

## **Oregon Library Association Public Library Division Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

November 4, 2022, via Zoom

**Present:** Molly Carlisle (Garden Home Public Library), at-large; Darci Hanning, State Library of Oregon rep; Haley Lagasse (North Bend Public Library), chair; Beka Murcay (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:** Halsted Bernard (Tigard Public Library), past chair

### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Haley Lagasse called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

### **2. Approval of minutes of previous meetings**

The minutes of the board's September 9, 2022, meeting were approved without change. They have been posted on the PLD website.

### **3. PLD Training:**

- We struggled to find a guest presenter on the topic of overwhelm.
- Postponed training until Spring: tentative date March 24, 2023, at Tigard Public Library.

### **4. Expedition Happy**

- Making progress on this. Have second round of logo designs, and Haley is working with Laura Kimberly to create a demo race.
- Beka has a great group of libraries willing to take part as stops on the inaugural course.
- Now targeting January 18, 2023, for a launch.
- Darci said she would be happy to participate in conversation about reimbursement for professional development
- Sami agreed to join this committee
- Chris will send out a Doodle poll next week to schedule the next committee meeting in November.

### **5. Budget committee**

- Haley met with Laura Kimberly and Will O'Hearn to work on creating a budget for PLD, which has never had a formal budget before.

- Will present proposed budget for partial FY 2022-2023 at our January meeting.

## 6. 2023 OLA Conference

- April and Haley talked briefly about this since our last meeting.
- We need some board members to step up and work on the planning for this.
- Evening reception for Pearl Award and culminating Expedition Happy fundraiser.
- Planning on staging this Wednesday, April 20.
- Molly Carlisle volunteered to be the lead in planning this.
- Haley will call a meeting with April and Molly to discuss this further.
- One possibility is to have the event at Deschutes Public Library's meeting room
- Molly will reach out to Lynne Mildenstein

## 7. Pearl Award

- April is going to take the lead on Pearl Award, with this duty/task going to the chair-elect every year in a fairly systematic way.

## 8. Board volunteer opportunities

- PLD Standards: This committee needs a new chair. Darci suggested that perhaps this should be a responsibility of the past chair. Haley said she would ask Halsted about this, and Darci said she would co-chair. Want someone with Wordpress skills. Greg said he would discuss with Darci the posso
- April suggested adding a "Get Involved" button to the PLD website that would link to a form.

## 9. Updates to PLD webpage

- Numerous updates needed, including to current board membership. Chris will work on these.

## 10. State Library of Oregon report

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

a) The State Library is providing [small grants to Oregon's county law libraries](#) using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. County law libraries may use the funds to update their collections, purchase new computers or workstations, replace furnishings, or other things for which ARPA funds were intended. Federal Programs and Grants Consultant Tamara Ottum and Program Manager Buzzy Nielsen are working with the libraries.

b) Federal Programs and Grants Consultant Tamara Ottum and Library Consulting Assistant Max Robinson have reviewed the guidelines for the annual competitive Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants. **The [grant application process](#) opened on November 1.**

The following information was sent via email on 10/4:

New this year:

- Projects should align with the State Library's new [LSTA Five-Year Plan 2023-2027](#).
- There will be a single-tier structure (no small/large division) and capping grant requests at \$50,000. This is to distribute funding more broadly across the state.

You can view recordings of the information sessions here:

- Tuesday, October 18, 9-10 a.m.  
[Presentation Slides](#) | [Recording](#)
- Wednesday, October 26, 2-3 p.m.  
[Presentation Slides](#) | [Recording](#)

c) School Library Consultant Jen Maurer has been working with Tina Roberts, English Language Arts Specialist at the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and a member of our board, to update an ODE document offering guidance to school districts about addressing challenged materials. The updated document will be available on ODE's [Library and Media Education page](#) and the State Library's [School Library Services page](#)

d) Public Library Consultant and CE Coordinator Darci Hanning has been working with the Edge group from Urban Libraries Council to provide online, peer-learning cohorts for Oregon public libraries in 2023. [Two cohorts](#) will focus on building skills and insights around data-driven decision-making and digital equity. Registration for the 2023 cohorts began on November 1, 2022 and will close on December 16, 2022. Up to 30 libraries can register for each cohort – multiple staff members from each library can participate.

e) Darci has also been working to replicate last year's successful EDI learning cohorts for rural libraries (public and academic) created by Libraries of Eastern Oregon through an LSTA competitive grant. Two learning cohorts will be hosted in northwestern Oregon, and they will meet in person and online between January and May 2023. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

f) This year has been a milestone for the Ready to Read grant program: all 140 public libraries eligible and interested in applying submitted their applications on time! Youth Services Consultant Greta Bergquist is reviewing the applications now. Payments will be distributed in December.

g) Northwest Digital Heritage—the collaboration among the State Library of Oregon, Oregon Heritage Commission, and Washington State Library—announced its latest update: a [new web portal](#) on the Digital Public Library of America focusing on content from Pacific Northwest libraries and heritage institutions. Highlighted topics include the

1980 Mount Saint Helens eruption, Japanese American oral histories, tribal fishing rights, and more.

h) Tamara completed the [2022 Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse report](#). The number of reported materials challenges in libraries more than doubled this year, mirroring a rise in challenges across the nation.

i) The [Statewide Database Licensing Advisory Committee](#) submitted their 2022 annual report on September 23, 2022. Gale database user sessions grew by 24% over the last year, while LearningExpress Library session declined by 11%. Educational activity has always been a big driver of usage in the program, and the return to more consistent activities in the last year account for the substantial increase in usage of Gale databases. This did not hold true for LearningExpress Library, however, so further assessment of the decreasing usage is needed.

The increase in percentage of use from Gale's Open Web initiative indicates that Oregonians may not be turning to their library's web site for access to online information but are using general search engines instead. Methods to assess the nature of OpenWeb data more fully will continue to be explored with the vendor. In general, the data indicates that Oregonians are using a basic set of resources provided through the SDLP even if they may not be using traditional library access points to find them.

j) Currently we're aware of five library-related local measures that will be on the November ballot:

- Annexation of Johnson City into the Clackamas County library service district. Johnson City currently is the only part of Clackamas County that lacks free access to public library service.
- Bond for Astoria to expand, modernize, and repair their public library building.
- Renewal of a five-year operating levy for Warrenton Community Library. The renewal would increase the levy rate from \$0.33 to \$0.38.
- Establishment of a fee to fund a library within the city of Keizer. The city is one of, if not the, largest cities in the country without access to free public library service.
- Five-year option levy for Union that would cost property owners about \$1.05 for each \$1,000 of assessed property value. This would replace the currently five-year option levy for the library that will expire June 30, 2023, which costs property owners \$1.21 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

k) The State Librarian Wendy Cornelisen and Library Support staff continue with in-person visits to libraries around the state including academic and public libraries in Douglas, Harney, Lane, Linn, Malheur, Gilliam, Hood River, Wasco, Umatilla, Sherman, Morrow, and Wheeler counties, and four university partners in the regional Federal Depository Library Program.

**11. Next regular meeting:** 10 a.m.-noon Friday, January 13, on Zoom

## **12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at noon.