

## Minutes: April 2, 1999

Oregon Library Association  
General Membership Meeting  
Convention Center, Seaside

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT.** Sara Charlton welcomed attendees. She introduced the Conference Committee, and said that the conference had 495 attendees and 76 vendors. The 2000 conference will be April 5-7 at the Airport Sheraton in Portland.

Charlton reviewed significant OLA accomplishments of the past year: increased membership; continuing education survey; Intellectual Freedom Committee survey on internet policies; Senate bill 634; improvements to the web site; transition of the Hotline to an email-only publication; Public Relations Committee efforts; International Relations Round Table exploring exchange opportunities with Fujian Province, China; Oregon Authors Committee planning for Oregon author information on the web.

**STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.** Jim Schepke reported on library accomplishments and issues state-wide.

There are many library remodeling and construction projects going on, and more in the planning stages. There were 24 library-related elections in the past year; 11 succeeded, four of the failures were due to the double-majority rule. There are increased examples of inter-library cooperation, such as ORBIS, the Southern Oregon Library Information System project's LSTA grant for automation, the ORION statewide ILL system (currently being implemented in eastern Oregon), and the Oregon School Library Information System (OSLIS).

The budget is tight this legislative session. Library-related bills to watch are SB 634, which would increase funding for Ready-to-Read grants, ORBIS, and OSLIS, and SB 142, which would partially de-regulate telecommunications companies in exchange for those companies making investments in telecommunications infrastructure. There may be a library component to SB 142. The bill is controversial and may not pass.

**PNLA REPORT.** Andrew Johnson said that the Pacific Northwest Library Association has had a positive year. They have streamlined

their Board operations, re-instituted a statistical report of colleges and universities in the Pacific northwest, and are exploring continuing education opportunities in the region. PNLA quarterly is now indexed by H.W. Wilson. There was positive feedback about the Sun Valley conference, especially about the networking opportunities. The 1999 conference will be in Calgary August 11-13, with the theme "Common Ground". The 2001 conference will be in Oregon, probably in Corvallis.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** Andrew Bonamici said the organization is in excellent financial condition. (Financial reports were available to attendees). The final conference revenues and expenditures will be reported later. The OLA treasurer now also acts as the conference treasurer.

The general OLA budget is available on the website, as are reimbursement forms & procedures.

**BY-LAWS CHANGES.** Ed House presented the proposed by-laws changes, which he had announced at the general session on April 1:

Addition to of OLA/ALA student membership for a 3-year trial. The membership would cost \$25.00, with \$12.50 going to each organization; Authorization of use of email for voting and election of officers by email. Members without email would still receive paper ballots. This would save money and encourage voting. This would authorization, not mandate, voting by email; we would still have to develop a procedure.

Questions re: student membership: what is the current number of student members? There are 56 members in the student/retired/unemployed category. ALA thinks the joint membership would increase OLA's membership by about eight members.

Attendees expressed concerns about anonymity and confidentiality of voting by email. Charlton said we would develop a procedure. Colleen Bell (webmaster) said there are various way to ensure anonymity. Would the procedures be approved by membership? No, the Executive Board will establish procedures.

Charlton called for the questions:

Student ALA/OLA membership. PASSED

Election of officers by email. PASSED

Action of voting by email. PASSED

House presented a proposal to give the Oregon Young Adults Network (OYAN) division status. Charlton said that if people weren't comfortable voting today, the issue could go on the candidates ballot.

Jackie Rose, OYAN chair, explained why OYAN asked for division status. The organization is 11 years old, with 85 members, including 2 from academic libraries. OYAN now takes on an advocacy role for young adults. Young adults needs are different than those of children. OYAN is working with OEMA on statewide resource sharing and a best books list. OYAN deals with library supporters of the future. OYAN wants to learn about and participate in the growth of OLA.

Charlton opened the issue for discussion. Rose answered many of the questions. Questions:

What is the long-term viability of the group? Is it stable? Yes

What about non-OLA members in OYAN? The by-laws have been changed to require OLA membership. Would another voting member make the Executive Board unwieldy? Would there be problems getting quorum? Would this result in factionalization of OLA? How to we deal with representation the Executive Board? What does OYAN becoming a division offer to OLA? What does a round table get out of becoming a division; Executive Board meeting are open, and anyone may speak. Also, being a division increases a unit's commitment to OLA for such things as running for office or serving on committees.

Rose said OYAN doesn't see itself as a faction, and is asking for division status to increase its scope. Re: the size of the board: the OYAN issue should be considered on its merits.

There was more discussion on increased OYAN commitment to OLA, and the make-up of the Executive Board. Issues included: sometimes the Nominating Committee doesn't ask any children's or YA folks to run for office; people's ability to run for office may vary from year to year, and isn't necessarily related to their specialty in their job; there is a perception that OLA is primarily a public library organization.

Rose said that OYAN doesn't want to over-shadow any other units, but wants to help OLA in a broader way, and hope all units enhance each other.

Charlton asked attendees to vote on whether they wanted to vote on the OYAN issue today (as opposed to including the issue in the candidates ballot). PASSED to vote today.

Proposal to grant OYAN division status PASSED on vote by show of hands.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT. Mary Ginnane reported that the Committee so far had only one candidate for president. They are pursuing other candidates; candidate statements should appear in the April 15 Hotline.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Terry Rohe announced that the theme for her presidential year will be "Imagine: libraries in the 21st century"

Charlton adjourned the meeting.

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