

WALE Meeting Minutes

July 9, 2015

Present: Beth, Brian, Carol, Chi, Christy Danielle, Darren, Di, Jeff, Lisa, Mary, Warren
This session was recorded. Slides from the presentation are on Google Drive.

The meeting was called to order at 8:31am by WALE Conference Co-Chair Warren Chin.
The minutes from the June meeting were reviewed by WALE Secretary Carol Ellison.
There were no amendments or discussion.
A motion to approve the minutes was made by Di, seconded by Brian.
The June minutes were approved.

Local Arrangements: Chi & Christy

Valerie's Bistro has been very difficult to get a hold of over the phone, but they were enthusiastic at the beginning, so Chi & Christy are confident they'll get a final response from them.

Presenter gifts:

Culinary Apple: gourmet fudge (waiting to hear back)

Liberty Orchards: applets & cotlets (waiting to hear back)

Lady of the Lake cruise: There was a lot of discussion regarding whether or not we should offer this and, if so, when? Christy asked if it would be in place of the library tour. Others thought we should definitely offer both. Some thought it could be an either-or situation.

Mary said regardless, it is bad form to offer a paid cost event in place of an event (like the President's reception) that conference attendees would have to pay extra for. It should be treated as an extra, not as part of the main conference activities everyone expects to be included in the cost of their registration. However, she did mention that when WALE previously did one of these cruises it was very nice. She would be happy to talk more to the group over email.

As for timing, would we offer it during pre-conferences Monday? Or after the conference ends on Wednesday afternoon? We definitely cannot take the place of the dessert reception or any other meal we have already contracted with Campbell's for.

Di and Warren decided we should continue this discussion over email, since everyone seemed to have a different opinion and we still had more business to cover at that day's meeting.

Speakers & Programs: Brian

As of the meeting time, we had 18 regular session proposals and 1 preconference proposal.

Di asked everyone to look over the conference session proposals soon so we can vote, get it finalized, and roll out registration very soon.

Brian said he and others had put the call for session proposals out to several different Facebook librarian groups.

Leadership without authority: Brian had been in contact with Jennifer Fenton to see if she would be interested in giving perhaps a preconference on this topic, but had initially been told she would be unavailable that week (PNLA LEADS) and gave Brian some names to contact who may be interested. Those people either said they were not comfortable leading a session like that or they had a required fee that we didn't have in the budget.

Brian is working on getting a call out to people who had successfully presented at WALE recently who got high marks on the participant surveys to see if they would be interested in presenting this year.

Danielle said that LiFE recently had its board meeting. They did not have any LiFE members submit proposals to either the WALE or WLA conference committees. However, if someone Brian contacted about the Leadership Without Authority preconference would be interested, LiFE may be able to pay their fee. She wasn't sure if LiFE would then get a cut of the proceeds; she just knows they are interested mainly in getting their name out there. Brian liked that idea. He said at the WLA level the fees do partially go back to the IG that sponsored the session, but he will look into this.

Carol asked if Jennifer Fenton might now actually be available for WALE, since she no longer works at WSL and also submitted a WALE conference session proposal. Brian said he'd noticed that, too, and will email Jennifer to see if she's interested (she may be focusing away from that topic but he will ask).

Brian said Sharma had a section in her keynote contract that said it was okay for her to bring books to sign and sell at the conference. Danielle said she talked with Sharma a week ago and they discussed the possibility of Sharma donating a couple of her books for prizes, thinking maybe 1 of each title still in print. Sharma would be more than happy to donate.

Danielle asked if we were going to vote on the sessions. And, if so, would we be inviting members of other IGs to join us and also vote? In the past we have allowed people from other IGs to attend that discussion and to vote, though Carol said we did not do that in 2014 (it was just the WALE planning committee). Di said last year he wasn't able to attend the session discussion/voting meeting, but was able to submit his scorecard and notes/questions/concerns ahead of time to the conference co-chairs to be included. Di thinks it would be helpful for the committee to have a meeting to talk about it, but based on when we want to open registration another meeting might not be feasible. He will get the scorecard out to everyone and give everyone a chance to submit input. If we need another meeting we can schedule one.

Facilities: Jeff & Nouri

Nouri was not able to attend the meeting. Jeff and Warren will be visiting Campbell's on July 18th to get acclimated and speak with facilities staff on site. Warren has been asked by Chi & Christy to go to Valerie's Bistro to talk to them about the conference in person, since they have been difficult to reach by phone. Warren said if there are any other tasks committee members would like he and Jeff to do, please email them and they will try their best to accomplish those tasks. Lisa asked them to visit Liberty Orchards.

Printing & Supplies: Darren

Darren has contacted Joe regarding Joe's friend who has a printing company. Joe said if they can't match or beat Darren's other price quote they can at least offer more printing options. Darren hadn't yet put up the T-Shirt poll, but since most committee members were in attendance we had a quick vote. Red vs grey, with grey winning 6-5).

Darren had recently talked to Lisa regarding last year's donation from Innovative that paid for conference tote bags. She also gave him information regarding two other companies that gave us donations. He will be contacting them soon to see if we can get another donation to pay for a tote bag this year.

Darren hasn't yet started working on the conference primer, but will be soon. Please send him any suggestions you may have.

Prizes & Packets: Mary & Mai-Khanh

Mai-Khanh was unable to attend the meeting. Mary reminded the committee to be soliciting donations from businesses. She asked people to update her and Mai-Khanh as soon as they contact a new organization, in addition to putting it in the spreadsheet. That way no one is duplicating efforts.

The photo contest has not yet received any submissions, though we may not see submissions start rolling in until after we've opened registration and people know they will be attending. The theme is What Was, Is, and Will Be: Your Jetpack to the Future Past. Committee members are each asked to bring one prize (\$5) that fits the theme.

Danielle asked if people have to attend the conference in order to win and, if so, do they need to be present when the prize is awarded? Carol said she thinks the winner should definitely be registered for the conference, but not necessarily have to be in the room when the award is given if they designate someone else. Warren asked Danielle to email Sophia & Joe about the rules, to find out what's okay.

Warren said we should keep promoting the contest on social media. Danielle said if we could announce when the winner would be selected (banquet dinner?) it might make attending WALE more appealing to people who may be on the fence about attending.

Mary asked if the committee wants her to get a toy Delorean to put on the registration table and maybe raffle it off later in the conference. Warren said yes!

Volunteer Coordinators: Beth, Danielle, Grace

Grace was unable to attend the meeting. Beth had nothing new to report but mentioned that articles, etc. for the summer newsletter are due by July 13th (Monday). Di will send her an article.

Danielle had nothing new to add. They are waiting for the sessions to be selected and scheduled before they can start getting volunteers placed, and volunteers probably won't start speaking up until after we've opened registration.

Conference historians: Sophia & Joe

Sophie and Joe were both unable to attend the meeting. Sophia has posted her new conference ad video on Google Drive. Everyone was enthusiastic about her work. Warren will send a link to the video in the same email with today's meeting recording.

WALE Lottery for Rural Libraries: Lisa

Joe and Lisa met recently to talk about having a WALE lottery for rural and small libraries in Washington. They decided to target libraries who serve a population under 10,000 people. They are trying to figure out a way to break up the larger library systems to look at population per individual library. They are going to make an announcement and let the rural library employees decide if they want to be entered or not (as opposed to auto-entering all libraries regardless of whether or not they will be sending staff to WALE). The lottery winner will receive two nights at Campbell's and conference registration, though the recipient will be responsible for their own travel and any preconferences they may choose to attend. Joe and Lisa are working on the fine details now, so if you have any input please email them and let them know what you think.

Carol asked if this would be in place of the WALE scholarships or in addition to them? Lisa said it's in addition to them, and they may be able to get a budget line for the lottery in next year's conference budget.

Miscellaneous

There are 3 WALE officer vacancies in 2014 (new term starts in October at the conference):

- Vice Chair (elected - 3 year commitment)
- Secretary (elected - 2 year commitment)
- Communications (volunteer, not elected)

Joe will email the membership with instructions for nominations/how to express interest.

Carol said everyone should consider doing it; it's a lot of fun! Beth also said it's fun. Both are stepping down from their positions (Secretary and Communications, respectively) later this year.

Open discussion

Danielle said that Sharma has done some literary events involving local authors working with libraries. She wasn't sure if Sharma would be interested in doing a preconference and/or if she would require a fee. Did we ask her already?

Brian said he hadn't talked to Sharma about doing a preconference. She was specific with Brian that she wanted the lunch keynote and one night at Campbell's. Doing a preconference may require another night's hotel stay. He could touch base with her, but we're just barely under budget and he doesn't know if this would result in extra costs that take us over budget. The other option is wait and see if we get any more preconference proposals before approaching her.

Warren said we can keep the budget as-is right now but it might not hurt to ask anyway.

Brian asked if that meant he should contact Sharma, or if Danielle should? If Sharma will require a fee this could get hairy. Bobbi won't do a session/preconference for free. Brian can ask Sharma. He thinks Clancy is pretty cool and probably wouldn't charge but he will ask her if she's interested.

Darren asked if Gene was paid last year for his graphic novel session. Lisa said no.

Carol mentioned the session proposal summary document had a copy/paste error that resulted in the outcomes field for session #11 being the same as the outcomes field for session #10. Di will fix that as well as update it with the newest proposals before sending it out to the committee for feedback.

Darren asked what our target number of sessions and preconferences is. Di said we'd like to offer 20 sessions and 3-4 preconferences. Darren asked if we can ask some of them if they'd like to double up and offer their sessions at two different times. Brian said it wasn't a field included on the proposal form, but we can contact directly presenters who are covering popular topics and see if they'd be interested in doubling up.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 13th at 11am.

With no further business, Warren made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Darren.
Meeting adjourned at 9:30am.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Ellison, WALE Secretary