

NEBRASKA SHRAB

Wed., Oct. 21, 2009

Lincoln, Nebraska

Gilmore Room, Nebraska History Museum

10:00-12:00; 1:15-3:15

Attendance: David Crawford, Cathy Danahy, Andrea Faling, Gayla Koerting, Tom Mooney, Bob Nash, Jim Potter, Mike Smith, Karen Wagner

Absent: Sarah Polak

MORNING SESSION:

Meeting began at 10:05am.

I. Introductions

Each member of the NE SHRAB introduced him/herself to the other members of the board.

II. Overview of SHRAB

Gayla Koerting, NE SHRAB Coordinator, conducted a brief Powerpoint presentation on the roles, objectives, and mission of SHRAB Boards in conjunction with NHPRC and CoSA. She also explained the history and outreach projects/events that NE SHRAB had conducted over the past decade. The final part of the presentation focused on the objectives that board members should address from the SNAP grant over the coming year as outlined in the cover letter to them (dated October 2, 2009).

III. Appointment of SHRAB members

After a discussion of possible appointees and a renewal of terms, the board members decided that the best option was to amend the By-Laws adopted by the board in 1994 under Article III (Membership) and Article IX (Quorum). There are three congressional districts for Nebraska, 3 SHRAB members are appointed from each district. Discussion focused on the difficulty of finding individuals to serve on the board from the third district representing western Nebraska. There was also a concern that a representative from local and county government does not currently serve on the SHRAB Board. Cathy Danahy suggested that the executive director of NACO (Nebraska Association of County Officials) be approached to discover whether the organization would want a member of NACO as a permanent appointment to the NE SHRAB. Cathy Danahy and Gayla Koerting will approach NACO Executive Director Larry Dix with this issue.

The following motions were made by Gayla Koerting:

- 1) Amend and revise by-laws for Article III and Article IX for a minimum of two representatives per district and a request for additional recruits to volunteer to be on the Board to fill out representation.

2) A permanent appointment to the Board from NACO would be pursued by the end of year by Cathy Danahy and Gayla Koerting. Ms. Danahy and Ms. Koerting will get an appointment with NACO Executive Director Larry Dix. If NACO agrees to a permanent representative on the NE SHRAB Board, the by-law will need to be changed as well.

Approved-Gayla Koerting; Seconded-Cathy Danahy
Group Vote-Approved: Unanimous

III. Review of 2006 Strategic Plan

-Education and Training

Group discussion quickly focused on the fact that local historical societies, museums, repositories, and county courthouse officials want to have “hands on” contact with professionals who can provide guidance and advice on historical records or collections in their care. The issues are how to facilitate such training with limited staffing, budget constraints, and getting the matching funds for grants when our state does not receive such monies from the legislature.

- 1) The group spoke extensively about the idea of a “traveling archivist” that other states such as Missouri and Montana have developed either through grant funding or as full-time positions within their agencies. The brainstorming session generated two options to facilitate and implement this idea in Nebraska: A) A future grant proposal might entail 2-3 years for the project and would offer supplemental income for the intern along with travel expenses; B) Once a permanent appointment from NACO would be on the board, he/she could provide input on the need for a “traveling archivist” in the state, especially in county courthouses that have limited facilities and lack proper conditions to store permanent records of historical significance.

One course of action was decided upon by board members:

-State Archivist Andrea Faling would speak to Prof. Becky Pasco of UNO about the feasibility of an internship or practicum for students interested in library science and archives. Dr. Pasco coordinates the Library Media/Library Science Education Program for the Department of Education.

Website: <http://www.unomaha.edu/libraryed/>

AFTERNOON SESSION:

I. IMLS Conservation Planning Grant: Presentation by Lynne Ireland(NSHS Administration)

Lynne Ireland spoke to board members about the IMLS conservation planning grant, “Connecting to Collections.” This grant would allow state and local organizations to develop a statewide conservation plan in order to improve collections care. The grant proposal would be submitted to IMLS (\$40,000) in December. Potential partners for the grant are the Nebraska Library Commission, Nebraska Museum Association, Nebraska

Library Association, University Library System, Nebraska Humanities Council, and Nebraska Arts Council. Ms. Ireland needed a letter of endorsement by NE SHRAB members for the grant project by December 15, 2009. Board members agreed to the letter of endorsement for the IMLS grant.

II. Outreach and Promotion-NE SHRAB

Posters:

Board members discussed materials that NE SHRAB could use to promote itself as an advisory board. Gayla Koerting passed around three posters that were produced in conjunction with various SHRAB Boards in other states, especially for Archives Week/Month in October. Members agreed that producing posters would be a good way to promote SHRAB in order to co-sponsor such programs. An appropriate theme(s) for the annual poster would also help to promote activities of the Nebraska State Historical Society and SHRAB. Andrea Faling suggested that a poster committee could address the theme, and images would be used/credited from other museums, historical societies, and archives within the state. Gayla Koerting will contact Dan Stokes of NARA to discover whether some funds could be used to produce some posters during this grant period or if such funds would be applicable for a re-grant.

Current Strategic Plan:

Mike Smith, David Crawford, and Jim Potter noted that the current strategic plan has recommendations for NE SHRAB under each of the five issues, and in order for the group to begin identifying tasks and establishing priorities in the future, these recommendations needed to be reviewed. State Archivist Andrea Faling and SHRAB Coordinator/Curator of Government Records Gayla Koerting volunteered to annotate the bulleted recommendations (complete/incomplete/in progress) and send these out to board members through e-mail by the end of the year.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Gayla Koerting
NE SHRAB Coordinator
October 28, 2009