

OREGON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

November 22, 2002

10:00 AM

Eugene Public Library

Eugene, Oregon

Present

Voting Members: Dana Campbell (Children's Services Division), Faye Chadwell (Vice-President/President-Elect), Cindy Gibbon (Public Libraries Division), Anne Guevara (Oregon Young Adult Network), Ellen Mueller (Support Staff Division), Carol Reich (PNLA Representative), Wyma Rogers (ALA Councilor), Suzanne Sager (Treasurer), Stephen Skidmore (Secretary), Dale Vidmar (Member at Large), Janet Webster (Past President).

Non-voting Members: Ed House (Parliamentarian), Linda Ague (OEMA).

Other OLA Units, Members, and Guests: Diedre Conkling (Legislative Network), Nan Heim (OLA lobbyist), Cara List (Intellectual Freedom Committee), Cheryl Middleton (Academic/ACRL Division), Doris Munson (Technical Services Roundtable), Dan White (Executive Director Committee).

In the absence of President Connie Bennett, the meeting was called to order by Vice-President/President-Elect Faye Chadwell at 10:03 AM.

1. HOUSEKEEPING

Faye announced that Connie would not be attending today's meeting. The attendance sign-up roster and a box for collecting money for lunch were passed around the table. Nan Heim will be joining the meeting at 12:00 noon. Introductions were done around the table.

There were no corrections or changes to the September 27, 2002, Board meeting minutes, and they were approved by Board consent.

2. OFFICER REPORTS

a. State Librarian Jim Schepcke

Jim was absent. Faye asked everyone to read and take to heart Jim's recent gentle reminder regarding restrictions on lobbying by public employees.

b. Treasurer Suzanne Sager

i. Suzanne distributed balance sheets and a new deposit form that she has created. The new deposit form should help in reporting accurately the various OLA enterprise funds.

ii. An distribution of net income from the joint 2002 OLA/WLA annual conference has been made. OLA had a profit of \$39,310.34 from the conference. There is still some minor confusion regarding the Public Library Division Ole banquet but Rob Everett has a check to give Suzanne that will clear this up. 647 conference attendees were from Oregon, 484 from Washington, and 114 from other states.

c. President Connie Bennett

- i. Connie's written report was distributed, and Faye briefed the Board on the matters outlined in her report.
- ii. Cindy attended a Senate Interim Task Force on Library Cooperation meeting on October 21. There was some discussion about revising the draft legislation, but several senators said to leave it alone. The legislation will be submitted as is with no changes. The draft legislation phases out net lender reimbursements, phases in subsidies for electronic databases, and reorganizes the Talking Books and Braille Services and the Library Development programs of the Oregon State Library. The critical need for media specialist in all schools was also discussed. Cindy spoke about the need for the professional association to work out any differences which we might have amongst ourselves before the legislation is introduced. Presenting a united front to the legislature is an absolutely necessity if OLA is to be successful in this endeavor.
- iii. Connie has appointed Robin Beerbower and Patty Cutright to the Nominating Committee and Pam Horan and Susan Barnes Whyte to the Continuing Education Committee. Janet moved and Cindy seconded to approve these appointments. Ayes: all. Dana moved and Wyma seconded that Rosemary McGreer of Antelope be appointed to represent the Trustees and Friends Division on the Executive Board. Ayes: all.
- iv. Connie is still developing the 2002/03 budget.

d. ALA Councilor Wyma Rogers

- i. Council is concerned about Government Printing Office (GPO) changes and how they will affect the public's access to information.
- ii. There was long discussion about ALA Council taking a position in opposition to the Patriot Act and the wording of the resolution which Council will consider.
- iii. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear the ALA/ACLU suit on CIPA. Arguments will take place in the spring and a decision should come next summer.
- iv. Keith Fiels, the new ALA Executive Director, will be attending the 2003 OLA conference.
- v. Diedre stated that there would be Council discussion and action on the issue of the Patriot Act and the GPO at midwinter conference.
- vi. Janet suggested that Connie send a letter to the GPO expressing OLA's concerns about the changes which are planned. The Documents Interest Group (DIGOR) needs to be involved in this. Janet moved and Faye seconded that Wyma and Diedre draft a letter for Connie's signature which will be sent to GPO and will express OLA concern about the proposed GPO changes. Ayes: all.

