



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2019 • 3:00-5:00 pm • WLA online meeting room

**Facilitator:** Rhonda Gould & Kate Laughlin

**Notetaker:** Nem Brunell

**Voting Board members:** Rhonda Gould, Steven Bailey, Emily Keller, Dave Sonnen, Kim Hixson, Chris Skaugset, Linda Johns

**Incoming Board members:** Danielle Miller, Lisa Vos

**Present Division, Section & Committee members:** Caitlin Bagley, Kristin Piepho, Cindy Aden, Anne Bingham, Nic Figley, Ro McKernan, Suzanne Carlson-Prandini, Julie Graham, Laura Edmonston, Hope Yeats, Gerie Ventura, Elizabeth Partridge

**Staff Present:** Kate Laughlin, Brianna Hoffman, Nem Brunell, Hannah Streetman, Na-Moya Lawrence, Carolyn Logue

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Meeting called to order at 3:04 pm by Rhonda Gould with quorum present.

### **Approve minutes from July 2019 meeting**

- Chris moved to approve the July 2019 meeting minutes. Emily seconded. Motion passed

### **Leadership Reports: follow-up questions/updates**

- Leadership reports were submitted and read in advance of meeting
- National activity on the eBook embargo- it appears that Macmillan has agreed to talk to library groups, including an appearance at COSLA meetings in the next month. Hoping it's a good sign

### **2021 Bellevue conference contract (vote)**

- Since 2017, Annual conference has been 4 days; starting 2021, Annual conference will be 3 days, Thurs-Sat, to free resources for potential other events throughout the year
- Vote called to approve Bellevue contract, Dave moved to accept, Chris seconded, motion approved

### **Advocacy Committee charge (vote)**

- Brand new committee, created a charge that works well into the future- advocacy means change
- Vote called to approve charge, Kim moved to accept, Steven seconded, motion approved

### **PNLA Representative position (vote)**

- PNLA Representative Linda Johns proposed PNLA Rep position to move to an appointed, non-board position. This will require a change in bylaws
- PNLA is completely volunteer run. The bulk of the work of the state representatives is devoted to PNLA
- Alakas, Montana, Idaho have reps, none are a board member, an appointed member as rep
- Given a \$1000 stipend from WLA, funds are used to go to PNLA conference- recommended this is maintained
- Vote called to move PNLA State Representative position to an appointed, non-board position, Chris moved to accept, Dave seconds, motion approved

### **2020 Budget Update**

- 501 Commons Investment project- our consultant will be attending the finance meeting in November to bring forward his findings. Out of that meeting we will likely have new budget recommendations
  - Because of that, we will vote on the budget online

### **2020 Strategic focus: Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)**

- Incoming President Emily Keller set EDI as a 2020 priority following the Diversity & Inclusion Task Force in 2019 (see July 2019 Board Meeting Minutes)
- It appears that membership isn't aware of work that's already happening in the association. This is an opportunity to be more proactive about equity and inclusion in our structure, recruitment, and retention
- Hire an outside consultant to work with the organization to better define priorities and strategies moving forward. Not just a training, or a 'box checked', but a guide for change throughout the entire association
- Help from the Member Services Committee.

## **2020 Legislative Agenda**

- Legislative Document is a living, breathable document. Represents broad priorities for flexibility when going into session, which should be short this year
- Great tool for communicating with members and also for members to talk to legislators
- Library Capital Projects: establishing criteria for matching grants. Less legislative engagement, more ensuring enactment of legislation
- School Libraries: suggested bill language for maintaining school libraries. Tries to put in OSPI a staff person who works with school libraries to work on best practices. Create incentive for schools to have School Librarians (and counsellors, nurses) on staff. Remove the words "As they deem necessary."
- Digital and Media Literacy, broadband
  - Broad goals: watch for filtering bills, policy bills, enhance peoples' ability to reach information at the library. Give us the broad language to use with censorship bills
- If there are other questions about legislative priorities, email [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org)

## **ALA Council/Reorganization**

- Big changes for ALA: 2017 stated the process of reorganizing, now seeing initial recommendations from the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOPE).
  - Rough timeline: Executive Board hears recommendations next month. ALA Council asked to vote, then go back to the Executive Board, Council asked to vote again during the next annual conference- then the vote goes to ALA membership.
- WLA's ALA Councilor Steven Bailey will share documents from ALA as they are released
- Possible changes- ALA Councilor position might disappear. More virtual meetings and year round meetings from ALA. ALA Midwinter will be significantly restructured.
- Opportunities for more representation, but what that representation looks like is up for debate

## **Member needs assessment, Feb 2020**

- Compile data about what members want- institutional, individual, and also nonmembers
- Craft a member needs survey with Member Services Committee, Professional Development Committee, Marketing & Communications Committee, WLA Office. Launch in 2020
- Partnership with Washington State Library for continuing education assessment, to make sure we're not reproducing efforts. Member Needs assessment is about meeting the broader needs of members

## **Conference RFPs**

- Annual Conference RFP - opens mid January
- Virtual Conference RFP - closes October 29
- Academic Conference RFP - closes October 29
- Virtual Conference proposals: who can you talk to about putting in a proposal?

## **WLA staffing update**

- Welcome Na-Moya to the WLA Staff!
- Office Hours are extended 7am-5pm

## **Executive Director to step down**

- Effective January 1, 2020, Kate Laughlin will step down from her role as WLA Executive Director. Assistant Director Brianna Hoffman will take her place.

## **Thank you to our outgoing board members!**

- Craig Seasholes, Chris Skaugset, Dave Sonnen, Kim Hixson, Linda Johns, Rachel Ramey

## **Closing questions or comments**

- Phil Heikkinen of Orcas Island Public Library to accept appointment for WLA Treasurer if it remains unfilled
- [Leadership Retreat Notes](#)
  - Really productive and positive day, Awards Reception was well-attended

Meeting adjourned at 4:51pm.