

American Library Association—New Members Round Table  
Executive Board Electronic Meeting  
January 9-18, 2006  
Held through the NMRTBD list  
([nmrtbd@ala.org](mailto:nmrtbd@ala.org))

Officers in Attendance:

Nadine Flores, President  
Amanda Roberts, Vice President/President Elect  
Catherine Collins, Treasurer  
Jeannette Ho, Secretary  
Courtney Young, NMRT Councilor  
Nadine Dohohue, Outreach Director  
Laurel Bliss, Member Services Director  
Laura Kortz, Leadership Development Director  
Michelle S. Millet, Networking Director  
Sally Gibson, Past President

Tanzi Sutton, Parliamentarian (Chair of the Governance Committee)

Guests: Erin Ellis (Chair of the Nominating Committee), Bill Jenkins (Past Treasurer),  
Entire NMRTBD list (Including other Committee Chairs and subscribers of the list)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:39 p.m., CST, by Nadine Flores.

II. New Business

A. Nominating Committee's Slate of NMRT Candidates for 2006

Erin Ellis offered the Board the list of candidates:

Vice-President/President-Elect:

Nanette Donahue  
Tanzi Merritt Sutton

Treasurer:

Amy Gonzalez Ferguson  
Sarah Robbins

Secretary:

Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen  
Kara Whatley

Director:  
Sally Bickley  
Katie Dunneback  
Samantha Schmehl Hines

Motion: Sally Gibson moved that the Board accept the slate of candidates. Laurel Bliss seconded the motion.

Discussion: Bill Jenkins, past treasurer and observer to the meeting, commented that he thought the Board had adopted the change during the 2005 Annual Conference to allow candidates to run for specific directorship positions. Tanzi replied that since the bylaws change was on the agenda, it probably had to go on the ballot for a vote before it could go into effect. She asked for clarification. Erin Ellis quoted a section of the minutes from the Board meeting at the 2005 Annual Conference, which states that the bylaws were to be amended according to the proposal, and that the E-meeting would follow this up. Sally Gibson added that the membership must approve the change to the by-laws before the change could take place. She mentioned that in the 2007 election, candidates will be able to run for a specific directorship position

Vote: The motion to accept the slate of candidates was unanimously approved.

Amanda Roberts announced that she would serve in Nadine's place during the rest of the meeting, due to problems Nadine was experiencing with her e-mail.

## B. By-Laws Change

Tanzi stated: "At the Board Meeting at Annual in Chicago, the board approved a change that would allow a Director to run for a specific directorship instead of being assigned a directorship after being elected to the position and serve in that directorship for the entire 2 year term."

She presented the proposed change of wording to the NMRT bylaws:

### Article IV Terms and Duties of Office

1. Terms of Office
  - d. Director will be elected for a two-year term.
  
2. Duties of office
  - f. Director shall perform duties of one directorship as outlined in the handbook and any additional duties as delegated by the President.

The bylaws currently state:

### Article IV Terms and Duties of Office

1. Terms of Office

d. Director will be elected for a two-year term.

2. Duties of office

f. The Directors shall perform duties as delegated by the President, normally encompassing a major NMRT area of activity.

The change in Article IV, Section 2: Duties of Office. f. will allow a Director to serve in one directorship for the entire 2 year term, and will then allow candidates to run for a specific directorship instead of being assigned a directorship after being elected to the position.

Motion: Catherine moved that the Board put these changes on the ballot for a vote of the membership. Sally Gibson seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion to accept the changes in the By-laws was unanimously approved.

C. Proposal by the Midwinter Social Committee

[See supporting document at end of minutes]

Nadine announced the next agenda item would be presented by the Midwinter Social Committee.

Motion: Amanda moved for the Board to postpone consideration of the Midwinter Social proposal motion until the Midwinter Board meeting. Laurel seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion to postpone consideration of the Midwinter Social proposal was unanimously approved.

III. Adjournment

Motion: Amanda moved to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved (8 voted in favor, 1 abstention). The motion was seconded by Catherine and Sally.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m., CST.  
Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette Ho  
Secretary

## Supporting Documents for E-meeting

Proposal Form for NMRT

**From** (name and office/committee):

**Date:**

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**Board action requested:**

Increase in the budget for the Midwinter Social Committee of \$50, for a total of \$250, rather than \$200.

**Background:**

[Per an email from Past-President, Sally Gibson] “A little history on the Midwinter Social. Prior to 2002 everyone was required to pay. It was getting quite [expensive –] about \$25.00 a person and collecting the money was also an issue. NMRT wanted to make the Social more affordable for the students and members. 2003 was the first year NMRT provided \$200 in the budget. The original intention was to cover the cost of room rental. So far everyone has been able to get space for free and use the money for food. With each year it has gotten more challenging...”

**C. Rationale:**

The "free space" that we were "offered" by the hotel where we have aq block of rooms would not have worked out at all. We could not bring in outside food -- not even through their restaurant (I erroneously reported in an earlier email to some Board members that the food would have had to come through the hotel restaurant, but in looking back through my emails with Kim Sanders, I realized that the room offered through ALA at the hotel where the NMRT block is would not permit food – period. The room would have been free if it had been for a meeting – a social just isn’t the same thing.

Additionally, I did try contacting the hotel restaurant to see if we could have a portion of their space for the event since several NMRTers are staying there and it would be so convenient. There was no way that the restaurant could do this. In fact, they told me upfront that they have too much business on a Saturday night to set aside room or try to accommodate arrangements like we sought for this event.

Hard Rock Cafe was the only local place that I could find – and I contacted several restaurants in the River Walk vicinity – that would work with us at all on this.

This is what I discovered: MOST restaurants do not want to take the potential revenue loss that a group event like ours may create. \$200 of appetizers is guaranteed, but that's it.

Setting aside room and a designated server(s) for a group of 30+ for 2-3 hours with no guarantee of anything other than that \$200 is a little risky. By starting the event at 5:30 this year, it is my hope that several people will order dinner there, too. The folks at Hard Rock have been absolutely wonderful and I would hate to see them not be tipped accordingly. And if we tip accordingly, then we'll be looking at about \$160-\$165 worth of food instead of \$200 if we cannot increase the budget by about \$50.

**D. Impact on ...**

**Organization:**

\$50 additional monies – a slight increase to the budget; however the positive aspect of allowing an increase to the budget (we hope) will be that the event can/will be used as a promotional tool to increase membership.

**Committee (issuing proposal):**

Midwinter Social Committee – impact would be that we would have enough money to provide a tip PLUS pay for \$200 worth of appetizers that we can offer to our NMRT members at the event.

**Other committees:**

N/A

**Finances** (Please indicate amounts here with only brief descriptions. Detailed descriptions of costs should be supplied in “E. Supplemental information” below.)

**Itemized expenses:**

Can provide a current copy of the Hard Rock Menu with recently-increased prices, if Board members so desire.

**Amount not covered by current allocations:**

Estimating \$50 for gratuity/tip for the evening's event.

**E. Supplemental information** (e.g. complete text of the report or policy; and for any proposal that requires additional funding, provide a description and justification for each item):

N/A