

Membership Committee Meeting (via phone conference)
March 21th 2012
7:30 pm

Members present: Betsy Mahoney, Chair; Susan Justice, Brock Peoples, Jacob Roskovensky, Nina Wunderlich, Ellen Popit, Membership Coordinator.

Also present: Leslie Bednar, IHLS Executive Director

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

Susan made the motion to approve the minutes with corrections from the March 8th meeting, seconded by Brock. All approved.

Leslie and Ellen spoke with the Illinois State Library about the libraries that do not meet system criteria. Ann and Lawren felt badly about the "trauma" this has caused. They proposed the Board send a list of libraries that no longer meet system criteria to ISL. ISL will then correspond with the libraries and give them until the end of the fiscal year (June 30th) to address the problems. If the libraries cannot rectify the situation by June 30th, the IHLS board may move to suspend the libraries. This would give the libraries an extra two months to find solutions rather than an immediate suspension. Ellen then asked if the State Library would give the library members until the end of the calendar year, Lawren replied they would hear the case presented by the system.

The committee appreciated ISL's extension of time for these libraries. It will allow the libraries to make changes and decisions in a more thoughtful manner. The libraries will be able to examine all the available options and make the best decision for the library and community. Nina also mentioned that any changes to a library impacting its budget would have to be soon since most libraries are beginning to work on the new fiscal year's budget.

Nina moved that the committee recommend Ellen's four step plan of action regarding member libraries that do not currently meet IHLS criteria. Jacob seconded. All approved. The Committee recommends the following: restore 11 libraries to full membership; retain 2 libraries at the developmental level; continue to work with 18 members facing challenges to meet the criteria; and move to suspend the membership of 9 libraries.

A report of the committee's recommendation will be included in the board packet to be sent out to all board members. This will give the IHLS Board of Directors time to go over the proposed actions and see the challenges each library is facing with regard to meeting membership criteria.

Betsy told the group the Policy Committee will be meeting Thursday, March 22nd to discuss possible changes to the membership grievance policy and the SUSI amendment to membership criteria. Betsy will email the proposed changes to the Membership Committee.

Brock made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Susan. All approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.