

Wyoming Library Association
Executive Board Minutes
March 8, 2022

Call to order

President Conrado Saldivar called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

Roll Call

Board members present:

Conrado Saldivar, President
Katrina Brown, Past President
Lisa Scroggins, ALA Councilor
Judi Boyce, MPLA Representative
Johanna Tuttle, Interest Group Representative
Michelle Boule, Member-at-Large
Susan Parkins, Member-at-Large
Caitlin White, Legislative Committee Chair
Kristin Evans, Amigos
Jamie Markus, State Librarian

Absent:

Vice President (vacant)
Elaine Hayes, WLLI Advisor
Elizabeth Albin, Conference Committee Chair
Elizabeth Thorson, Communications Advisor

Also present:

Darcy Acord, YSIG

A quorum was determined to be present.

Agenda

Conrado asked that we strike the new business of approving him to be on the bank accounts for now. In speaking with Abby Beaver, it sounds like we will have a new secretary/treasurer soon and that person will also need approval to be on the bank account, so he recommended doing it all at once. Katrina motioned to approve the amended agenda; Susan seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes

Susan moved to approve the minutes; Johanna seconded. Motion passed.

President Report

Conrado emailed his report with the board documents. He asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Vice President Report

Vacant, no report.

Past President

Katrina reported that Kate Mutch is helping with finding candidates to fill the open positions. They are still in communication with a couple of people who may be willing. She will let us know when she has a final answer.

Amigos Report

Kristin reported an increase of 15 members in the past month, including 6 new members. She attended the conference planning committee meeting and is working on vendor registration with the goal to have registration open on April 1. She's been working with institutional membership libraries to get invoices out for the intellectual freedom program. Johanna asked if taxes have been filed. Kristin said Abby is coordinating that, and that Amigos paid the invoice for the preparation on January 13.

Executive Board Member Reports

ALA Councilor's Report –

Lisa reported that the intellectual committee has been working on getting info ready to share on training and resources. The committee will reconvene as a whole and work on providing resources on handling materials challenges. As ALA Councilor, she will be attending a meeting next week to continue with agenda items they didn't have time to get to last time. She sent an email to the WLA membership about what is being presented and has received some input from members. She also mentioned that Campbell County Director Terri Lesley has been selected to receive the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award. Jamie added that they specifically looked for an award that they could nominate Campbell County Staff for. They found this one and could only nominate one person, so they selected the director. State library is paying Terri's way to be able to attend in person to receive the award.

MPLA Representative –

Judi reported that the monthly Chew and Chat will be on March 30, at noon and people can contact her for the website to register. Johanna asked about the conference dates. Judi reported that the conference will be the first week of August in Missoula. She will send an email with details to the board.

Interest Groups –

Johanna reported the following:

SLIG – The Wyoming Book Awards votes are due March 15. SLIG leader Melissa Brumsted Snider reported that she has been having a lot of school librarians reach out about decreased funding and budget cuts. Johanna advised everyone to pay attention to local funding and support their local school libraries.

LEAD – The group hasn't met recently but Johanna works with several participants in the mentorship group and things seem to be going well.

YSIG – Planning and preparations continue for the upcoming meeting in Buffalo in May.

PIG- This new programming interest group has started to form and meet. They decided not to charge the \$10 interest group fee as they don't anticipate having anything they will need the money for, and because they wanted to keep it as a free group.

Johanna also pointed out that WLLI will be having a grad retreat June 10-12 in Cheyenne.

Members-at-Large –

Michelle no update except that this will be her final meeting. She is leaving to take a position in Illinois and is excited to work with ALA again and attend conferences again. She reported that she is going to a brand new 3-story library and will be building from the ground up. Board members thanked her for all she's done for Wyoming libraries and wished her well.

Susan had nothing new to report, but said she had a great time at the WLA legislative reception.

WLLI Report –

Elaine was absent.

Conference Committee Chair -

Elizabeth Albin was absent but let Conrado know she had nothing new to report this month.

Legislative Committee –

Caitlin reported we are within a few days of the end of the legislative session. She has been sending reports each week. She said there was not a lot to monitor this year. The ARPA funding bill did pass, and Civic Transparencies and Critical Race Theory bills died. All of this was good news. Caitlin also noted that the legislative budget amendments related to UW and restrictions on teaching gender studies and potentially other courses is one to watch. The Joint Conference Committee did remove the language out of the budget that was very concerning, but still has reporting requirements. Caitlin reported that she missed the legislative reception because she was stuck in Laramie with I-80 closed. She said next year they are planning to do the reception early in the session as that seemed to help with legislator turnout. She's been discussing other ideas with Sherlyn about how to promote the reception. Finally, she reported that there were no big calls to action this year, despite concerns early on.

Awards/Grants committee –

Conrado reported that the committee is working on finalizing a couple of committee members. They have reached out to library directors to recommend staff to serve on the committee.

Communications Advisor –

Elizabeth Thorson was absent.

Membership Ad-hoc committee –

Elizabeth Thorson was absent.

EDI Ad-hoc committee –

Conrado is working to transition to Eva Dahlgren and Leah Shlachter are the cochairs now. Twelve people attended the February Open Conversations. Information for March Open

Conversation session has been released, and so far 12 people are registered. The committee submitted article to Judi for the MPLA newsletter on the Open Conversations program. The State Library has been very supportive with getting resources and information in the Outrider.

State Librarian –

Jamie paid WLA \$15k for EveryLibrary training. The State Library is also using LSTA funds to provide hotel rooms for the WLLI grad retreat in June. Jamie noted that a statement to that effect needs to be included with the next communication to grads as it's required by the grant. Conrado and Jamie sat in on a legislative meeting for the ARPA funding. That bill is significant as it has provided \$1 million so far and now has potential to provide considerably more.

Intellectual Freedom Ad-hoc Committee –

Lisa covered this in her earlier report.

New Business –

None

Old Business –

Vacancies –

- Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer – Katrina and Kate Mutch have visited about the vacancies for Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer position.
- Awards/grants committee –likely to be filled soon
- Financial Auditing Advisor – focusing on other committees first
- Annual conference committee – committee is filled

Advocacy-

Conrado met with Peter from EveryLibrary to see what is required of us. Phase 1 will include a meeting with EveryLibrary and WLA representatives Conrado Saldivar, Lisa Scroggins, Caitlin White, Elizabeth Thorson and Genevieve Schlekeway, and Jamie Markus. Conrado reported that the crisis response they were gearing up for thankfully didn't need to happen, but they will continue to build up for the next time there is a need. They will be answering questions to get Peter familiar with Wyoming, and work toward a ramp-up in September. The plan will include skills building and training. Conrado will be sending an email with more details.

Membership Auto-Renewal –

Kristin and Elizabeth will be meeting to discuss what needs to be changed.

Date of Next Meeting –

The next meeting will be on April 12, 2022, at 4 pm.

Adjourned –

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judi Boyce
MPLA Representative