OLA Legislative Committee  
Monday, January 25, 2016 • 10 AM to 12 noon  
Oregon State Library Room 202

**Present:** Carol Dinges, Cathryn Bowie, Ruth Murray, Janet Webster, Abigail Ekder, Jane Corry, John Schoppert, Sue Ludington, MaryKay Dahlgreen, Diedre Conkling, Nan Heim, Nathan Peterson

**On the phone:** Korie Burkle, Rachel Bridgewater, Elsa Loftis, Kate Lasky, Candace Watkins

1. **Lobbyist Report** (Nan)
   * Update on possible Summer Learning legislation for February Session.
     + Nan met with Rep Smith Warner but hasn’t seen the draft legislation yet. She assumes it will go to the Education Committee. In the short session, a bill, once introduced, must be heard in the same week. Bill drafts went to the sponsors last week and will be published later this week (January 28 or 20). Things will move very quickly so we need to have our talking points.
     + Jane and MaryKay attended a meeting at the invitation of Rep Smith Warner. They think that the request would be to create a workgroup and will not include a funding request this year. We believe that it would be focused solely on summer programs, not after-school programs. The State Library, DOE and Legislature would be leading the work group. OLA would be included as a member. The goal would be to prepare a funding request for 2017.
   * Session starts next week and is supposed to last six weeks. Lot of bills from last-year will be introduced. The fact that it’s an election year will definitely impact the session.
2. **State Librarian Report** (MaryKay)
   * Update on possible legislation for February Session coming from the State Library
     + State Library will be presenting a strategic plan update and library board to General Government subcommittee.
   * A new board member is waiting approval. This is the state government member and is from the Forestry Department.
   * State Library has purchased Safari ebook service for state employees and it’s being very well-received.
   * Answerland has moved to the State Library
   * Public comment on draft Administrative Rules
     + Board approved adminstrative temporary rules on Jan 8th.
     + The public comment period will probably be mid-May to mid-June. The hearing for adoption will be in June.
     + MaryKay and the Board will be convene the stakeholder groups to review.
   * The Board will be fully staffed at their April meeting in Bend and hope to do some strategic planning in August.
   * National Library Legislative Day – May 2-3, 2016
     + Ruth, John, Sara, Elsa, Kate, MaryKay will be attending. John has funding from the OLA Academic Division and Kate has funding from the Legislative Committee.
     + State Library will register everyone and set up the appointments with legislators.
     + Attendees are responsible for making their own travel and hotel accommodations. Those being reimbursed by OLA will send receipts to appropriate OLA contact.
     + MaryKay will send videos about National Library Legislative Day to the group so those who are new can review for more background.
     + The State Library will create briefing packets to be given to the legislators. We can put additional information into the packets. ALA contributes briefing papers on the federal issues.
     + MaryKay will check with Turner Masland (ALA Legislative Committee) or Vailey Oehlke (PLA President) if they will be attending and want to part of the Oregon delegation.
3. **State Law Librarian Report** (Cathryn)
   * Best Practices for public libraries working with county law libraries
     + Cathryn and Sue have been talking with other states to find models of county law libraries in public libraries such as LA County Law Library, Hamilton County (OH). AALL Standards for county public law libraries were published last year. Sue and Cathryn are using them as a framework for drafting Oregon standards.
     + Law libraries are fundamentally different than public libraries. As public libraries assume the responsibility for providing access to legal information is not simple. It requires specialized and expert staff and expensive resources. Staff members need to be trained about resources as well as knowing the limits of what they can do. The reason for the guidelines to is to help public libraries as they assume the responsibility.
     + Answerland currently forwards online legal questions to a list of law librarians. Can this be better promoted? The State Law Library handles many of these questions.
     + Cathryn is talking with vendors and other states about providing statewide electronic resources with geolocation. Oregon is unique in using this approach and others are very interested.
     + Sue is updating a piece on the value of a public library law library, and is also working on content for public access to justice for AALL.
   * Training on new legal information resources
