

WLA Annual Business Meeting
Friday, October 8, 2021

President Jacob Michelson called the meeting to order at 10:05 am and noted there were 39 in attendance, more than enough for a quorum (19).

Michelle Boule motioned to approve the agenda. Judi Boyce seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of the minutes from last year's meeting was tabled as a written copy was not available.

New Business

Abby Beaver explained the proposed change of bylaws, creating a non-voting secretary position on the WLA Executive Board. Susan Mark moved to approve the bylaws change as suggested, Kate Mutch seconded. Discussion included a question of why it the position was not a voting member. Jacob Michelson explained it would have created an opportunity for a tie because it will create an even number of board members. The motion passed.

Elizabeth Thorson introduced the proposed new fee structure for membership dues. The change is an attempt to simplify the structure and make it more understandable. She explained that the ad hoc committee was asked to clean up the way fees are displayed on the website and in doing so realized it was confusing and being interpreted differently by different people. The suggested structure was explained. Jacob Michelson noted that the vote needed to be unanimous to pass. Discussion occurred on what the difference in cost would be to individual libraries. Since the scale is based on salaries, the committee was unable to calculate numbers specific to each library but it was noted that the income to WLA is roughly the same as before, so the cost to libraries should be close to the same as well. Kate Mutch moved to approve changes as presented, Lisa Scroggins seconded. One opposed. Motion failed.

President's Report

Jacob Michelson noted that 142 people are attending the conference. He thanked the programming committee for selecting speakers and members for submitting proposals. He noted that this hasn't been the term he imagined. His plan had been to have regional meetings, which the pandemic prevented. He praised the EDI committee for the work they've done and said he is excited to see that work continue.

Michelson then announced the results of election: Vice President - Conrado Saldivar, Member-at-Large - Susan Parkins, ALA Counselor - Lisa Scroggins. He mentioned that there are several other openings on the board that will need to be appointed and advised people to reach out to incoming president Jeff Collins if they are interested in serving. Jake also reported that WLA is doing well, is fiscally solvent, and has a great slate of leaders. Finally, he thanked past president Abby Beaver and incoming president Jeff Collins for their help this year.

Wyoming State Library

Jamie Markus reviewed his report which is posted on Wyla.org and noted that he is looking forward to next year's meeting - hopefully in person. He recognized member Jennisen Lucas who is the current president of the American Association of School Librarians, representing Wyoming on a national scale.

The state library is beginning to work on their 5-year evaluation. They would love to have feedback and will be sending out a survey, as well as offering other feedback opportunities. Carson Block will be conducting the survey. The library will use the information gathered to write a report and also to craft the next 5-year plan.

ARPA funds supplied the state library with an extra \$2 million to use from March 2021 – September 2022. So far 60% of those funds have been expended. TumbleBooks was highlighted as a new service. It is available on the e-resource page and will be available through next September, with a possibility of continued funding. State Library staff spent last month working with school libraries to give \$10k for collection subsidies to each school throughout the state. Schools had to apply via a 3-page application. They received a lot of applications. Part of the application process required schools to send pictures of their school libraries. These pictures will be curated into an album, possibly to go along with snapshot day. There is a link in the report for the full ARPA spending plan. Anyone with questions is encouraged to reach out to Jamie Markus.

The state library is preparing for the upcoming legislative session. It was noted that the state is still experiencing financial concerns. Markus said they are in position to respond to any issues with funding for libraries/UW/school libraries. The state library has not been asked for a budget cut at this point and there is nothing to indicate that there will be any problems.

Markus addressed the current events in Campbell County and said he and others are working behind the scenes to strategize and help support the library system in the best way possible. He noted that the same controversy could easily happen at any library.

Interest Group Advisor Reports

LEAD – LEAD currently has 19 members. They started a mentorship program where people can apply to participate as a mentor or protege. The program now runs for 6 months per session. LEAD developed a survey for feedback to help improve the program. They also changed their leadership structure to be similar to WLA's Executive Board, with an incoming chair, current chair and past chair. Their report will be posted after conference.

SLIG – SLIG meets monthly throughout the school year. They met their goals of holding regular leadership meetings and surpassed their membership goal with, increasing membership to 27. They will update their bylaws, send out survey, and meet in Salt Lake City. Other goals include planning and providing training, working with WEA, and more.

Old Business

As there was no old business to discuss, Michelson performed a "virtual passing of the gavel" to new president Jeff Collins. Michelson encouraged others to get involved.

The meeting adjourned at 10:41.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Boyce

Member-at-Large