

## **Maryland Library Partnership**

### **March 30, 1999**

President Powers called the Annual Meeting of the Maryland Library Partnership to order at 10:00 a.m. Board members present were Chuck Powers, Linda Mielke, Ms. Hairston, Irene Padilla, Ron Kozlowski. Also present was George Sands.

There were three agenda items for discussion. One was whether or not to charge members nominal dues; the second was to pursue a project beneficial to all Partnership members. President Powers presented the idea of annual dues. He felt that by charging a nominal fee for membership, something like \$10.00, the Partnership could purchase banking services, letterhead and other "office" essentials.

After a brief discussion, Linda Mielke moved, and Ron Kozlowski seconded that members be charged \$10.00 dues.

President Powers then presented the second item for discussion. He presented two ideas for Partnership projects: electronic books and a software package to gather statistics. The electronic book project could be a demonstration of this new technology. Each member library would receive an e-book from the grant. Each member would then develop a service project using e-books. After the project developed, each member would then conduct a limited evaluation and report back to the Partnership. President Powers suggested that LSTA funds could be used for the project. On a motion from Irene Padilla and a second from Ms. Hairston, the Partnership voted to seek LSTA funds for an e-book project. President Powers agreed to write the grant application.

President Powers then presented a second project idea. Several software companies have developed library statistical packages.

What is needed is an easier way to send our annual statistics to the Division and also an easier way for local libraries to compare themselves to Maryland libraries and libraries around the country. It was decided to ask several software companies to demonstrate their products and then write an LSTA grant application for the software that best fit our needs. President Powers agreed to invite all Partnership members to a software demonstration

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 am.