

WYOMING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
Minutes July 9th, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Abby Beaver, President at 10:01 a.m.

Roll Call - Abby Beaver

Present: Abby Beaver, President  
Jake Mickelsen, Vice-President  
Kate Mutch, Past President  
Janice Grover-Roosa, ALA Councilor  
Cindy Moore - MPLA Representative  
Jacque Strike, WLLI Advisor  
Johanna Tuttle, Interest Groups Representative  
Judi Boyce, Member-at-large  
Anna Street, Member-at-large  
Jamie Markus, State Library  
Caitlin White, Legislative Committee Chair  
Elizabeth Thorson, Communications Advisor

Also present:

Kirstin Evans and Keith Gaertner, Amigos, Library Management Group  
Lisa Scroggins

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

Johanna Tuttle moved, Anna Street seconded to approve the June meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Abby reported that the last of WLA's investments that had only Laura Grott's name as the trustee has now been updated with Abby's name on the account and the address updated to our association's new address. Our investments are 60% bonds and 40% equity and are in sustainable, environmentally friendly companies.

Financials were presented. Kirstin (from Amigos) is working with Abby to gather cost estimates for a virtual conference. They are also working on signature cards, which has been more difficult due to COVID-19. We have seen a 20% increase in member renewals and are at 196 active members.

Jake reported that around 14 program proposals were submitted. The group discussed on-site conference or virtual. The survey sent out to directors indicated that many were waiting for budgets to make any decision about attendance and others indicated that they were waiting on COVID-19 status to make any decision.

Judi Boyce motioned and Anna Street seconded that we postpone the on-site conference until 2021 and hold our conference virtually. Motion carried.

Jamie and Jake are going to work together to find 2 or 3 big speakers for the conference, rather than replicating the format of an on-site one with sessions to choose from every hour.

Janice reported the ALA conference went well. It was recorded and has been archived.

Cindy missed the last MPLA meeting.

Jacque reported that WLLI will be going on-line for the fundraising basket raffle.

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Anna reported that the nominations for awards process is ongoing. The mentorship program is making progress and continues to move forward.

Caitlin reported that there is not much new information, but there will be another session held in the near future to deal with COVID-19 issues.

Jamie reported that budgets are coming and it's a mixed bag for the different counties. Many are seeing no changes and others seeing up to 30%. He will be attending meetings after today regarding budget cuts at the state level.

Jamie mentioned that there is going to be a recalibration meeting to look at school/education funding. He reminded the group that the state sets the amount provided for certified vs technicians and that generally the state funds more for certified and less for technicians, but due to local control, school boards generally spend less on certified and more on technicians.

The DOE reached out to WSL about Wyoming Talking Books. They are hoping the State Library would take over the program. It costs \$85,000 - \$100,000 to run. It is not likely that there would be extra funds provided to run the program. The State Library said no.

There are a number of Broadband bills at the State and Federal level.

There is an additional Federal Library bill of \$2 billion towards library stability. Wyoming would receive the base \$10 million. (\$10,000,004). Money could be used to help facilities remain open, pay staff, and on general operations.

Last month the group discussed releasing a statement about racism, driven by the recent national events surrounding the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. After last month's meeting Janice e-mailed a draft statement to the group and there has been a lot of email discussion about what a statement from us should look like. There was some confusion on a condemnation statement and a diversity statement and individuals' understandings of what was being drafted. The group discussed the use of the word "condemning" in the statement with several stating the phrase was necessary to make the point and others looking for a statement that supports change and ways to move in a positive direction.

After a lengthy discussion, Abby called for a motion to table the question. Jake motioned to table, Kate seconded. The motion carried with a split vote. (5 to 2).

Date of next meeting is August 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kate Mutch (Past President)