

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FORM

Midwinter Meeting or Annual Conference

(circle one)

Year : 2001

Please complete this form AFTER THE FINAL meeting of your committee at the ALA Midwinter Meeting or Annual Conference. Return it to the PLA Table in the ALA Office area before leaving the conference site or mail to the PLA office ASAP.

PLA COMMITTEE NAME: Public Libraries Advisory Subcommittee

CHAIR OR REPRESENTATIVE: Susan Cooley

DATE(s) OF MEETING(s): January 13, 2001

Please provide a one or two paragraph report on the activities of your committee during the Midwinter Meeting or Annual Conference and what you expect to accomplish prior to your next committee meeting.

Reviewed issues Jul/Aug, Sept/Oct, Nov/Dec. No real changes or suggestions were given from the group. Most agreed that the white space problem we had discussed in the past has been diminished.

Renee Vaillancourt took ballots for 1st place article and that is Pep-talk for the Reluctant Librarian and 2nd place article is Information Needs of Low Income Residents. These articles will be recognized at the PLA President's Program in San Francisco.

Kathleen Hughes reported on several topics: revenues are right on budget; ads look good; magazine subscriptions are up; lateness of issues to subscribers has been a problem so a suggestion was made to move up the printing by several days for each issue to alleviate the problem. A survey about PLA (*Public Libraries* was included in the survey) was discussed. Here are some of the respondents answers: 1 in 3 read all or most or all of each issue. Features that had the highest rating were: feature articles; Tales From the Front; Internet Spotlight; and PLA News. Half said they pass on the issue to others. 3 in 4 offered no suggestions for improvements or changes.

Renee reported that two columnists are leaving: Diane Lyons-Tales from the Front and Janet Foster-Internet Spotlight (at this point Bob Rhoif-New Product News indicated that he was not interested in continuing but will stay on until Renee can find someone else). The current author of Tech Notes is also leaving and will be replaced at some point. Theme issue in February: Libraries Build Sustainable Communities. Special extra issue in September on technology and libraries (devices, content, virtual libraries, 24-7 reference)

ATTENDING: Faye Clow, Susan Cooley, Brendan Dowling (PLA), Jane Eickhoff (PLA Publications Committee), Janet Foster, Kathleen Hughes (*Public Libraries*

Managing Editor), Ellen Kardy, Victor Kralisz, Lynn Lockwood, Bob Rholf , and Renee Vaillancourt (*Public Libraries* Feature Editor).

ABSENT: Catherine Halaka (sent her ballot by email), and Susan Hayes.