

ARLIS/NA Northwest Chapter Fall Meeting
October 19 & 20, 2012 – Portland, Oregon

ARLIS-NW Chapter Chair, Angela Weaver, convened the Business Meeting at 1:05 PDT with 17 in attendance. Ten attendees from academic libraries, two from museum/research institutions, three students, one retired, and one from a public library.

Welcome by Angela Weaver

Introductions

Short introductions by those present.

The meeting began with a quick presentation by Laura Russell of [23 Sandy Gallery](#) in Portland. Laura described the work she is doing to promote book and letterpress artists and distribute artist books. She offered a discount to any attendee eager to purchase items while in Portland, and provided a “goody bag” of maps and brochures related to the Portland art scene.

Approval of Minutes from December 2011 (virtual) Chapter Meeting.

Secretary’s Report by Claire Dannenbaum

Claire introduced two new Executive officers: Susan Gilman (Secretary), and Suzanne Rackover (Vice Chair/Chair Elect) whose terms will commence January 1, 2013.

Claire’s report described an overview of her two terms as Secretary (2011 and 2012) including revisiting unfinished business brought up in previous meetings and listserv discussions, especially:

- Issue of establishing a Facebook page (as offered by Traci Timmons), or other social media format, which seems increasingly necessary and useful to the Chapter.
- Concern with lack of updated content on our webpage which feels static (despite a nice design upgrade).

In light of these issues, we discussed establishing a blog (rather than Facebook which feels increasingly fraught). Susan Gilman offered to work with Traci to get something started. We agreed that meeting minutes, rosters, by-laws, and other “officialia” of the Chapter should stay on the ARLIS/NA-hosted website, with a blog (or similar) linking to more dynamic content, including exhibition announcements, special projects by Chapter members, new resources, etc.

Claire proposed creating a document that outlines the timeframe and expectations of Chapter Meeting planning. Working from a model of an annual fall meeting, we can be more effective in our Chapter if we have baseline expectations about who handles certain tasks and when they will occur. Claire offered to create a draft document and seek input from previous Chairs,

especially Paula Farrar who was Chair for three consecutive terms and worked on two successful Chapter meetings.

This idea ignited discussion of succession planning between Executive officers; we need to have clearer expectations about who is responsible for what and when; we need to communicate more effectively with the Chapter, and find ways to create more momentum on Chapter projects. We discussed some systemic disadvantages of our group (geographic span, the expense of travel, etc.) but agreed that we have room for improvement and can improve with more definition of our roles.

Treasurer's Report by Marilyn Nasserden

Marilyn's report was not received before the meeting commenced. It was received the following day by email and will require that some items are approved by email, namely:

- Continuation of support for ARLIS/NA conference (\$100.)
- Continuation of funding for Chapter-sponsored Travel Awards:
Chapter Meeting Travel Award (\$200.)
ARLIS/NA Conference Travel Award (\$500.)

2012 Expenses:

- \$500. ARLIS/NA Conference Travel Award (Dan McClure)
- \$150. Support for the ARLIS/NA 2012 conference in Toronto (increase for this specific event was previously approved due to location in Canada)

Other items on Marilyn's Report included:

- Decrease in total revenues for chapter, due to fewer members overall, and fewer renewals.
- Virtual meeting (Fall 2011) resulted in no registration fees collected.
- Reminder to renew both ARLIS/NA and Chapter memberships.

Vice Chair's Report by Dan McClure

Dan read a portion of his Travel Award Report from his trip to the ARLIS/NA 2012 Conference in Toronto. At the conference he presented a session on Mimi, an image repository being developed at PNCA.

He also convened a Chapter meeting at the conference in which 3 members were present. Unfortunately, the NW Chapter meeting was not held in the time slot available to Chapters, and so attendance was slight. Dan's Travel Award Report will be posted on the ARLIS website.

Based on observations made in Toronto, Dan coined a term for a group of art librarians: a “context” of librarians--which is more fitting than a gaggle, herd, a posse, or any number of other terms than have likely been applied to our community! (Now we should add it to the Wikipedia page of lists.)

Chair’s Report by Angela Weaver

Angela’s report focused on two significant items:

- The proposal to co-host a national joint ARLIS/NA-VRA conference by the Northwest Chapter of ARLIS and the Pacific Rim Chapter of VRA.
- The proposal by Marilyn Nasserden of hosting a 2013 Northwest Chapter meeting at University of Calgary in collaboration with Suzanne Rackover at The Banff Center.

Regarding a national conference in the Northwest: It was strongly suggested by the ARLIS Board that it is the Northwest Chapter’s “turn” to host a national conference. The two most probable locations are Seattle and Portland with some preference for Seattle due to direct flights in/out and proximity to the Canadian border. The opportunity of co-hosting with the VRA Pacific Rim Chapter is exciting because it is a large and very active chapter with lots of talented people. Several members of ARLIS are members of that organization as well.

Several attendees expressed concern that we do not have the cohesion or determination as a group to do a national conference. Vanessa Kam (Skyping from Vancouver, BC) was especially forthright in expressing concern and questions the Northwest Chapter’s ability to gather enough energy to pull off such a huge task.

Alan Michelson (outgoing Secretary for ARLIS/NA) suggested that recent co-hosted events between the two organizations have ironed out some of the kinks in the conference planning process which makes it more possible. All around, members expressed a need for leadership: it will take a dedicated team of 4-6 leaders to gather enough steam to get committees in place and on task for a successful Northwest conference. A letter of commitment is required which would come from both the ARLIS Northwest Chapter and The VRA Pacific Rim Chapter.

Motion: In favor of further exploration of joint co-chair between ARLIS-NW and VRA Pacific Rim Chapters for a joint national conference (affirmed).

Angela and Alan (both at UW) are going to follow up on this.

The second item concerns the location of our 2013 Chapter meeting. Marilyn Nasserden has graciously offered to host at the University of Calgary in collaboration with Suzanne Rackover at The Banff Center Library in Alberta, Canada. There was considerable discussion pro/con about the location but since we had only one attendee from Canada, it was determined that more information was needed.

Pros	Cons
ability of Canadian Chapter members to attend	expensive to travel in Canada
spectacular scenery of Banff	more Chapter members in the US, or near major US cities
impressive new facility in Calgary	distance between Calgary/Banff for short meeting
several years since last meeting in Alberta	too far to drive there from almost everywhere but Alberta itself
weather is unpredictable in late fall	meeting could be held in late summer

Claire offered to distribute a survey to determine the likelihood of members attending a meeting held in Alberta. She will follow up with more details via the listserv.

2013 Chapter Executive Committee named:

Chair: Dan McClure, Director of Library, Pacific Northwest College of Art

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Suzanne Rackover, The Banff Centre Library

Secretary: Claire Dannenbaum, Librarian, Eugene, Oregon

Treasurer: Marilyn Nasserden, Librarian, University of Calgary

Outstanding actionable items to be addressed through listserv discussion:

- development of handbook for succession of Chapter Executive officers
- determination of location for 2013 meeting
- approval of known upcoming expenditures regarding Chapter Travel Award, national conference support

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 PDT.

Respectfully submitted, Claire Dannenbaum, Secretary