



# THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION - VICTORIAN GROUP

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES (6/85)

Minutes of the Executive Committee (Victorian Group) meeting (6/85) held at 5.30 pm on Thursday 15th August 1985, at Brownless Library.

1. Present

Sandra Russell, Susan Liepa, Andrew Rooke, Aina Zalitis, Mary Arnold.

2. Apologies.

Joan Martin, Bronia Renison, Barbara Jacoby.

3. Minutes.

Moved that the Minutes of the previous meeting (11.7.85) be accepted.

4. Business arising from the Minutes.

A cassette tape of the last general meeting is available from Andrew Rooke. C120 length tape cannot be duplicated in the high-speed duplicator, so C90 tape should be used in future. Comments received indicate that the meeting was successful.

Statement on International Relations - Mary read the Victorian Branch draft reply, and this was generally agreed to. Andrew reported that he has studied the problems of libraries in developing countries, and has written on this topic. To assist them properly, we need to provide salary supplements to enable librarians to go to the developing countries. We should also provide foreign exchange grants to enable them to buy the materials they require, rather than rely on handouts of unwanted material.

Special Grant Application - The final draft of the application for a grant to produce a new Book List has been completed. It will be submitted by Barbara. A new MLA Book List has recently been published in the MLA Bulletin. We should be able to use it as a basis for work on our list.

BJ

Advertising - The Special Libraries Section is actively seeking advertising for its Newsletter. They have approached James Bennett, Freelance and Triad. Their rates are the official LAA rate: \$90 per page, \$50 per half page and \$30 per one-third page. There is also a rate for line advertising. The Newsletter must be registered as a periodical before advertising can be accepted. This is not really needed for the M.L.S. Newsletter. We could ask a prospective advertiser to pay in kind, eg. pay for postage.

Structure of the Executive - Members who might be invited to observe Committee meetings are: Max Smith (Lincoln Inst.), Julia Quinn, Veronica Delafosse, Brenda [Lee], Shirley White, Beatrice McNeice.

Nomination papers for the new Executive should be included with the next Newsletter. The Treasurer should be retained for a two-year term, and there should be an ex officio position for the Past-President.

The LAA Office Bearers Manual should be checked to determine normal procedure.

SR

Members could be invited to attend Committee Meetings via the Newsletter.

Committee members should start soliciting nominations a month before the AGM.

Conference - All Committee members are now taking part in the desk roster. There were no further ideas for administrative details for the conference.

Library Technicians - Hospitals employing L.T.s include Prince Henry's, Eye and Ear, St. Vincent's. Louise Lansley is beginning to work on an award for L.T.s in other states, and wishes to know how many are employed in Victorian hospitals. She will discuss the matter during the Conference.

5. Treasurer's report.

The credit balance stands at \$291.04.

6. Branch Council Report.

The LAA Statement on International Relations, and Memo on Organization of Biennial Conferences were discussed at length.

A letter to lapsed members is ready to send, but Branch is waiting to receive an up to date mailing list from the LAA, which is having computer problems.

The LAA has lost many members in the higher income groups, but numbers in the lower income groups has increased. This may indicate a trend to part-time work. Members complained that "Happenings" in Incite is always out of date.

They suggested that it should be changed to a slip-in format.

The toll-free number to the LAA is 008 221481, to be used between 10.00 - 12.00.

The LAA has signed a contract to produce a promotional videotape, as a recruitment device. It will cost \$17500. The expenditure was criticized by Branch Council, and Executive members: the LAA has not determined members' priorities on expenditure; it has acted without proper authorization from General Council.

The LAA has been approached by Australia Post to sell its mailing list.

This is to be investigated as a possible fund raising venture.

A Workshop on copyright is being organized for 24 October.

There will be a joint meeting with NSW Branch in November. It will include panel discussions on Creating an environment for professional development, and the Place of the practicum in library education.

7. Correspondence.

<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Re</u>
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CORRESPONDENCE IN: July 6th - August 15th, 1985:

25.7.85	E. Carvosso	Secretary	Meeting on subscription agents with Acquisition Section.
2.8.85	S. McKeown	Secretary	Library technicians.
2.8.85	M.L.G. (W.A.)	Secretary	Minutes of meeting.
5.8.85	M.L.S. (QLD)	Secretary	Minutes of meeting.
8.8.85	Vic. Branch Sec.	Secretary	Diary of events.
8.8.85	Ryde Hospital	Chairperson	Book list and Journal list.
9.8.85	M.L.S. (S.A.)	Secretary	Minutes of meeting.
12.8.85	M.L.G. (W.A.)	Secretary	Minutes of meetings.
13.8.85	M.L.S. (N.S.W.)	Secretary	Minutes of meeting.
15.8.85	LAA Exec. Dir.	Secretary	Interlibrary loan of audiovisuals.
15.8.85	NZLA Health Libs.	Secretary	Newsletter, July 1985.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT: July 6th - August 15th, 1985:

22.7.85	Secretary	Secretaries, M.L.S.: SA,WA,QLD,NSW	LAA Memo: Organization of Biennial Conferences.
22.7.85	Secretary	Branch Council	Diary of Events.
22.7.85	Secretary	LAA Membership Clerk	Death of A. Webb, P. Nagler.
22.7.85	Secretary	Shirley White	MLS rep. on WHIG.
22.7.85	Secretary	S. McKeown	Library technicians.

8. Business arising from Correspondence.

The Branch Council Diary of Events has been interrupted during the year due to changes of personnel responsible for it. There did not appear to be a copy available at the last meeting. Branch Council should advertise the Diary's existence more widely. Mary will follow up the matter with its present editor, Bev Kirby. We must ensure that our meeting dates are included in the Diary.

Branch Council will not issue their agenda <sup>earlier</sup> as they wish to include all possible correspondence.

Interlibrary Loan of Audiovisuals - copies of the memo should be sent to Family Medicine Programme, Lincoln Institute and the Health Commission Libraries for comment.

9. General Council Report.

There was no report from the General Council meeting.

10. Victorian Group Annual General Meeting.

It was agreed that the AGM should be combined with a pre-Christmas party, and that a separate Christmas party should not be organized, due to poor attendance in previous years.

It was agreed to meet in a restaurant with a private function room on about November 14th or 15th. Delegates to the 5ICML could be asked to give very short reports of the conference.

11. National Annual General Meeting.

Joan has asked for a motion to set up a trust fund from conference profits. We need to determine whether we can keep all or part of the anticipated profits. Barbara should check the Office Bearers Guide, or with the LAA.

An amount should be retained as seed money for the next conference.

Moved:

That a trust fund, to be known as the Anne Harrison Fund, be created from proceeds of the 6th Biennial Medical Librarians' Conference, to support medical librarianship in Australia.

BJ

12. Corporate Plan and Review.

Notes taken at the Victorian Branch meeting were presented, and generally agreed to.

Points raised in discussion were:

There is a lack of planning and consultation, and spending is irresponsible. The present LAA Executive does not seem to realize that the salaries of most members fall within the \$18-25,000 range. They must lower the fees. Membership benefits must be clearly shown.

Administration should be decentralized.

The LAA should obtain professional management consultants to set up a management system, and run it, or continue to advise on its administration. Such a team should be organizing the present Corporate Plan and Review.

The LAA is trying to be all things to all people. It may need different objectives for personal / institutional / nonprofessional members.

What members get from the LAA is largely self-generated.

What is the fee differential between professional and nonprofessional membership? The LAA should provide better continuing education, and award points for professional development.

There are too many overheads for an organization of this size.

Cost-benefits should be analyzed. MLS members pay in \$45,000 in fees, but receive only \$1.50 per member in return. This is insufficient for local needs. This is especially noticeable in smaller Sections.

Australian Library Journal is not meeting members' needs, and needs to be reconsidered. It could include discussion of memos issued by the LAA.

The LAA Exec. is out of touch with grass-roots needs - there is a lack of consultation with members.

How important is the central administration in comparison with decentralized groups? Branch Council could be the focus for decentralization.

The LAA is ineffective in industrial negotiations. (eg. Victorian hospital librarians). Should it be an industrial organization?

There is too much segmentation eg. into special interest groups. A more logical division into sections may be possible. Functional groups could be absorbed in a more decentralized set-up.

13. General Business.

Marjorie Pinder has retired from Prince Henry's Hospital. There will be a party in the PHH Board Room on 30 August. Andrew is collecting donations for a presentation. The Group will send a letter. We will arrange a presentation at the AGM.

Kevin Coombe at the Health Commission will investigate whether any aborigines are employed in medical libraries.

13. Next meeting. 19th September.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.