e. PNLA Representative Carol Reich

- i. The 2003 PNLA conference will be August 12-15 in Boise, and the theme will be "Libraries in the Pacific Northwest: A Tapestry."
- ii. The 2002 PNLA conference in Missoula attracted 200 attendees and made a \$10,000 profit.
- iii. Art Weeks has been named as the director of the Anchorage Public Library.
- iv. An RFP for the Leadership Institute is being developed. A survey of interest will be e-mailed to interested parties in 2003. PNLA has committed \$2,500 to the Institute program. Janet and Jim Scheppke are serving on the University of Washington's School of Information Sciences Advisory Board.

3. DIVISION REPORTS

a. Academic/ACRL/OR Heather Ward

- i. In Heather's absence, Cheryl Middleton gave the report. The Menucha conference on the "Post-modern Library" attracted 96 attendees; they had been expecting 50 to attend.
- ii. The division is working on scholarships for distance education library students.

b. Children's Services Division (CSD) Dana Campbell

- i. Vendorlink check for \$50,000 for this year's Summer Reading Program (SRP) has been received.
- ii. Dana, Janet, Jim Scheppke, Angela Reynolds, and Connie met with representatives of the Metropolitan Group in October. The contract was discussed and Connie has signed; the contract has a \$102,000 cap on expenses which OLA pays to the Metropolitan Group. Because there was a delay in signing the contract, the Metropolitan Group was not looking for grants for two months but are now approaching funding sources for the SRP. Janet will continue working on the income/expenditure figures in order to establish a clear and consistent method of tracking SRP income and expenses. 2003 SRP materials will continue to be provided at no cost.
- iii. The Children's Services Division (CSD) fall workshop was held November 2 in Springfield. Despite a conflict with the UO/OSU football game, 57 attended. \$1,300 was raised at the auction. The spring workshop will be March 18 in Salem. The spring meeting will focus on Summer Reading Program and distribution of SRP materials. Nancy Coffelt has designed the art for the 2003 SRP materials.
- iv. Proposes changes in the CSD bylaws were distributed and Dana explained each change. Wyma moved and Anne seconded to approve the changes. Ayes: all.

c. Oregon Young Adult Network (OYAN) Anne Guevara

- i. OYAN is preparing for their all-day, pre-conference program on graphic novels. Francisca Goldsmith from the Berkeley (CA) Public Library, a reviewer of graphic novels, will be the key presenter.
- ii. 15 attended the last quarterly meeting at St. Helens.
- iii. OYAN is responsible for the Fall, 2003, *OLA Quarterly* issue on young adult literature and services.

d. Public Library Division Cindy Gibbon

- i. There has been a change in plans for the pre-conference. PLD will now be co-sponsoring a program on the Patriot Act with the Intellectual Freedom Committee. Mary Minow will be the presenter.
- ii. The Ole Award banquet, held on the evening preceding the first day of the conference, will be a mystery dinner theatre with a cruise ship theme. The identity of the winner of the Ole award will be part of the mystery.

iii. PLD may do a conference program with the Support Staff Division on security issues.

e. Support Staff Division Ellen Mueller

i. A membership chair has been named.

- ii. The 2003 conference will be July 18 in Keizer.
- iii. The division is planning for two open houses. One will be in a southern Oregon location.

f. Ad Hoc Committee on an Executive Director Ed House

- i. Over ten years ago, Rebecca Cohen approached McDonald's about providing funds to sponsor the Summer Reading Program. That program has now grown to be a \$140,000 a year program. Hiring the Metropolitan Group to raise funds for the SRP was to be a short-term, temporary funding solution. OLA needs an executive director to replace the Metropolitan group in this role.
- ii. OLA is a voluntary organization with little or no continuity in the presidency. The learning curve, with various committees, roundtables, and divisions, is steep. The time has come for OLA to create an executive director's position.
- iii. The funding for the position would come from a number of source (e.g., fees that we currently pay the Metropolitan Group and Professional Administrative Services, grants from organization such as the Meyer Trust and Ford Family Foundation, etc.). The executive director would have grant-writing responsibilities.
- iv. The first step in creating the position would be to develop a business plan. Connie has suggested a \$1 per person fee from the dues of

divisions, roundtables, and committees.

