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## Oregon Library Association Executive Board Meeting

March 24, 2025 at 4:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom <http://olaweb.org/ola-zoom-meeting-login-info>

Minutes approved May 19, 2025

[Agenda](#)

**Present:** Ayn Frazee (OLA President), Ericka Brunson-Rochette (OLA Past President), Stuart Levy (OLA Treasurer), Buzzy Nielsen (OLA Parliamentarian), Shirley Robert (OLA Manager), Roxanne M. Renteria (OLA Secretary), Jane M. Nichols (ACRL), LaRee Dominguez (OLA EDIA Committee), Jennifer McKenzie (OASL), Vickie Kromer (OYAN), Kathy Street (PLD), and Rinny Lakin (SSD).

**[ACTION ITEMS highlighted below] [ACTION ITEMS for everyone in yellow]**

### Welcome & Icebreaker (Ayn Frazee)

- Our [community agreement](#) during our meetings.
- Welcome and introductions, including an icebreaker question: what is your go to drink order at your favorite coffee shop?

### Agenda Changes/Minutes (Ayn)

- See [February](#) minutes.
- Motion to pass the February Minutes approved with edits.

### President's Report (Ayn)

- See [President's Report](#).
- Overview comments
  - Ayn and Kate Weber testified in-person in support of SB1098 (Freedom to Read Bill).
    - Moms for Liberty did not attend.
    - Those present were in favor of the bill.
    - Opposition provided written testimony.
    - Should the vote go well on the senate floor, there will be a hearing on April 14th and Ayn and Kate will attend to testify again.
  - Ayn and Shirley attended the conference planning meeting.
    - The President's Party is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at the Museum of Cultural History (Eugene).
    - Some hesitancy around conference travel given the current climate, so Conference Chair Taylor Worley sent a letter to membership to address concerns.

- Ayn notes the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is facing an uncertain future, and the recent Executive Order will impact IMLS funding.
  - Funding is supposed to run through September 2025.
  - The board should continue to raise awareness of how IMLS and LSTA funds benefit libraries and the communities they serve.
- Hosted the Region 4 OBOB for teens.

**State Librarian's Report** (Buzzy Nielsen on behalf of Wendy Cornelisen)

- Report not hyperlinked in the agenda.
- Overview Comments
  - Buzzy offered a quick primer on LSTA
    - Funding cycle runs October–September (in accordance with the Federal Fiscal Year, which is different than the state's fiscal year), but the reality is that SLO has 18 months to spend the money.
    - Currently, spending funds for 2024 and have until September 2025 to do so.
    - The Continuing Resolution, funds that can be spent through September of 2026 is LSTA 2025 money.
    - SLO is able to draw down 2024 funds, allotted in 30 day increments, so requests are made as needed.
    - SLO receives \$2.6 million in IMLS funding which makes up ¼ of SLO's overall budget, and ⅔ of Library Support Development Services Budget), and funds the following:
      - Statewide databases
      - Academic database subsidy
      - Northwest Digital Heritage
      - ⅓ of Support Development Staff
      - ½ of Safe Courier System
      - Competitive Grants
      - OSLIS
      - OBOB
      - Libros for Oregon
      - EDIA Committee Professional Grants
    - To summarize, as far as SLO knows, they still have 2024 money and should receive 2025 funds, and they expect an award letter in April regarding the 2025 funds.
    - More information on this topic as follows:
      - [\[Libs-Or\] Impact of Executive Order on SLO](#) (State Librarian Post)
      - [LSTA Program in Oregon](#) (SLO Website)
      - [Roundup: Statements in Response to Executive Order Impacting the Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#) (Library Journal Website)
    - SLO has updated some of the language they are using, and that includes the updated version of their LSTA 5 Year Plan, as well as staff person Ericka Brunson-Rochette's position title.
      - Ericka's title was changed to Community Engagement Consultant.

- SLO and Ericka remain committed to doing this work.

