

OLA Executive Board Meeting

November 20, 2009

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Present: Connie Anderson-Cohoon, Rick Samuelson, K'Lyn Hann, Rob Everett, Susan Gilmont, Liisa Sjoblom, Todd Dunkelberg, Steve Skidmore, Lorie Vik, Jim Scheppke, Dana Campbell, Suzanne Sager, Judy Anderson, Richard Sapon-White (briefly)

Phone: Shirley Roberts, Janet Webster (@ 1:45)

Welcome & Introductions

Agenda Review and Minutes Approval

Agenda: Some agenda items shifted around. Added: 1) Update on op-ed to Oregon Reads and 2) NW Council for Computer Education.

Motion to approve minutes with correction of Liisa Sjoblom's name.

Motion: Jim Scheppke

Second: Dana Campbell

Motion carries unanimously.

Meeting Ground Rules Review

Connie will request name of agenda item, type of item, who will speak, and time needed. Raise hand to be acknowledged to speak in the meeting. Connie is timekeeper.

Treasurer's Report

This is Shirley's last report as Treasurer; Liisa will take over at the next meeting. Balance Sheet – since last meeting it was reviewed and is final for 990 filing. We have a healthy equity. Budget Report – there are checks totaling \$3,500 that have never been cashed. An accountant (Eileen) suggested these be added back into the account. Regarding lobbying services, Mary contacted Nan about being under budget because we were not billed for two months. Our net inflow is \$18,000 over outflow due in part to a successful conference. Enterprise balance sheet - Vision 2020 hasn't filed a final report yet and there was activity in Sept. A final payment has been made on Oregon Authors. Work to finalize Oregon Reads should be complete in a few months. Shirley has approval to pay the Amo Leer bill.

OLA Budget

Changes since the last meeting include:

Awards and Scholarships - Requests \$500 for plaques.

Oregon Reads clipping service – Kim requested \$1500 to cover what we actually pay since there wasn't enough budgeted. There was consensus to increase the budget to cover the costs. One option is to shift PNLA travel expenses to the clipping service to lower the draw on equity.

Lobbying Services – Mary confirmed with Nan that the budgeted amount is fine.

Shirley confirmed that budget numbers can be moved around throughout the year. Motion to approve the 2009-2010 budget for OLA.

Motion: Dana Campbell

Second: Rob Everett

Motion carries unanimously.

Association Management Update

At the last meeting, a contract with the association management company was signed. Subsequently, Mary met with a pro bono attorney who helped develop a revised contract agreement to replace it. Mary is still pursuing several questions with counsel, and there will be a final draft to come.

Two elements were reviewed. The first was the no-cause termination (Pg 2, Item 4.2d). The attorney advised us to change it from 60 days to 30 days, although she said either would be okay. It's the standard language escape clause. Discussion followed with most preferring to keep it at 60 days. The second item was about payment. Should we build something into the contract so compensation goes up on a regular basis tied to an index such as COLA? The attorney suggested we negotiate on an annual basis. Shirley agreed as long as it is noted that the negotiation is expected (issue 2.1 of contract). Finally, the name of the agreement will be changed from a consulting agreement to a contractual agreement with Shirley named the contractor. The wording will be changed throughout. Motion to accept the revised contractual agreement with changes made to 2.1 about the annual fees negotiation, keeping the no-cause termination at 60 days, and other non-substantive changes.

Motion: Rob Everett

Second: Liisa Sjoblom

Motion carries unanimously.

Shirley has been sending out weekly update reports. She will now get QuickBooks up and running since the year end is now final. Bylaws changes should be forwarded to Shirley for posting on the web. Connie thanked Shirley who was given a round of applause.

Oregon Readers Choice Award (ORCA)

Rick distributed a handout with recommendations for the Oregon Readers Choice Award (ORCA). Representatives from CSD, OYAN, OASL, and ORA met on Nov 16, to formulate recommendations. They would like to move forward with Board support and have begun to form a committee. Rebecca Cohen (current YRCA chair) has agreed to chair it for the first two years. OLA would be the parent group since both CSD and OYAN have interest, and it would keep the structure of YRCA. The 2010-11 school year would be the first year.

Regarding budget, the majority of work is to be done via e-mail so travel expenses will be low. Start-up costs include creating a website similar to Oregon Reads. A goal is to have a highly usable website with customizable PR and information for teachers to download (like book discussions). Another start-up cost might be for a logo contest open to children. As for how to fund this budget, Rob asked if it could include contributions from each of the four sources. No, most cannot contribute. Jim suggested the committee develop a proposal for donor Betsy Priddy who is looking to do more for OLA. He encouraged the committee to think big. One idea might be to include money to purchase award winning books for rural libraries.

Motion for the ORCA committee to "go forth and conquer" by formalizing a committee and drafting a budget, bylaws, and press release. Discussion: Jim suggested the committee meet with the PNBA director to make a personal pitch and get booksellers into the mode of switching to a different award.

Motion: Dana Campbell

Second: Jim Schepcke

Motion carries unanimously.