v. Janet moved and Carol seconded for the Ad Hoc Committee on an Executive Director to draft a business plan and create an RFP for an executive director position for OLA. Ayes: all.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Conference Teresa Landers

i. Teresa was absent and Cheryl Middleton, local arrangements chair, reported for the committee.

ii. A preliminary program will be on the website by the end of November.

iii. National Public Radio reporter Andrei Codrescu has committed to be the Thursday night banquet speaker and Keith Fiels, new ALA executive director, will be the program presenter for the Friday luncheon.

iv. A draft of the registration form will be ready soon.

v. It will be possible to register on-line for the three conference hotels this year. There will a bus shuttle service between the conference site (Oregon State University) and the three hotels.

vi. There will be child care available at the conference this year.

vii. A decision as to where to meet for the 2005 conference needs to be made soon. Seaside and the metro Portland area were mentioned.

b. Intellectual Freedom Cara List

i. The Committee has experienced a great deal of recent turnover and therefore are many members who are new to the group. There are still three vacancies to be filled including a representative from the Support Staff Division.

ii. The committee's website is very out of date and needs to be re-designed.

iii. The Committee has traditionally met six times a year. They are considering reducing that to four times a year.

c. Library Development and Legislation Bonnie Allen

i. Bonnie was absent but submitted a written report.

ii. January 30, February 6 and 13 are suggested dates for Legislative Day.

iii. Janet stated that she does not see why OLA, a state association, should not take a stand on the Patriot Act, even though that is a federal issue.

iv. At this point, Faye declared that we would now break for lunch and continue the discussion during this period; this time will be considered as an unpaid break for public employees. Faye asked Nan Heim, OLA's legislative lobbyist, to join the discussion. Nan stated that the legislature will convene for the 5th special session on January 13 to deal with the rapidly increasing shortfall in state revenues. \$300 million in cuts have already be approved by the legislature. If Measure 28 in the January, 2003, special election fails, additional cuts of \$200-\$300 million will be necessary. That will mean up to \$600 million in cuts in less than six months, in a budget of \$12 billion.

v. The new Legislative Assembly will have a House of Representatives split 35 Republicans and 25 Democrats and a Senate evenly divided 15-15 between the two parties.

vi. OLA's legislative agenda focuses on the passage of SB 12, the interim task force legislation that Cindy reported on earlier in today's meeting (see President's Report). Nan reiterated that OLA must be unified in its position on this legislation. If the association is divided, the legislation will not pass. Connie and Bonnie will write a letter of support. OLA divisions need to endorse the legislation. Nan stated that January 30 would not be a good date for Legislative Day; February 6 or 13 would be preferable. SB 12 will probably have a hearing before the Senate Education Committee.

vii. As for the funding cuts which will be coming, Nan said that our best hope is to keep the cuts to a minimum and to prevent the passage of legislation which would be harmful to libraries.

viii. 44% of the \$300 million funding cuts affect agencies that employ librarians, primarily educational institutions. Measure 28 will probably not pass but OLA and other groups who are supporting the measure can help to keep the margin down. Failure of Measure 28 by a wide margin will be disastrous for libraries and schools. A result of such an occurrence will be the loss of quality education for all of Oregon, at every level.

ix. The actions which OLA should take include producing a fact sheet and white paper on Measure 28 as well as formally endorsing the measure.

x. Cindy moved and Dale seconded that the Executive Board of the Oregon Library Association support the passage of Measure 28 in the special January, 2003, special election. Ayes: all.

xi. Nan will prepare "talking points" that we can use in lobbying efforts. Nan and Faye will prepare other written materials to distribute.

d. Oregon Authors

Faye distributed a written report prepared by Committee chair, Heidi Senior. Because of printing costs, the Committee is moving towards producing their bibliography in an on-line format and would like to have OLA Board endorsement of this change. The issue of archiving of the bibliography in this format is a critical issue. They would need to find a host website to do this.

