

Wyoming Library Association
Executive Board Minutes
October 8, 2021

Call to order

President Jeff Collins called the meeting to order at 2 pm.

Roll Call

Board members present:

Jeff Collins, President
Conrado Saldivar, Vice President
Elizabeth Thorson, Communications Advisor
Jamie Markus, State Librarian
Johanna Tuttle, Interest Groups Representative
Susan Parkins, Member-at-Large
Michelle Boule, Member-at-Large
Caitlin White, Legislative Committee Chair
Elizabeth Thorson, Communications Advisor
Lisa Scroggins, ALA Coordinator
Judi Boyce, MPLA Representative

Board members absent:

Jacob Mickelsen, Past President

A quorum was determined to be present.

Jeff started with an ice breaker, asking members to introduce themselves.

Agenda

Jeff added to the agenda the discussion of a letter of support for Campbell County, discussion of the conference, and board vacancies. Caitlin asked to add discussion for lobbyist. Lisa motioned to approve the agenda as amended, second by Michelle. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Tabled. Jeff's email containing the minutes didn't make it through the listserv.

President Report

Contained in other agenda items.

Amigos Report

Kristin reported that we have \$124, 526.89 in the bank, with almost \$70,000 in investments. Profit loss in August was -\$3768 because of conference expenses prior to registrations coming in. Membership increased by 20 as people registered for the conference, which is a 10%+ increase. WLA now has 218 members. The majority of Amigos time this month was spent on

conference-related tasks, including attendee registration, answering questions, and manually registering a few.

Vice President Report/Conference

Conrado, being new to the board, didn't have anything to add.

Governing Board Member Reports

Past President –

Jake was absent.

ALA Councilor's Report –

Lisa is new to the board. She noted that as intellectual freedom officer for WLA, she would help navigate helping Campbell County Public Library.

MPLA –

Currently vacant

Interest Groups –

YSIG met this morning, and will send info to Elizabeth to post on the website. The next session of the LEAD mentorship program will be starting in January. The deadline to apply is December 17. Johanna encourage people to apply. She also announced that Samantha Griffis is the incoming LEAD chair.

Members-at-Large –

Michelle – updated on OER group for state (Open Education Resources). Drafting a letter to define Z degree – low cost/no cost degrees.

Susan is new to the board and had nothing to share.

State Librarian –

Jamie noted that he had just gone over his report in the WLA Annual Business Meeting this morning so he didn't review it again. Jamie said the state library is planning to pay for the keynote speakers as well as the state library attendees. He anticipates the amount to be around \$10k. They are also actively involved with Campbell County support.

Legislative Committee –

Caitlin noted that the Legislative Committee meets every other month and as needed. The board has an opening for a public library committee member. Caitlin note that they would like to get someone established on the board before legislature meets. She noted the need to get the lobbyist onboard sooner this year, which was discussed later in the agenda.

Communications Advisor –

In response to a question about communications, it was noted that Elizabeth mostly takes care of the website. Susan Mark at state library has been doing Facebook posting, and Abby mentioned that she has posted on the Facebook page as well but there isn't anyone currently posting on a regular basis. Posting is being done as needed such as the program for the conference, etc. It was requested that new members send a headshot and contact info for the website. It was also

requested that information on open WLA committee positions be sent in so that members could be made aware of the opportunities to serve. Contact information for each position should also be listed. Also, the bylaws committee will continue working on changes and then bring forward again.

Awards committee –

No members of the awards committee were present.

EDI ad hoc committee –

Conrado reported that the EDI committee has been consistently meeting monthly to discuss open conversations. They are working to prompt more discussion, and especially want to reach out to school librarians. They offered two programs for the conference, which were conducted by committee members.

Old Business –

Jeff moved to appoint Judi Boyce to fill the open MPLA Representative position. Johanna seconded. The motion passed.

New Business –

Time of meetings - Johanna noted School librarians are missing representation on our board. It was suggested that meeting times be moved to after school to allow them to be able to participate. The board agreed to change the meeting time to 4 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Johanna moved, Michelle seconded. Motion passed.

EDI Ad Hoc Committee – The question was raised as to whether to keep the EDI committee as an ad hoc committee or to change it to a regular committee. Conrado noted that the reason it stayed as ad hoc was because bylaws had just been changed and switching to a regular committee would require another bylaws change. It was decided to leave it as an ad hoc committee for now, but to include the change to a regular committee in the next bylaws change.

WLA strategic plan – The past president is responsible for doing a strategic plan. This was tabled as Jake was unable to attend.

2022 Budget – We will be working on the budget for the next couple of months. Known changes were noted – a Quickbook fee increase of \$30/month will need an adjustment. Elizabeth mentioned the WYLD Apricot fee is going up as well. Kristin said renewal was in September. \$1088 for year.

Campbell County – Jeff has drafted a letter of support for Campbell County and for Director Lesley to be sent to the county commissioners. Jamie said he likes the draft letter. A call to action is still being considered. It has been busy in past couple weeks. Key individuals with ALA are working on the intellectual freedom aspect. A possible letter to go to stakeholders in Campbell County, and possibly to newspaper to show support from greater library community is being discussed. Jamie said they are working to secure funds for the library in case they need to hire a lawyer for freedom of information. He said that should books be removed from library or put on an age shelf, many agencies will be suing the library and others. Jeff asked about whether

we should vote. Lisa moved that we give Jeff authority to draft a letter. Michelle seconded. Motion passed. Johanna abstained from the vote due to being employed by Campbell County Library.

Conference feedback, location, date – Jeff will follow up with the planning committee.

Vacancies – Open positions were discussed, including MPLA (filled today), Awards and Grants, Secretary/Treasurer, WLLI advisor, Financial Auditing Advisor, Legislative Committee public library person. Jeff will work on getting those filled.

Lobbyist – every year an RFP goes out to a few lobbyists and the legislative committee narrows it down. Caitlin suggested that instead of doing that this year, the committee would prefer to contract with Sheralyn Kaiser because she's been very involved for several years. She is up to date on the issues and, Caitlin explained, we may need help this year from someone who is up to date and familiar with everything. They offered her a contract for \$5,000 max last year, and Caitlin reported that they will need that much again this year, and possibly a bit more. They need approval to get Sheralyn under contract and to offer \$5,000 max. Judi motioned, Conrado seconded. Kristin wondered if Sheralyn could send an invoice so they can get her paid on time and in the correct amount. Caitlin said she would request that.

Date of Next Meeting –

The next meeting will be on November 9, 2021, at 4 pm.

Quick update –

Just before adjourning, Jamie returned from a meeting to report that they have secured legal help for CCPL, including a representative for anyone charged with crimes, and the funding is coming. The Office of Intellectual Freedom is involved. He added that PLA and United Library Association can sign the letter with us if we want. OIF is willing to review draft of letter, which Jamie thinks is wise. Work is being done on an op-ed from a local person as well as a response to the psychiatrist's letter released on social media last week. WLA has a bit more time than we originally thought to get the letter out as the Campbell County Commissioners will not meet for another two weeks. Jamie added that the library board is responding with a nicely crafted letter to the psychiatrist's letter.

Adjourned –

The meeting adjourned at 3:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judi Boyce
MPLA Representative