### Feedback Around OLA Board Letter re: IMLS (Ayn)

- This agenda topic was moved up.
- A short discussion regarding the merits of putting together a board statement in support of IMLS was held.
  - Recommendations include sharing what programs and services are funded via LSTA, and 3-5 actional steps staff and community members can take to show support.
  - Shirley revealed Conference Planning Chair Taylor Worley intends to offer an activity table featuring postcards for advocacy and a list of resources, and encouraged Ayn to check-in.
- Motion to approve a board statement carries, Ericka abstained.
- **ACTION ITEM: Jane, Jennifer, and Roxanne will help Ayn with edits to a board statement regarding LSTA.**
- Tangentially related, Roxanne brought up concerns about Oregon library staff safety and sharing a safety document with others.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Roxanne will forward safety document to Lex, the OLA Hotline editor.**

### Social Media Strategy (Ayn)

- See [Bluesky Proposal](#).
- Overview comments
  - Charles Wood manage's OLA's social media, and posts multiple times a day to Facebook (receives the most engagement), but some members are abandoning Meta and would like a non-affiliated option to connect with OLA on social media.
  - Ayn shared Bluesky offers better privacy/safety features.
- Buzzy provided an overview of Blue Sky, describing it as 2010's Twitter.
- Per Buzzy, a vote is not required to create a Blue Sky social media account.
- **ACTION ITEM: Shirley will create an OLA social media email account (for Charles to use to set up a Blue Sky account).**

### Distribution of Interest Earned Feedback (Stuart Levy)

- See [Feedback Survey Form](#).
- Overview Comments
  - Stuart provided a quick overview of the high interest yield account used to store the bulk of OLA "checking account" funds, and the question of what to do with the interest money.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Unit heads asked to submit survey feedback regarding distribution of interest earned by March 31st.**

### Reminder Item: Schedule Our Events on the OLA Calendar When Using Zoom (Ayn)

- See [Event Calendar](#).
- Overview Comments
  - Just a quick reminder to add meetings to the OLA calendar when scheduling unit related Zoom meetings.

- Note: less formal meetings such as those between co-chairs and the like may not be listed on the OLA calendar because they aren't open to the membership—so folks should be sure to log into each of the 4 Zoom accounts, and scroll, to find an available time slot.

#### **Conference Meeting Schedule (Ayn/Shirley)**

- This agenda topic was moved up.
- A short discussion of the pros and cons of conducting an OLA Board Meeting at OLA Eugene 2026 was held.
- Ayn shared a draft schedule, but ultimately the board determined conducting an OLA Board Meeting at the conference would be detrimental given the complexity of the session schedule.
- April Board meeting cancelled.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Ayn will send an email update letting membership know the April meeting is cancelled, and will resume in May (featuring election updates, treasurer report, and unit reports).**

#### **August Retreat Calendaring / Location (Shirley/Ayn)**

- The board proposed a handful of locations including Jantzen Beach (Portland), Central Oregon Community College (Bend) and the newly built Redmond Library (Redmond).
  - Hotel options include Waypoint (Bend) and SCP (Redmond).
- Ayn agreed to hold the Board Retreat at the “site” of the incoming president, April Witteveen—final venue selection will fall to her.
- Shirley proposed the Board Retreat be held on Thursday, August 21st and the Board Meeting fall on Friday, August 22nd, to include new unit heads and board members.
  - These dates contingent upon April's availability
  - **ACTION ITEM: Ayn will email April regarding preference of where to hold the retreat (bend or redmond/SCP or Waypoint) and cc' Shirley.**

#### **Action Item Review/Next Meeting (Ayn/Roxanne)**

- **ACTION ITEM: Shirley will create an OLA social media email account (for Charles to use to set up a Blue Sky account).**
- **ACTION ITEM: Ayn will email April regarding preference of where to hold the retreat (Bend or Redmond/SCP or Waypoint) and cc' Shirley.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Roxanne will forward safety document to Lex, the OLA Hotline editor**
- **ACTION ITEM: Jane, Jennifer, and Roxanne will help Ayn with edits to a board statement regarding LSTA.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Unit heads asked to submit survey feedback regarding distribution of interest earned by March 31st.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Ayn will send an email update letting membership know the April meeting is cancelled, and will resume in May (featuring election updates, treasurer report, and unit reports).**

**Adjourned at 5:55 p.m.**

Appendix. Common OLA Abbreviations.

- ACRL—Assoc. of College & Research Libraries
- CSD—Children’s Services Division
- EDIA—Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Committee
- IFC—Intellectual Freedom Committee
- LEG—Legislative Committee (formerly Library Development and Legislation)
- LIOLA—Leadership Institute of OLA
- OASL—Oregon Assoc. of School Libraries
- OBOB—Oregon Battle of the Books
- ORCA—Oregon Reader’s Choice Award
- OYAN—Oregon Young Adult Network
- PLD—Public Library Division
- REFORMA—REFORMA Oregon
- SLO—State Library of Oregon
- SSD—Support Staff Division