



President-Elect's Summary of KRA Summer Leadership Meeting *June 11, 2017*

The Summer Leadership Meeting was held on June 11, 2017 at Baldwin Intermediate Center in Baldwin, Kansas. Twenty-one members attended in Baldwin, and three members attended via Zoom. Six councils were represented. What follows is a summary of the critical items discussed at the meeting. Anyone desiring to read the official minutes may contact Vicki Seeger at vseeger@kansasread.org.

Committee and Chair Reports were presented. These reports are available upon request.

2017 Fall Conference

The 2017 KRA Fall Conference will be held on October 30, 2017 on the Washburn University Campus. The theme for the conference will be *Educators: Literacy Superheroes*. All conference-related materials including registration forms, presentation proposals, and the tentative schedule have been uploaded to the KRA website. Dr. Steven Layne will be the keynote speaker and present two additional times during the conference. Aaron Reynolds, the BMJ Award winner, will be a keynote speaker, as well. A block of hotel rooms will be available at the downtown Ramada Inn for out of town attendees wishing to spend the night on October 29.

Electronic Book Bags

Twenty-six electronic book bags have been written by members of KRA and by university students at The University of Kansas and Northwest Missouri State University. To date, 11 of the book bags have been uploaded to the KRA website. The next step will be to work with librarians and other outlets to let families and teachers know about the electronic book bags and how to use them.

KRA Website

Stephanie Hamby, the KRA web master, has worked diligently to update the KRA website to meet ILA requirements. During the past year, 16 email blasts were sent to members, and others are using the portal to send email to chapters. A motion was moved and seconded to upgrade Ms. Hamby's hourly fee to what she charges other organizations using her services.

ILA Changes and Future of KRA

Alica Thomas facilitated a presentation and discussion about ILA changes for state councils. A letter of intent is due by September 2017. There is a waiver option, but in order to take advantage of the waiver, all financial materials from the state councils must be turned over to ILA. Because there was not a quorum present at Summer Leadership Meeting, no decisions were made about the future of KRA. At the fall conference, a Delegate's Assembly will be held after the conference has ended to make a final decision knowing that we have taken care of

important initiatives. However, the members of the Executive Board want to make sure that members not associated with a local council also have a voice in any decision that is made. All members of KRA will have the opportunity to vote for what is proposed at after the Delegate's Assembly at the conference. This vote is likely to be electronic and pushed out through the KRA website. Ms. Thomas is creating a video for members that were unable to attend Summer Leadership so they may watch to learn more about what ILA has proposed for the future of state councils.

- **The future of the BMJ Award:** Roger Caswell has volunteered to house the award through the Jones Institute at Emporia State University. We still need to find out of the transfer of funds can occur from 501C to 501C. An attorney will be consulted.
- **The future of *The Kansas Journal of Reading*:** The journal has been edited and published in partnership with the Kansas Literacy Professors in Higher Education. That organization has agreed to take over the journal.
- **The future of electronic book bags:** It is possible that the book bag work could be taken on by another state organization, for example, the Kansas State Librarians Association, but no steps have been taken to transfer the work until final decisions are made.

A decision was made to allow the Executive Board to explore all options and resources about the future of KRA. Members of the Executive Board are in consultation with other state councils to see how they are exercising their options and final decisions. KRA members can look for updates throughout the summer and early fall prior to the conference. If any member has a question or a suggestion, please funnel those through Alica Thomas or Vicki Seeger.

Professional Learning Opportunity

Dawn Moews announced the 20th Annual Kansas Regional Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Conference at the Jones Institute. Dr. Richard Allington will be the keynote speaker. More information will be available from Ms. Moews.

Vicki Seeger

President-Elect