     + Tillamook, Klamath and Deschutes have put their county law libraries inside their public libraries. Sue visited Tillamook and met with several staff members about their experiences. She has been helping them fine-tune their core collection, and will be doing staff training for FastCase and Nolo databases. She has recruited librarians from State Law Library, University of Oregon, and Multnomah County Library to do the training. The Tillamook project is a pilot.
     + Nate is serving as the main librarian for legal resources at Deschutes Public Library. He will be a great resource for Sue and Cathryn for testing the training and the guidelines.
     + OLA Reference Roundtable has funds to subsidize the costs related to doing these trainings.
     + Would this be a good candidate for an LSTA grant? We encouraged Sue and Cathryn to consider LSTA grants after doing a pilot.
4. **Future of OLA Scholarship funds** (Jane)
   * An OLA group has recommended that we move away from MLS scholarships and focus on creating opportunities for developing leaders. The Leadership Committee has agreed to take this over. We did not have objections to this and thought that staying flexible in funding need was the more important.
5. **Min Yasui Day legislation** (Buzzy)
   * Buzzy has asked that OLA support the legislation. He is going to write a letter for OLA to submit as written testimony to the legislature. Janet will follow up with him. (Buzzy could not attend as his library’s boiler stopped working.)
6. **Remembering George Bell and Debbie Alvarez**
   * George was an emeritus member of the OLA Legislative Committee who passed away in January.
   * Debbie was a school librarian in Beaverton who had a big impact on OBOB, developing relationship between authors and schoolchildren
   * We suggested doing something at the OLA Conference to remember them. Perhaps we could put together posters that highlighted their lives and their contribution to libraries.
7. **Demonstration of Engage site and discussion of content** (Nate) <http://cqrcengage.com/alaor/>
   * ALA has moved from CapWiz to Engage for its advocacy acitivities. ALA pays for the software and for each state to have presence.
   * Nate, Sue and Janet have been developing our Engage site. We have gone live.
     + Home page
       1. Top has rotating banner with important issues. These are currently school libraries and legal information.
       2. We highlight recent legislation monitored by OLA. This is from the last session.
       3. You can find your legislator though zip code search.
       4. We need a larger link to the OLA Legislative Agenda and Legislative Principles.
       5. The font is a bit small. We need to see if that can be enlarged.
     + Key Issues page
       1. We can add content as the legislative session progresses.
       2. The Action center allows us to develop a campaign and encourage people to contact their legislators.
   * We also have a wiki page. We need to migrate that content to the Engage website as appropriate. (Janet will do this.)
   * The group will create some instructions, templates so that other OLA sections can provide content. For example, the Academic Division would be interested in highlighting some of their issues.
8. **Update on OLA Conference session** (Kate)
   * Kate met with Wendy Willis to plan for the Crowdfunding Your Story session. Wendy will do the overview, nuts and bolts. Kate and Tiah will talk about their libraries’ crowdfunding projects.
9. **Other issues**
   * Diedre reported on ALA Legislative Committee from Mid-winter. There are two issues on which ALA did not take a position. OLA should at least keep them on the radar.
     + Right to Be Forgotten
     + Right of Publicity
   * Net neutrality is still in the courts. There should be a ruling soon.
   * The ESSA should be good for school libraries. However, the work will need to be done locally. in the rule making for Title 1. Here are some resources:
     + <http://www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org.aasl/files/content/aaslissues/ALA-ESSA-RFI-Letter1-20-16.pdf>
     + http://www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org.aasl/files/content/aaslissues/esea/ALA-ESSA\_Library\_Opportunities.pdf

Jane C is retiring from MCL on January 6th!!

**Future Meetings:** March 21 and May 16

**Outstanding Action Items:**

* Buzzy and Janet will submit written testimony to support Min Yasui Day.
* MaryKay will check with Turner Masland (ALA Legislative Committee) or Vailey Oehlke (PLA President) if they will be attending and want to part of the Oregon delegation.
* All will consider adding information to the Congressional delegation packet.
* Nathan, Sue and Janet will continue to work on the Engage site.
* Abigail and Janet will review the Legislative Agenda for additions and edits.
* Jane and Korie to weed legislative day gift books, and solicit more for future events
* Janet will work with Kate on writing a 2015 report using the latest public library statistics.