PNLA Membership Follow-up

After the last board meeting, the decision to not renew our PNLA membership leaked out. With sensitive information, Connie may remind us not to share it until we receive word from her that she has taken action. PNLA asked us to reconsider the decision and asked Dana not to attend the November board meeting. So far, OLA members have been generally quiet on listservs about the decision. Some members expressed that they would have preferred a warning or discussion. We expected members to have been apprised of discussion via the OLA board minutes. OASL supports the ORCA award. Jim reported that the Western Council of State Libraries is pursuing options for leadership institutes and getting more collaboration among states.

The Board agreed to not revisit the decision since the original decision was unanimous. Two sections of our bylaws can be changed by the Board; one change needs to be by membership. That vote will happen at the March meeting. Connie will post our letter to PNLA on Libs-or.

State Librarian Report

State revenue forecast: The forecast is flat and not a further reduction – that's good news. However, if Measures 66 & 67 do not pass in January, it would create an \$800 million hole in the state budget. The State Library Board was asked to submit a reduction plan so the legislature has ideas on where to cut if the measures fail. It's 10% of the total budget for the biennium. Ready to Read grants would be cut in half in 2010.

Gale/Cengage: State Library staff met with execs from Gale/Cengage. SDLAC had previously met with staff to prepare for the meeting. Gale is determined to prove their product can be as good as EBSCO. They proposed a meeting with academic librarians to discuss the problems in detail and what specifically Gale needs to do to meet the needs of Oregon academic libraries.

Public Library Service: Jim attended a meeting with public library directors and discussed how to extend public library service to more Oregonians (about 10% don't have any service). They budgeted \$200K for next year to decide what to do. The State Library Board is most interested in how to extend services to children.

Statewide Library Card: Colorado has a statewide library card program. Jim handed out an article about Nova Scotia's new provincial program that includes every public, college and university library. This fits with our Vision 2020. It wouldn't be about unserved people getting a card but about those with library service to use their card in any public or academic library. Some past barriers in Multnomah County involving money exchanges have been eliminated. Jim is planting the idea today with the OLA Board. The State Library has a lot of interest. The next step is to find out the willingness of libraries to participate. There was discussion about logistics. He is thinking it would cover physical materials and not electronic resources.

Update PLA Conference

There will be a reception following the pre-conference on Tuesday, March 23, at Floating World Comics (20 NW 5th Ave, corner of 5th and Couch). Sara Ryan is coordinating sponsors and publicity. Work continues on both pre-conferences. The banquet will be at Kell's on Wed, March 24, following the membership meeting in the same location. The price of the banquet depends on sponsorship. Molly Rafael will be invited to speak about her run for ALA. Our two Legislators of the Year will be invited to attend and speak briefly.

OLA/WLA Conference in Oregon 2013

The Washington Library Association Board met in December. Since Oregon would negotiate the 2013 conference contract, Liisa recommended we consider hiring the company we used to negotiate the last conference. They do not charge but instead get commission from hotels. There was discussion about which hotels to use. WLA has some concerns which Connie will clarify. The last joint conference had around 1,000 attendees.

Conference Committees 2011 and 2012

Garrett agreed to be Chair of the 2011 conference. The committee is underway and possible themes have been discussed. The 2012 conference will be in Bend. Send names of possible committee members to Garrett.

Librarians as Resources

Starting January 2010, the national program for certification in libraries gets underway. Certification can be achieved by taking classes and/or creating a portfolio to demonstrate competencies. The Board discussed the idea of creating a list of librarians willing to answer questions from students. Ideas included encouraging students to find contacts themselves in order to develop those skills and also using NW Central as a data repository. Connie will make a plug in the Hotline.

CSD Bylaws Changes

CSD membership voted to approve the changes presented to the Board at our October meeting. Steve suggests that division chairs still informally inform the Board of proposed changes before going to their membership. Motion to approve the bylaws changes.

Motion: Jim Scheppke

Second: Dana Campbell

Motion carries unanimously.

Horner Exchange

Richard Sapon-White gave an overview of the Horner Exchange which is administered by IRRT of OLA. Four Chinese librarians will be hosted this spring then three Oregon librarians will be sent to China in the fall for a three-week stay. The Oregon librarians have been selected and will be announced on Libs-or shortly. The State Library has set aside funds to host the Chinese librarians and to attend PLA. There were questions regarding accounting: Does OLA invoice the State? Who do the librarians pay? Once the contract is signed, OLA would invoice the State Library under the terms of contract and they would pay in a lump sum. What about corporate sponsorships? The money goes to OLA and the committee raises it. Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding.

Motion: Rob Everett

Second: Suzanne Sager

Abstention: Jim Scheppke

Motion carries unanimously.

OLA Bylaws Change Section 1

Housekeeping changes related to Association Management changes. Motion to make changes.

Motion: Todd Dunkelberg

Second: K'Lyn Hann

Motion carries unanimously.

