

OLA Executive Board Meeting – Notes Draft
June 4, 2021
Virtual Meeting
10 am – 3 pm

10:00 Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Attendees/Introductions: Kate Lasky, Arlene Weible, Nancy Hoover, Elaine Hirsch, Buzzy Nielsen, Kirsten Brodbeck, Marci Ramiro-Jenkins, Bryce Kolza, Eddie Arizanga, Grace Butler, Lacey Legel, Lori Wamsley, Rachel Bridgewater, Rick Stoddart, Rinny Lakin, Sue Ludington, and Shirley Roberts

Congrats to Marci for OLA president elect; Welcome to Nancy Hoover, State Librarian; welcome to Grace Butler, new OASL president

Approval of Minutes

OLA Executive Board Meeting April 2, 2021

OLA Annual Business Meeting, April 22, 2021

Arlene moved and Rachel seconded to approve both the minutes of April 2 and April 22.

Motion passed.

Standing Items

EDI and Anti-Racism Committee (Marci)

Solicited committee members. 29 applications received. Review of applicants considered input as to why applicant wanted to serve on the committee. Ericka Brunson and Pia Alliende will serve as co-chairs for 2021-22. Follow-up with those not chosen to serve on this committee will be considered maybe for service on another committee

Action Item(s):

1. Buzzy and Arlene will work with co-chairs to establish understanding of standing committee, addition to bylaws as a standing committee, etc. Marci will set up meeting.
2. Marci and Arlene will meet to identify those individuals not chosen to serve on the EDI Committee to possible other OLA service.

Strategic Plan Updates (Kate/All)

Kate asked for input from those in attendance on the strategic plan, for the focus item of – Increasing engagement in OLA and enriching the membership experience, what has/is being done:

- Virtual conference
- EDI Anti-racism committee, Marci, encouraged individuals to submit application to join the committee even if they were not OLA members. (8 of 29 committee applicants were members). Discussion pursued regarding non-members being able to participate in committees. Strong comments regarding chairs of committees should be OLA

members. Arlene recommended checking in with other units to see what they might be doing.

Action Item(s): Arlene, Buzzy, Kate, and others will continue to look at non-members being able to participate in committee work without being OLA members.

Reports

2021 Virtual Conference Report (Lacey/Shirley)

Overall virtual conference was well received. Registrations: 1,150. Estimated net is \$52,000 Follow-up survey was sent out. 207 responses, small portion of our participants that responded. 124 topics posted to community board with over 5,000 responses to those topics.

First time attendees: 33.8%

Library category distribution: 65% public library, 15% academic, 5% school library, 11% other, no response 4.

Website (Wordpress): 25% as excellent, 56% found the website to be good and 15% found it to be satisfactory.

Whova app: 20% said excellent, 53% said good, 20% satisfactory.

Exhibitors: 50% responded N/A so expect that many attendees did not interact with the exhibitors.

Keynotes: 48% said excellent, 22% good, 27% responded N/A so suspect they have not had a chance to view

Programs: rated 50% excellent, 43% good, 2% satisfactory. Slow Librarianship... top rated, Universal Design, as well as Bias in Design and Diversity Audits had very positive comments. 90% of the respondents indicated they would be returning to view the recorded programs.

Favorite thing about conference: Keynotes got a lot of shout outs

Conference meet expectations: 32% exceeded, 56% meet, 9% nearly meet, with only 4 respondents indicated it did not meet their expectations.

Future conferences, what they would like to see: more variety in topics (this was a themed conference so effort was made to have more programming meet the theme), more networking sessions, appreciated the morning informal chats with Lacey and Shirley, shorter programs, more programs.... 67% said they would attend a future virtual conference.

Action item(s): Shirley will send out message to speakers once the conference is done in August if that session ratings are available.

Association Manager's Report (Shirley)

First part of May continued to review the conference captioning recordings to permanently add, they are done, up on youTube. Need to talk about what to do with those recordings after August 31, 2021. Completed a final review with Whova, continued to add registrants to the conference. Paid conference virtual assistants, credit card charges resulting from captioning, Zoom enhancements, etc. Completed grant reports for ODLC and Libros for Oregon. OLA Board Election information page and ballot were created, updated website for the change in status for Reforma Oregon and EDI Antiracism committee on the web pages. LIOLA21 registration form was done, ordered the text for the leadership institute participants, prepared

the ballot for LIRT election, along with regular deposits, payment of expenses, and financial reports.

