



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 31, 2020 • 3:00-5:00 pm • Online

Present Board: Emily Keller, Joe Olayvar, Brianna Hoffman, Joy Neal, Danielle Miller, Steven Bailey, Ahniwa Ferrari, Kaitlyn Griffith, Rhonda Gould, Lisa Vos, Rebecca Wynkoop

Present Division, Section, & Committee members: Greg Bem, Jane Lopez Santilliana, Judy Pitchford, Beth Bermani, Hillary Marshall, JoLyn Reisdorf, Marissa Rydzewski, Hope Yeats, Warren Chin, Laura Edmonston, Tami Masenheimer, Judy Pitchford, Suzanne Carlson-Prandini

Present Staff: Na-Moya Lawrence, Kate Laughlin, Hannah Streetman, Carolyn Logue

Facilitator: Emily Keller & Brianna Hoffman

Notetaker: Hannah Streetman

Meeting called to order at 3:02 pm.

Board Meeting Procedure Review

- All WLA board meetings are open, and participation is encouraged from any attendees.
- Only nine WLA Board members eligible for voting.

Approve minutes from October 2019 meeting

- With a correction of the misspelled word “Alaska,” Rhonda moves to approve the October 2019 Board meeting minutes. Ahniwa seconded. Minutes approved.

Leadership Reports: follow-up questions/updates

- There is a new EDI question in the leadership form.
 - Greg asked if WLA has any trainings or meetings for EDI work for both leadership and membership. He would like to see time set aside for EDI questions within WLA.
 - These kinds of trainings, conversations, and resources will be incorporated into the coming year and the consulting work that WLA will undergo in the coming year. CiKeithia Pugh from Equity Matters, along with Emily Keller and Lucretia Robertson, offered a keynote and session around EDI at the Virtual Conference. More to come.
- It’s OK if there’s nothing to report for certain questions, especially for new leaders.
- If reports are submitted late, they will be sent out with the meeting minutes next week.

2020 budget (vote)

- The Finance Committee is recommending this 2020 budget for approval by the WLA Board.
- “Accounts” are along the left, which are the different types of revenue and expense categories. Grouped into three columns, “Classes” are along the top, which are the classifications that each account is broken up into. For example, the expense account of “Printing” can be split into multiple classes depending on the purpose—“Conference” for the conference program, “Member Services” for marketing materials, and “Admin” for general office printing.
- For any line items that may be unclear, the Finance Committee and office have added explanatory comments.
- All changes from the previous budget have been highlighted in yellow. Changes include:
 - One-time correction to three Divisions (Academic, Public, Special) to balance Divisional funds

- Increase to budget lines for conference speakers and meals (resulting from Jonny Johnson's financial analysis of WLA in 2019)
- Increased funding to reimburse members for travel, including a new account called "Member Expenses"
- School Library Division budget for 2020
- Joe asked about costs of AV, which really are that expensive at conference facilities.
- A few total formulas appeared to not be adding up. Hannah fixed the formula errors during the meeting.
- Danielle moved to approve the 2020 WLA budget. Steven Seconded. Budget approved.

Virtual Conference Recap

- According to the evaluation results, the conference went well. Almost no technical issues.
- WLA was able to keep costs low for attendees while also making a healthy profit.
- Recordings are available for all attendees and still available to purchase for those who couldn't attend.
- This will be a great model for future virtual conferences and events.

2020 Strategic focus: EDI

- In Emily's response to Greg, she addressed the EDI work that WLA has begun. Her focus as 2020 president is EDI work within WLA.

