

**Minutes**  
**ARLIS/NA Central Plains Business Meeting**  
**Friday, October 23, 2009**  
**Spencer Art Reference Library, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art**  
**Kansas City, Missouri**

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am by Tori Gregory.

Marilyn Carbonell welcomed all in attendance to the Spencer Art Reference Library and the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, and introduced SARL staff. M. J. Poehler seconded the welcome to Kansas City.

**Old Business**

M. J. Poehler distributed copies of the minutes of the spring meeting held May 29, 2009, in Oklahoma City. The minutes were reviewed. Suzy Frechette moved and Kay Logan-Peters seconded to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

M. J. Poehler presented the Treasurer's Report as follows:

Balance as of May 28, 2009: \$2630.39

Total income: \$300.00

Total expenses: \$183.50

Balance as of October 23, 2009: \$2746.89

Lois Crane moved and Susan Craig seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

M. J. Poehler presented the Membership Report as follows:

At the time that the membership report was prepared, Central Plains Chapter had 9 lifetime members and 2009 dues had been received from 12 individuals, for a total of 21 members. M. J. reported that during fall meeting registration just prior to the call to order, she had collected annual dues from an additional 5 individuals, bringing the total current membership to 26.

Mikael Kriz presented the Webmaster's Report on the status of design changes and content upgrades on the chapter website. He reported being about one month behind the production schedule that he had hoped to maintain. All of the elements of the website except for the membership database are on track, and Mikael expects to complete the set-up for the database soon.

Mikael will distribute the generic login for the chapter blog, which is located at <http://arlisnacp.wordpress.com>. Only members will be able to post to the blog, which is intended to present news and events related to members' libraries.

ARLIS NA news – Susan Craig reported briefly for Mari Russell, who was not able to be present. As Vice President/President Elect of ARLIS-NA, Mari travelled to New York in September for the mid-year Executive Board Meeting.

Tori Gregory initiated a discussion of the services available through ARLIS/NA's management firm, Technical Enterprises, Inc (TEI). Tori responded to the Chapter Wishlist survey last summer,

which was conducted in order to ascertain what types of services from TEI might be most useful to chapters. As reported by Tori, TEI is able to provide web-hosting services. TEI will set up a Content Management System, which enables people to maintain a website without knowing html. There is no charge for this service, except when re-design of a website is necessary. Mid-States chapter has just begun using TEI web-hosting, so recently that it is too soon for them to comment on the service. Tori reported that TEI will accept web edits submitted by writing changes on a printout of the web page. General discussion followed. It was noted that at the last chapter meeting, the decision was to observe TEI to get a feel for its effectiveness, then to consider the option of moving to TEI for web-hosting. We will have an opportunity to seek comments from Mid-States leaders and members at the ARLIS NA spring meeting in Boston.

The possibility of TEI providing management of chapter membership rolls was briefly discussed. Mid-States is trying out the membership management service. The mechanics of the service are unknown; specifically how would the banking of dues be handled? M. J. Poehler noted that chapter funds are currently on deposit with Arvest Bank of Oklahoma City, and that the service has improved and is good. The group consensus is to wait to establish whether the organization's relationship with TEI is stable before transferring any duties.

### **New Business**

A straw poll was conducted Sept. 25 – Oct. 14, 2009, seeking opinions as to whether the chapter should hold one meeting or two per year. The invitation to participate was sent to the Central Plains “extended” e-mail list (members plus potential members and potentially interested people), a total of 51 individuals. M. J. Poehler compiled and distributed a printed summary of the results. Briefly: 15 people completed the survey. 100% of the respondents reported themselves to be annual-dues-paying or lifetime members. The number of respondents preferring one meeting per year was 7. The number preferring two meetings per year was 8; however, of these 8, 4 used the “comments” field to indicate that one of the two meetings should take place at the ARLIS NA annual conference.

There was general discussion of the results and of the pros and cons of meeting once annually and the pros and cons of meeting twice annually. Some members mentioned the benefits of chapter meetings. Members also noted the reality of dwindling fiscal resources and lower staffing levels making attendance at meetings a significant challenge. It was noted that scheduling chapter time at the annual conference can be very difficult, due to the packed schedule. Web-based technologies for conducting business were mentioned as a possibility. It was suggested to advocate strongly with ARLIS NA leadership for time to be dedicated at the annual conferences to chapter meetings. Some members appreciate chapter meetings more than the annual conference; some are not able to ever attend the annual conference.

By consensus it was decided to put forth a call in the near future asking for a volunteer or volunteers to host a Central Plains chapter meeting in spring 2010, as well as seeking a host for the fall meeting of 2010. If no volunteer for a spring meeting comes forward, then a chapter meeting at the ARLIS conference in Boston will be planned, as well as planning a substantial fall chapter meeting.

Election: The chapter needs to elect a vice-chair for 2010. Tori Gregory appointed Susan Craig and Ellen Urton to form the nominating committee for the election of vice-chair. One benefit of holding the post is eligibility, per the chapter bylaws, for chapter officers to apply for chapter travel funding to the annual ARLIS conference.

Brochure Exchange: Marilyn Carbonell had invited attendees to bring copies of their institution's brochures to the meeting for exchange among members, and many people did so. Marilyn discussed the advantages of seeing examples of others' informational brochures, bibliographies, and promotional printed matter. By consensus it was decided to make the brochure exchange a regular feature of future chapter meetings.

Mikael Kriz announced that he is seeking examples of useful documents to help him with developing a chapter information guide, which will include information on membership. Members are invited to share documents of this type with Mikael.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Submitted by M. J. Poehler, ARLIS Central Plains Secretary-Treasurer