through the listserv and newsletter, and to explore new ways of connecting members. Perhaps meeting in person every other year and having a joint conference to do that.
- b. Members were asked for ideas for building a stronger Chapter.
  - i. Peggy Keeran noted that she and Elaine Paul recently attended an unconference, THATCamp, where there were all types of librarians working with visual materials. She sees that as an example of a group we could reach out to.
  - ii. Williamsen asks that the members meet within their states and think of others to invite.
  - iii. There was discussion of having joint meetings with other Chapters and/or area VRA Chapters. Joint conferences might also increase the ability to get program content.
  - iv. It is probably more feasible for people to attend local meetings within their state as travel funding is limited.
  - v. Include the possibility of virtual attendance at in-person conferences.
  - vi. Members gave positive response to having virtual meetings every few months.

## **7. Request to hold ARLIS/NA in Salt Lake City for 2015 (Peggy Keeran)**

- a. After discussion, members indicated they are interested in a national conference in Salt Lake City. Julie Williamsen and Chris Ramsey said they are willing to pursue it. They will talk with

the other Utah members about holding a conference there in 2015 or a future time. Laurel Bliss said the Executive Board will need to know within the next month or so.

#### **8. Four Corners VRA chapter information (Elaine Paul)**

- a. A steering committee has been discussing the possibility of having a VRA Chapter in the Four Corners region. They are looking at the benefits, goals, and possible geographical boundaries. While the advantages seem to outweigh the challenges, there is concern about maintaining a formal group. Paul is seeking input from the MW Chapter membership regarding the rewards and potential pitfalls of a regional chapter. Paul, Peggy Keeran, and Tom Riedel will setup a networking oriented get-together for Colorado and Wyoming art librarians and visual resources professionals.

#### **9. Committee Reports**

- a. Nominating (Meredith Kahn)
  - i. Kahn thanked Chris Ramsey and Tom Riedel for serving on the Nominating Committee. Nicole Beatty has been selected as the candidate for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. Jenni James expects to email ballots to the membership before the end of November.
- b. State Coordinators
  - i. Arizona: Marly Helm  
Helm has been recruiting at various events, including the University of Arizona's SIRLS reception. She is creating a small card to hand out to potential members and will share that with the Chapter for others to use.
  - ii. Colorado: Tom Riedel  
Riedel hopes to schedule something in the next month or so.
  - iii. New Mexico: Jenni James  
Joan Benedetti helped organize a meeting in Santa Fe in May and Kathleen Keating hosted a meeting at UNM in October. Plans are to continue having local meetings in the spring and fall.
  - iv. Utah: Christiane Ramsey  
They might have a meeting in November or next semester.
  - v. Wyoming and Montana: Jennifer Mayer  
There's not a large population in the area. Mayer checks with other university people and has not heard back, but she will continue to do so. She is interested in attending a meeting of the Colorado group.
  - vi. Nevada: Peggy Keeran  
Caroline Smith is a new member from Nevada (UNLV). ARLIS/NA lets Keeran know when people are interested in joining the MW Chapter.
- c. Newsletter update (Marly Helm)
  - i. The newsletter is published in the summer. Helm requests that members send her information throughout the year, as things happen. Even if the item is not current in the summer, an article lets people know what members are doing and who to contact if they want to follow up. She also asks for any comments or suggestions for the newsletter and thanks Chris Ramsey for creating the web version.
- d. Winberta Yao Travel Award (Alexandria Caster and Kay Teel)
  - i. The committee sent announcements to several groups for the 2012 award and reminders in July before the conference was cancelled. They did not receive any applicants for 2012.
  - ii. The Travel Award will be given for the 2013 ARLIS/NA Conference in Pasadena. Caster and Teel will continue as members of the Winberta Yao Travel Award Committee. They will provide a timetable for the award.
  - iii. Members discussed the amount for the 2013 Winberta Yao Travel Award and the majority approved raising the amount to \$700.
- e. Web (Chris Ramsey)
  - i. Ramsey asked if members want other features added to the Chapter website. It was suggested that the MW Chapter logo be redesigned to comply with the ARLIS/NA criteria. Ramsey offered to create a competition for students to design a logo and send proposals to the Chapter. Chapter membership voted on her offer with majority approval.

#### **10. Other Business**

- a. None

Keeran adjourned the meeting with membership approval at 10:40 am MST.

Respectfully submitted by

Jenni James  
November 15, 2012