Treasurer's Report (Lori)

Written report on file on the 20-21 Monthly Financial webpage. Expecting a good net profit this year, due to success of the OLA Virtual Conference. Dues down still a bit, 2.5%. Investments are up, as stock market doing well.

LDLC Advocacy Report (Sue)

Sue reported on Legislative Committee last meeting, 5/18 and session report.

House Bill 5017, State Library of Oregon budget, voted on by house of representatives, which funds Ready to Read with key measurements proposed by the State Library, passed floor 56 to 4. (priority bill)

House Bill 2919, about academic textbook transparency costs – not sure of status. But on track to pass.

Senate Bill 299, Children's Services District, no vote taken, bill is dead.

OLA approached by a legislator to assist with the "Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund," which has to do with broadband and e-rate dollars. Not sure of status at this time. Was on hold waiting for revenue forecast.

Kate reported that a robust conversation on school libraries at last LDCL meeting and how OLA may be able to advocate more for school and academic libraries. Grace reported that OASL has been working on a bill for some time now regarding school programs and what a school program should look like. Last time through it was scraped. They keep working on this effort, to hold DOE accountable for what they have said makes a strong school library program.

Sue reported it is being purposed, from the committee, that the LDLC structure, communication, etc., needs to be looked at for consideration of possible restructure, etc. Also, looking at the working relationship process between OLA and OASL.

ALA Council Report (Kirsten)

ALA annual conference will be virtual again this year. Has been kept in the loop with ALA's Forward Together effort, which is on their restructuring, but last meeting about six weeks ago so nothing new to report. ALA council has been invited to a micro-aggression training session, which Kirsten is attending on June 22. Not much more new to report.

Action Item: Kirsten will work with Shirley to put up on the OLA website the information on ALA passed resolutions, etc. Arlene recommended a summary in the OLA Hotline after the conference would be great.

State Library Report (Nancy)

1. American Rescue Plan – a lot of working taking place right now. A plan is in place, taking to State Library Board for review and approval. Expenditures must be completed by September 2022.
2. Hiring for new positions in most divisions taking place right now.
3. Same search firm will be used to hire State Librarian, anticipating 4 to 6 months. Search will be run by Governor's Office. It has been acknowledged that they will follow the process when the last state librarian was hired, so hopefully the open forums. The State Library Board, as well as Jennifer before we left, is advocating for the open forums. Hopefully there will be a remote option.
Action Item: Kate will write a letter to the Governor's Office (the governor, Berri Leslie, the library board, and Nancy Hoover) requesting that a member of OLA be included in the hiring process. Kate plans to attend the next State Library Board meeting.
4. Covid Plan – Still looking at opening in September and the necessary planning.
5. Celebrated Volunteers in April, via social media, video created by the State Library and t-shirts mailed to all volunteers.

Conference Survey Comments from Lacey that she wanted to share, here are a few with the rest to be shared in her conference report:

1. I got to see sessions on all days of the conference, if it would have been normal circumstances, I would have only been able to attend maybe one day of the conference. That is what was super nice with the conference being virtual this year.
2. As support staff I have never been invited to the OLA Conference usually the librarians go and the support staff stays behind to cover shifts. Because the conference was virtual this year we were all included and I am grateful for that.
3. I was thrilled by the opportunities to unlearn racist beliefs and be more inclusive. I felt that each session I went to was valuable. I learned so much.

Something to keep in mind in that even though conference was virtual and anticipated that all staff have access, it is known that libraries still did not give staff time within their scheduled work time to attend or to view the sessions at a later date. Miss the critical aspect of networking while the sessions were taking place.

Continuing Business

Annual Membership Survey (Kate/Elaine)

Elaine reported that there has been 361 responses to the member survey to-date with more expected as the survey is open till June 11. 65% of responses were from members. 43% of the members responding have the employer paying their dues. 70% of those responding have access to professional development/travel funds. Kate reported to having had one negative statement regarding the OLA EDI focus and will be speaking with that individual this afternoon. Anticipating that the Membership Committee will be the lead in future annual surveys.

Action Item: 1) Kate will look at pulling from the survey to apply comments to members versus non-members. Keep in mind the need to balance comments good with bad.

- 2) This committee will report to the board and OLA membership (via OLA Hotline or general email).

