

MINUTES
Midwest Chapter, Visual Resources Association
Spring Meeting
February 29, 2001

VRA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

In attendance:

David Bowers, University of Minnesota
Larry Colgan, DePaul University
Cate Cooney, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Jane Darcovich, University of Illinois-Chicago
Kathy Evans, Purdue University
Jane Ferger, Indianapolis Museum of Art
Eileen Fry, Indiana University (briefly at the end)
Leigh Gates, Art Institute of Chicago
Jane Goldberg, University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana
Tom Hartman, Harrington Institute of Design
Jennifer Hehman, Indiana U. / Purdue U. at Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Virginia Kerr, Northwestern University
Meg Klinkow, University of Chicago
Alma Koppedraijer, Art Institute of Chicago
Maureen Lasko, University of Chicago
Julie Marchenko, Northwestern University
Rebecca A. Moss, University of Minnesota
Eric Peterson, Southern Illinois University
Heidi Raatz, Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Heidi Schaap, Carleton College
Betha Whitlow, Washington University

Jane Darcovich called the meeting to order at 12:05.

1. The minutes for the fall meeting were distributed for review. Jennifer Hehman motioned that they be approved and Meg Klinkow seconded. The vote was unanimous for approval.

2. Leigh Gates of the local conference committee gave a recap on the status of the Chicago conference so far. Despite a train wreck that delayed one of the speakers for a session, there had been no major problems. She wanted to thank Jane Goldberg for ordering and buying the baseball caps with the Chicago 2001 logo on them. Proceeds from the caps will go to VRA Midwest chapter (if we sell enough). Leigh also noted that the registration desk is running well thanks to Beth Kopine and Betha Whitlow. She thanked Alma for compiling the guidebook,

Rebecca for running the Raffle, and all those who are participating in panels. Even the weather has been cooperative. Leigh also welcomed all the new members.

3. Rebecca gave the secretary's report. We have received 21 memberships as of this date, which brought our current balance to \$598.75. The cost of the lunches was \$181.97, which brought us down to \$416.78. We received seven new memberships during the course of the meeting, which brings our new total to \$486.78. [Note: Since that time there have been four more membership requests or payments, so we will have more than 30 members in our chapter - quite a strong showing.]

4. The geographical scope of the Chapter was next addressed. We proposed adding Minnesota to our chapter, which already includes Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. A member vote was taken and the vote was unanimous in favor of the change. We will amend our By-Laws and send them to the VRA Executive Board.

5. The fall meeting was discussed next. Following our usual pattern, we would be meeting with ARLIS Midstates. Tom Hartman (Secretary-Treasurer) reported that they hadn't decided on plans as yet but would keep us in mind. Their spring meeting will be in early May in Chicago at the Museum of Contemporary Art. St. Louis was mentioned as a possible meeting place for the fall meeting because the 2002 VRA and ARLIS conferences will be held jointly there. Betha is happy to host a meeting in the fall. There was some discussion about meeting with ARLIS Central Plains who are the host ARLIS chapter with VRA Midwest (the host chapter for the second year in a row!) We will continue with these discussions and let the membership know of the decision once it is made.

6. Julie Marchenko solicited any suggestions for the VRA Midwest website.

Members were then invited to share any other business or announcements. Meg Klinkow suggested that there be a topic for subsequent meetings, perhaps some non-sexy topics that didn't include digitization of materials? Perhaps a discussion on the issue of the crossovers and disparities in salaries between Visual Resource professionals and other librarians in cataloguing areas. Archivists and VR professionals tend to come from smaller units and are much less well paid. It was also noted that not all VR professional have an MLS. Virginia Kerr suggested we discuss the professional roles that we all play. Jennifer Hehman discussed the needs of music librarianship, which deals heavily with copyright and digitization issues, and requires crossover roles for many VR professionals. Copyright specialists are on staff at IUPUI, which helps them out. Many of us will have to deal with combining images, music and text for our collections.

The membership was then invited to introduce themselves because so many

were new members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45.

Submitted by Rebecca A. Moss