

2022 WLA Conference Committee  
October 44, 2022  
Conference Call via Zoom

1. Call to Order: Elizabeth Albin called the meeting to order at 2:04.
2. Roll call:  
Present:  
Elizabeth Albin, Chair  
Chelsie Troutman, WLA Secretary/Treasurer  
Brian Greene, WSL Continuing Education Librarian  
Nicholle Gerharter, Awards/Grants Liaison  
Susan Parkins, Member-at-large  
Megan Bratton, Member-at-large  
Becky Prella, Member-at-large  
  
Guests:  
Conrado Saldivar, WLA President  
  
Absent:  
Elizabeth Thorson, Communications Advisor
3. Agenda: Changes or Additions: None proposed.
4. Approval: September 14 Meeting Minutes: Brian moved to approve, and Susan seconded. Motion passed.
5. Discussion Items
  - a. New Member-at-large:  
Welcome to Becky Prella from Campbell County Library.
  - b. Conference Debrief:  
Food: Some people requested plated, but not many. We need lines on both sides of the table, and possibly even two tables to get people through faster. Feedback from multiple people that they liked the snack break with the vendors.  
Goodie Bag: Some people missed the goodie bag. Would the Casper Chamber/Visitor's Bureau provide something next year? Megan will check as it gets closer. There were requests for note-taking pages – maybe a vendor would include a small notebook.  
Length of Conference: Are two full days feasible? Would people stay another night? Could there be afternoon sessions on Friday until 3:00 without a post-conference? That would give most people time to drive home.  
Meeting Rooms: Next year will have 5 breakout rooms, and if there are more vendors, will move them to Jackson Hole. Ballroom D can be used as a breakout room. With 5 breakout sessions, try not to overlap the target audiences.  
Session topics: Intellectual freedom was the most requested. Make that the lunch program so that everyone can attend without competition? Make it the theme for next year? Does the conference "theme" really matter? Requests to send out program topics sooner so attendees can decide whether to come.

Registration: Need two people on the first day, and one on the second day.

Hotel: Some reported issues with overnight rooms. More people may want to stay at a different hotel next year. Our contract with Best Western has no obligation to reserve overnight rooms.

Names tags: Requests to make names bigger and libraries easier to read. Elizabeth will adjust the template.

Flashing Pins for Committee: Helpful.

Awards Ceremony: Set the right tone; heard positive feedback. Most people liked being able to go out to eat with colleagues/friends afterward instead of having a formal dinner.

- c. Survey Results:  
Can we poll those who didn't attend the conference to find out why? Conrado can send a poll via Amigos to all WLA members. 38 Whova users filled out the survey; 66 people opened it.
  - d. Continuing Whova Discussion:  
Susan will pitch the continuation of Whova to the Executive Board. There was significant engagement, including a 98% active user rate. Megan notes people expect an app experience at conferences these days. It was helpful to organize speakers and attendees on the back end as well. Push notifications in the mornings make announcements easy, and it was helpful at the Registration desk and saves on printing costs. WSL paid this year with LSTA funds. Next year it will cost \$3,000. We can leave off the "Certification of Completion" portion to save money.
  - e. Planning for next year – Conference dates: October 4-6, 2023  
Elizabeth Albin is writing a planning manual for future committees. Only a very dated one exists!
6. Other Business: None proposed.
  7. Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 23, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
  8. Adjourn.