Section Discussion

- Many Sections are inactive and haven't had leadership for multiple election cycles. According to WLA's bylaws there are procedures for sunseting inactive sections. If those procedures were always followed, many Sections would have been sunsetted by now.
 - Some of these Sections, though without leadership and member activity, represent important topics that need to be represented within WLA (e.g. Intellectual Freedom).
 - "Active" is subjective, especially since Sections are now free.
- In WLA's Bylaws, it's stipulated that each Section needs three elected steering committee members. These are difficult to fill.
- Leaders from WLA's Sections have already met with leadership to discuss the current setup and Bylaw requirements of Sections. Section chairs asked to send emails to Section membership to solicit feedback.
 - From that meeting, Section leaders are recommending to create an easier entry for participation and leadership. They don't want to take anything away from those sections that are active and thriving. Hope to see more involvement by making it simpler to get involved.
- Ahniwa thinks that having empty sections doesn't serve a purpose, even if the topics are important.
 - Danielle also thinks having empty sections isn't great for WLA. Topics like intellectual freedom are across all work in libraries, should be incorporated into all WLA groups. Might topics like IF don't need to have a separate section?
 - Ahniwa is interested in finding easier ways to sunset, as well as easier, more organic ways to create new Sections.
 - Steven would like to look at the trends of active Sections over the years before the Board recommends Bylaws changes.
- The option that the Sections have discussed seems to be an interim step in between staying the same and sunsetting all struggling Sections.
 - Since this conversation already went on with Section leadership, the Board doesn't want to ignore those thoughts.
 - Section leadership recommended to adapt Bylaws to only require one elected position for each Section.
 - Additional scaffolding may be built from there for more active Sections, but it wouldn't be mandated by the Bylaws.

- At minimum, that person will be responsible for monitoring the listserv, but can also do more.
- There is general Board agreement to move forward with the recommendation for this Bylaws change.
 - Language will be drafted and added to the packet of additional Bylaws changes.
 - Board will need to vote on Bylaws changes, then the membership will vote.

2020 Legislative Agenda/Library Legislative Day

- Carolyn is working to create updated position papers for WA Library Legislative Day on February 5.
- Unsure if we will be able to get any legislators
- At 1:30 pm, there will be a hearing on the senate version of the school library bill. A few WLA members will be testifying.
- School library technology bill
 - Related to increasing staffing ratio.
 - Amending this bill to drive more pressure on the discussion next year
- Digital equity bill (HB2414)
 - Amendments are being drafted as the bill moves through.
- Peer-reviewed journal access (SB5504)
 - Anticipate more support on this bill this session.
- Bill to eliminate odd-numbered year elections
 - Legislative Committee doesn't want this to go through. It's good to have as many opportunities for elections as possible.
- Cooperative programs with parks and libraries (SB 6670)

ALA Council/Reorganization

- Tracie Hall has been hired as new ALA Executive Director.
- ALA is working on getting their books in order, related to the sale of their headquarters in Chicago.
- ALA endorsed Crosby Kemper for appointment to the IMLS, approved by senate.
- ALA reorganization: <https://forwardtogether.ala.org/>
 - SCOE (Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness) is working on improvements and reorganizations to the structure of ALA.
 - The Spring 2020 Implementation team will make recommendations for ALA Annual in June
 - There will be a [webinar](#) on February 13.
 - Implementation will be moved back 6 months to a year.
 - Council has to vote on it twice before the changes go to members for a vote.
 - Steven has concerns that state chapters will not have the same level of representation.
 - Brianna was in some of the meetings.
 - Rhonda serves on Council. Rhonda has concerns for representatives of ALA chapters, divisions, etc.

Member needs assessment, April 29th

- WLA member needs assessment coming this spring.
- Since 2010, WLA has participated in a continuing needs assessment with the Washington State Library.
 - Will work closely with WSL to make sure the survey is timed correctly and efforts aren't duplicated.

Conference program proposals needed

- The RFP is open for all conference sessions.
- New this year: night tracks, different program lengths (45-minute and 75-minute sessions).
- WLA leaders are encouraged to submit proposals and spread the word.

ACRL merge

- ACRL members are having conversations about funds and identity.
- They are moving ahead with member vote.
- Upcoming meeting with ACRL and academic leaders to talk about where would fit within WLA if the merge moves forward.

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm.