

**MINUTES**  
**Trustee Services Committee Meeting Notes**  
**February 19, 2008**

Members Present: Jennifer Lange, Chair, Jean Ehnebuske, John Bickford  
Staff Present: Josh Cohen, Merribeth Advocate, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich

I. Across the Board Newsletter

The committee discussed multiple possibilities for topics for "*Across the Board*" the quarterly newsletter sent to all member library trustees. The topics selected were:

- Open Meeting Laws & the Freedom of Information Act
- Roles & Responsibilities (of Trustees, Directors and Staff)
- E-Communications
- Facilities - maintenance & growth (1st newsletter of 2009)
- Smart Growth

II. Trustee Continuing Education

Merribeth reviewed the previous year's education opportunities. The committee discussed topics for this year's education sessions, including:

- 10 Obstacles to Effective Boards,
- 7 Habits of Highly Effective Library Trustees and, the

idea of featuring a panel of board presidents who have done great work in the recent past. Additionally, the committee discussed the possibility of a 'certification process' for member library boards that recognizes those boards that participate in trainings and education opportunities over multiple years.

III. Annual Meeting Speaker

Josh shared the possibility of hiring Charles McClure as our keynote speaker for the October 2008 Annual Meeting. Mr. McClure is a writer whose emphasis is on information sciences and where technology is heading in the future. Additionally, he provided much of the insight for the Gate's Grants. The committee agreed that he would be an excellent choice.

IV. Trustee Success Story Awards

The team agreed that the changes instituted last year were beneficial to the program and should be continued. Thus, the Award will be offered to one trustee from each county who meets the ideals of a library trustee in his/her work. The team also confirmed that entire boards are not eligible, only individual members.

V. MHLS Trustee Visits to Member Libraries

The attendees agreed that MHLS Trustees should continue to be encouraged to attend library board meetings in their counties at a rate of two per year.

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