

Oregon Library Association Public Library Division Executive Board Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2023, via Zoom

Present: Halsted Bernard (Tigard Public Library), past chair Molly Carlisle (Garden Home Public Library), at-large; Darci Hanning, State Library of Oregon rep; Haley Lagasse (North Bend Public Library), chair; Beka Murcray (Molalla Public Library), at-large; Chris Myers (retired), secretary; Sami Pierson (Coos Bay Public Library), at-large; Greg Williams (Oregon City Public Library), at-large; April Witteven (Crook County Public Library), chair-elect/vice-chair

Absent: Greg Williams (Oregon City PL), at-large

1. Call to Order

Chair Haley Lagasse called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. Approval of minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the board's November 4, 2022, meeting were approved without change. They have been posted on the PLD website.

3. Additions or deletions to agenda.

There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Chair-elect election

- April Witteven stepped down as chair-elect due to a change in her employment situation.
- We are accepting nominations until January 27, and will have an election after that.

5. Division budget

- Haley worked with Will O'Hearn, Laura Kimberly, and Shirley Roberts to develop a draft budget for PLD for fiscal 22-23 (retroactive to September 1, 2022)
- The draft budget was approved. The budget is [here](#)

6. PLD training

- We set a new tentative date: Friday, March 17, at Tigard Public Library
- We discussed possible topics for a training
- Question about whether this would be an in-person or virtual event. In light of forecasted COVID trends, maybe a hybrid event would be best.

- Halsted suggested a roundtable-discussion-style meeting where people could share ideas about a variety of topics, including approaches to post-pandemic programming, maintaining staff morale in challenging times, and responding to book challenges

7. Expedition Happy

Chris provided an update on planning for “Expedition Happy,” PLD’s inaugural virtual challenge course, designed as a fundraiser for PLD support of continuing education and professional development for public-library staff members in the state

- Thanks to Haley’s great work, and support from Shirley Roberts of OLA, the “Expedition Happy” website is ready to launch.
- We are sending out PR messages on the OLA listserv and on social-media channels starting January 18, and plan to launch the challenge that day.
- Thanks to the good work of Beka Murcay, Tshirts are available with the Expedition Happy logo. These are \$19.99 and ordered a la carte by participants who want one.
- Thanks to Allison Staley of Lake Oswego Public Library for her graphic design work creating the Expedition Happy logo.
- We are hoping the 11 participating libraries will be particularly eager to help publicize the challenge, but we also want board members to do everything in their power to spread the word in their networks.

8. Oregon Digital Library Consortium Update

ODLC chair Carrie Schindele-Cupples (Springfield Public Library) shared the following report:

a. Oversight

- ODLG Governing Board
 - approved two new member libraries
 - Brownsville Public Library
 - Maggie Osgood Public Library
 - Approved a two-year content budget for FY24 and FY25
 - 10% increase each year
- ODLG Executive Committee
 - Over several months in 2022, we struggled to fill our selection chair position
 - Oct 2022 appointed Charla Oppenlander from Klamath Public Library
 - Organizes several selectors across our consortium, orders holds and monitors metered access titles for renewal. She also re-started regular weeding of the collection.

- Presented on Overdrive Advantage Plus to the Governing Board
 - Asked all libraries with Advantage collections to turn on Advantage Plus, which allows books not checked out to be checked out by all consortium members.
 - Presented contract renewal to the Governing Board
 - Current contract expires June 30, 2023
 - Proposal: Continue with the same flat platform fee for next five years
- b. Collections
- In FY23, we have fully incorporated Spanish language purchasing into our member content budget
 - Received \$2,000 from state Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) committee to purchase eBook and eAudiobook copies
 - Overdrive App, complete removal in April 2023
 - Had already sunset in 2022 and been removed from App store/Play store
 -
- c. Spending
- ODLC spent 48% of their budget as of Dec. 23, 2022
 - Purchasing new titles, holds, metered access renewals, and purchase requests
 - LSTA
 - Kris Wiley, ODLC Vice Chair is preparing our annual LSTA application for funding (\$50,000)
 - ODLC submits two rounds of reimbursement requests for the LSTA funding
 - For first half of FY23, receipts submitted for:
 - \$23,500 (\$23,499.68 to be exact) content reimbursement
 - \$1500 for indirect charge for grant administration to OLA

9. 2023 OLA Conference

- We have planned an evening reception for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at the Riverhouse in Bend. This is intended as an annual gathering for public-library staff members, as well as others who are supportive of public libraries, and this year will also include some component celebrating and wrapping up “Expedition Happy.”
- Molly Carlisle has been coordinating and planning this with Haley. The event will feature heavy hors d’oeuvres, maybe a signature cocktail called “the Expedition Happy,” and beer and wine.
- Admission is \$10 per person, which will include 1 drink ticket. Most of the funding for the event will come from PLD reserves from previous years’ overrun, since we haven’t had any events in a couple years.
- This is traditionally when the Pearl Award winner is announced and celebrated. Our vice-chair / chair-elect typically coordinates the Pearl Award nominating and evaluation

process, so with April having left that position, we need a volunteer to coordinate the Pearl Award process.