Restructuring Communications and OLAQ Guidelines (Elaine/Arlene)

Update – by Arlene. Theresa Stover, technical writer, will be taking on this project and will use what Jane Scheppke had started. Will do for \$500. Timeline – Start June 2, completion 7/21. OLAQ editorial guidelines. Kate will provide Shirley with information for Personal Services Agreement. Will be looking for feedback from OLA Board, Max and Martin from the EDI Communication, please take time to respond timely. Also Kate received an offer from the Communications Manager from the Oregon Humanities to review the OLAQ guidelines as a courtesy.

- Action Item:**
- 1) Kate will provide Shirley with information for Personal Services Agreement and the scope of work for the completed guidelines.
 - 2) Ask of the board to participate at level you are comfortable with and your experience with the OLAQ on this effort

Next Quarterly issue planning possibility. Theme: Privacy

Guest Co-editors – Ellie Avis

Kelly McElroy

Still need to work on the issue of Editor position for the OLAQ.

New Business

OLA Officers Elected for the 2021-22 Organization Year

Vice President/President-Elect: Marci Ramiro-Jenkins

Secretary: Star Khan

Treasurer: Stuart Levy

Vice President/President-Elect, Marci Ramiro-Jenkins and Treasurer, Stuart Levy, will be added to the financial accounts as signers.

Annual Unit Reports (Kate)

Kate presented a revised annual unit report form. It will be finalized and sent out late June, early July.

- Action Item:** Look at maybe working at the board retreat to review process of using our meeting structure more to stimulate the use the strategic plan document for reporting of efforts or accomplishments.

Annual Planning (Arlene)

The OLA Board Retreat is scheduled for August 16-17, virtually. Will be structuring the retreat on timing, etc. as well as, topics of strategic planning, team building, OLA operational processes..... Arlene asks you to reach out to her with any ideas you may have on the retreat.

Conference Chair: Arlene hopes to have a conference chair for this year even though we are not have a full blown conference. Arlene will be talking more with Lacey. May be able to use a conference chair to do planning for an OLA Award/meeting banquet. Also discussed the programming option of one pre-conference at PLA. SSD has worked with Donna Cohen and Marci was looking at a Ted Like program of Diverse Voices.

August board meeting will be virtual.

Letter of Support for OLA to Library Directors (Kate)

Tabled till next meeting

Unit Updates and Board Member Comments (All)

SSD – Rinny Lakin: Board members have lost their library jobs and others moved to other states/countries.... so transition is taking place. Conference 2021 was cancelled will take place 7/22/22 at Timberline with an EDI theme. Secretary: one candidate at this time, continue working to acquire others. Treasurer is currently open and will seek nominations.

ACRL_OR -- Rachel Bridgewater: Have had a couple of webinars. Bulk of time planning and goal setting. Difficult finding candidates to run but ballot is open and closes on Monday. Great candidates just running unopposed. Temporarily suspended policy of needing two candidates.

OYAN – Keli Yeats: Working on procedures and policies, updating where needed, formalizing processes, etc.. Put out an EDI statement. Revising the scholarship form for communication preference given to BIPOV and other marginalized individuals. OYEA 2021 award went to Violeta Garza.

CSD – Bryce Kozla: In good shape for officers. Spring workshop conducted. The online auction, which was very successful.

REFORMA_OR. Eddie Arizaga: RFCVII still on for November. Program proposal submission has been extended. Working on bylaws for division status, changing language, etc. Working on membership recruitment.

OASL Grace Butler: OASL Conference will be virtual. Working on a strong school library rubric. Will have ready for principals this fall. Focus this year on EDI. Voted to award to seven sets of Beverly Cleary titles.

OLA Parliamentarian – Buzzy: No update. Shirley noted that bylaw language undated to reflect language changes from OLA Business Meeting on 4/22/21.

EDI Antiracism Committee – Marci: Reported on work with State Library of Oregon, and the review done on Cornelia Marvin Pierce. Also found that Cornelia Pierce was noted within the

Oregon Blue Book and will be looking at the entry. It has been removed until review is completed and initiated a review of all entries.

Conclusion –

Next Meeting, August 27, virtual. Information will be forthcoming. Any agenda items get to Kate. Sue would like to see discussion on Lobbyist and OLA Assn Manager contracts. Will look at limits that the organization can spend. Kate will set up meeting regarding contracts. Report on LIOLA21 at next meeting.