e. Public Relations

This committee was created many years ago to raise the level of awareness about the work of OLA and Oregon libraries. In recent years, the Committee has had a booth at the state fair. But other than that, the group has been inactive. Wyma moved and Dale seconded to suspend the Public Relations Committee. Ayes: Campbell, Gibbon, Guevara, Mueller, Rogers, Sager, Skidmore, Vidmar, Webster. Nays: Chadwell and Reich.

f. Resource Sharing

Janet reported for chair Paula Hamilton that an LSTA grant request to study the courier system in Oregon was approved.

g. Nominating Wyma Rogers

Wyma, Susan Barnes Whyte, and Patty Cutright have been contacting prospective candidates. Wyma reported that the Committee has commitments from two candidates for president-elect, two for treasurer, and one for secretary.

5. ROUNDTABLE REPORTS

a. Library Districts Steve Skidmore

i. Steve reported that the Library District Roundtable created a listserv for its members last year and that it has been used on a number of occasions since then on a variety of issues important to library districts.

ii. Steve reported on the library districting efforts being made in Lane County by the Lane Library League. The League received a three-year LSTA grant commitment for this effort and are planning a demonstration project for 2004. They hope to have a ballot measure in November, 2004.

b. Social Responsibilities (SRRT) Diedre Conkling

Diedre reported that SRRT will be sponsoring an appearance at the 2003 conference by Louise Robbins, the author of *The Dismissal of Miss Ruth Brown*, the librarian in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, who was the target of censors in that community and was fired from her position in 1950. A Bette Davis film based on the event, *Storm Center*, will be shown by Dr. Robbins as well. There was discussion about showing the film during the evening, possibly at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, when more people could attend.

c. Technical Services Doris Munson

Doris said that there will be pre-conference on basic cataloging. Technical Service will also be co-sponsoring a conference program on

ergonomics with the Support Staff Division.

6. OEMA/OLA MERGER

- i. Linda Ague reported that OEMA had given some consideration to merger and that there were several issues that they are concerned about. One of these is conflicting conferences of the two groups. Another is OEMA concern that the issues of school librarians would be secondary to those of other library interest groups. There has been no meeting of the ad hoc committee appointed to consider the merger issue.
- ii. Janet and Connie sent a letter to Secretary of Education-Elect Susan Castillo on the importance of having certified school librarians in all school districts. Linda said that Castillo believes in local control and that that decision should be made at the local level. Linda believes that Castillo will not be out front on the issue of certified librarians in all schools.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- i. Janet reported that a new letter of agreement with John McCulley of Professional Administrative Services has been signed, incorporating the increase in fees that was approved at the last Board meeting. There is a 30-day notice of termination written into the contract. Janet will send out copies of the new agreement letter in the near future.
- ii. There was discussion about the pending state library budget cuts. Cuts in the Ready to Read grants for children's services will range from 9% to 18%. Several programs in the Talking Books and Braille Services may be reduced or eliminated. Restoring cuts in the Ready to Read program will be easier to accomplish because the program is popular with legislators.
- iii. Cindy believes that a small OLA group needs to work with Jim and the State Library on the implementation of SB12. Cindy moved and Janet seconded to request that the State Library Board appoint an advisory group representative of public, school, and academic libraries to begin work on developing the Administrative Rules for implementation SB12. Ayes: Campbell, Chadwell, Gibbon, Guevara, Mueller, Reich, Sager, Skidmore, Vidmar, Webster. Abstain: Rogers.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion about the recent turmoil over the posting on OLA's web-based Jobline of a non-paying, volunteer library position in North Plains, a small suburb in Washington County. Ed explained that the City of North Plains, which has no public library, is looking for someone with library training to advise them on establishing a public library. Faye moved and Dana seconded that in the future it be clearly stated in the Jobline posting that such a position is a volunteer one. Ayes: Campbell, Chadwell, Gibbon, Guevara, Mueller, Reich, Sager, Skidmore, Vidmar, Webster. No: Rogers. There was Board consensus that Rachel Mendez, OLA's website coordinator, be commended for a job well done.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen C. Skidmore

Secretary