- Beka Murcray volunteered to coordinate this, as she did last year.
- Haley will communicate with Beka about details of the timeline for this, with the goal of being able to present the award at the PLD reception at the OLA Conference in Bend in April.

10. State Library of Oregon report

Darci Hanning submitted the following report from the State Library of Oregon:

- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently released the [National Broadband Map](#), showing Internet availability by address. Unfortunately, many libraries in Oregon and throughout the country are inaccurately shown as being not ready for and/or uninterested in high-speed Internet. Library Consulting Assistant Ferol Weyand is looking through library addresses to find the issues so that we can report them to the FCC.
- School Library Consultant Jen Maurer and members of the Oregon Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee are collaborating with staff from the Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) to draft a model policy about handling challenges to K-12 library and instructional materials. The goal is to have the draft ready for OSBA's policy update in April.

Back in October, Jen presented a session called [You've Landed in a School Library! Now What?](#) at the fall conference of the Oregon Association of School Libraries. The target audience was paraprofessional school library staff who work without the guidance of a licensed librarian, and the presentation was well received.

- Staff from the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) recently visited the State Library in our role as member of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Oregon Federal Regional Depository Coordinator Arlene Weible hosted GPO staff at the State Library, after which they visited our three state partners at the University of Oregon, Oregon State University, and Portland State University, as well as FDLP participant Linfield University. The GPO visit provided an opportunity to discuss Oregon's current FDLP collection partnerships and learn about new possibilities to work with partners across the 13 states and 2 territories that comprise FDLP's West National Collection Service Area.



Weible and GPO staff visiting FDLP partner library and staff at Portland State University

- Tamara also recently launched our [competitive Library Services and Technology Act \(LSTA\) 2023 grant cycle](#). This year will be the first under our [new LSTA 2023-27 Five-Year Plan](#) that this board passed in 2022.

- Continuing Education Coordinator Darci Hanning is working with Christina Fuller-Gregory of Fuller Potential Consulting to lead three cohorts in Libraries Leading with Equity. The cohorts will occur February-May of 2023. Two of the cohorts, open to any Oregon library staff, will be held in Wilsonville and Tillamook public libraries. The third cohort will be exclusively for State Library of Oregon staff from all four divisions. This training is continuing a model began by the [Libraries of Eastern Oregon](#) in the 2021 LSTA grant they received from us.

Darci is also working with Urban Libraries Council to provide two Edge learning cohorts: Data Fluency and Digital Inclusion; the latter will include access to the new Edge 360 assessment with a focus on EDIA. These online cohorts will run from January through May 2023 and are open to any public library staff in Oregon. Participants that successfully complete the Digital Inclusion session will have the opportunity to apply for a small grant (\$5,000) to support the digital equity project developed over the course of the cohort.

- Virtual Reference Coordinator Jennifer Cox was recently appointed as the part-time Interim Dean of Libraries at Chemeketa Community College, while still working with us coordinating our 24/7 chat reference service Answerland!
- Youth Services Consultant Greta Bergquist is working with libraries as they plan their 2023 summer reading activities. The State Library subscribes to [iREAD reading programs](#) on behalf of all public libraries in Oregon. This program used by several states provides themes, artwork, activity ideas, and more for libraries planning summer programming. Since switching to iREAD from a different national program, libraries have reported being happier with the resources of the new program as well as the better terms for using and reproducing artwork and activities.
- In between his duties gathering the annual public library statistics, Data & Digital Projects Consultant Ross Fuqua has set up new online collections for the [Weston](#) and [Athena](#) public libraries. This work was done as part of the [Northwest Digital Heritage](#) program, a primary goal of which is to help small libraries and cultural institutions to create lasting, accessible digital collections and make them discoverable through larger platforms online.
- The November 2022 election was a mixed bag for the six library-related measures on the ballot:
 - *Annexation of Johnson City into the Clackamas County library service district:*
Failed 30-70%
 - *Bond for Astoria to expand, modernize, and repair their public library building:*
Passed 70-30%
 - *Renewal of five-year operating levy for Warrenton Community Library:*
Failed 49-51%. The city plans to put the measure back on the May 2023 ballot asking for a lower amount.
 - *Establishment of a fee to fund a library within the city of Keizer:*
Failed 45-55%
 - *Renewal of five-year operating levy for Union Carnegie Public Library:*
Passed 67-33%

- *Capital bond in the City of Salem, including funding for new library branches:*
Passed 65-45%
- A group of citizens in Crook County have been demanding that the local library board segregate into a separate section any children's books that include LGBTQ+ content, in violation of American Library Association core intellectual freedom documents. Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse coordinator Tamara Ottum has been supporting the Crook County Library (CCL) during this issue in her role both at the State Library and as our liaison to the Oregon Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee. Program Manager Buzzy Nielsen presented at CCL's December Board meeting, discussing the possibility that if a public library doesn't follow the profession's intellectual freedom practices, it could run afoul of Oregon's [public library minimum conditions](#). CCL is the second situation where the State Library has, as the request of the libraries, shared about the intellectual freedom provision of the minimum conditions. The situation has received extensive regional and statewide media attention. These challenges are connected to larger nationwide efforts to restrict or remove materials in schools and libraries.

11. Next regular meeting: 10 a.m.-noon Friday, March 10, on Zoom

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.