Vision 2020

Anne-Marie took the draft from their retreat and posted it on a wiki. It articulates assumptions and identifies themes. What role does the OLA Board have with regards to Vision 2020? Ideas include specific initiatives for a Vision 2020 track at a conference. Divisions and committees could have a role in creating toolkits. Each week Anne-Marie will send out one survey question for each theme via the Hotline. Connie took the draft to a SOLF meeting and gave responses to Anne-Marie for posting. It worked well to break into small groups (an idea to also pursue at library staff meetings). This discussion will continue at the January board meeting. It was decided to wrap up Vision 2010 at the conference meeting by focusing on accomplishments and to also promote Vision 2020.

OLA Archives Update

The archives were moved from McCully's to the State Library. Send names of potential archive committee volunteers to Robert.

People for Oregon Libraries - Rules of Engagement

Janet Webster, Chair of the Library Development and Legislative Committee, discussed the relationship between OLA and the PAC People for Oregon Libraries (PFOL). As a 501c3, OLA can advocate on issues, but it cannot financially support or endorse candidates. We need to tighten this up. Shirley will remove the PAC donation option from the OLA membership form. It's important to separate OLA activities from some people in the library community who might be more politically active. Janet is looking for ways to let people know how they can support libraries politically. It's okay for an occasional pitch in the OLA Hotline. Please consider making a donation.

Other Legislative Committee updates: The committee is putting together identify theft guidelines and several informational briefs for federal legislators; one is on the skills act to fund school libraries adequately, others are on copyright and open access. Let Jim or Janet know if you will be at ALA and want to participate in the legislative day. Jim asked if it would be proper to have a PFOL table at our banquet and accept donations. If it's not an official part of OLA then we could make the case. The OLA/OASL committee needs leadership with regards to HB 2586.

Summer Reading Program Sponsorship

K'Lyn received an offer from the advertising agent for the Oregon College Savings Plan (OCSP) suggesting they discuss a sponsorship of the Summer Reading Program statewide which could include money for libraries and an opportunity for students to win money for college. The partner would be TIAA-CREF. There was discussion about the pros and cons of past partnerships and whether there is enough time to plan for SR 2010. Jim stated that the OCSP is under the State Treasurer's office and Ben Westlund, the State Treasurer, is a big friend of libraries. Jim suggested a high-level meeting with the State Treasurer's office. He encouraged OLA to find out what OCSP's vision is and to explore something doable in 2010 and to then deepen the partnership in 2011 if it is successful.

OLA Quarterly Update

Look for the electronic edition in December. Some changes have been made to the design and more are being considered.

OLA Letterhead

A green graphic on cream paper was used by McCully's. Blue is used on our web page. There was consensus to use the blue web logo for stationery with an electronic template. We will not have new stationery professionally printed.

Meeting with Oregon Department of Education

Ruth Murray had distributed a report via e-mail stating that representatives from OASL and ODE are working on crafting the OAR that will define exactly what school districts need to do to comply with HB 2586. Jim is encouraged that everyone involved is on the same page.

Appoint New OLA/OASL Joint Committee Chair

Ian Duncanson from Beaverton City Library has been approached and is interested. Motion to approve Ian as the OLA/OASL Joint Committee Chair.

Motion: Jim Scheppke

Second: Rick Samuelson

Motion carries unanimously.

Inclusion of White Papers on OLA Web Page

It was agreed that Shirley will link to the issue paper about the privatization of libraries from the publications section of the OLA website. Putting it there and calling it an "issue paper" rather than "white paper" will make it easier to find.

Update on Op-Ed piece about Oregon Reads

George Bell's op-ed piece about Oregon Reads was seen in the East Oregonian and Cottage Grove papers. The Salem paper printed it on their website. Connie shared Mary's e-mail update. Jim can photocopy clippings for those who want copies. There is no time limit for promoting it with local papers.

Northwest Council for Computer Education

Shirley reported that she added a link in the events section of our website to the Northwest Council for Computer Education's conference in Seattle on Mar 2-5, 2010. They sent a free registration worth \$245. Connie will talk to Ruth Murray of OASL to see if she can identify a participant.

Acknowledgement to McCully's

Motion that OLA recognize McCully's years of service by sending a gift of up to \$100 drawn from the President's discretionary budget.

Motion: Rob Everett

Second: Suzanne Sager

Motion carries unanimously.

Committee Updates

CSD: Rick reported on the fall workshop presentation on school library/public library collaboration. There was a lot of sharing both ways and ideas for future collaboration. The speaker will present the ideas to the OASL board.

ALA Representative: Suzanne reminded everyone that the PATRIOT Act resolution passed at the last meeting. Now 27 states have passed similar resolutions.

PLD: Todd reported that they are updating the standards for governance. Also, the Technology Petting Zoo held at Tualatin Public Library in November was successful.

SSD: Three members attended the EOLA meeting. The idea of formalizing a connection with OLA is percolating, especially since there were very few in attendance. EOLA was interested in the history and support that SSD received from OLA when it became a round table. Discussion included the idea of OLA offering an incentive such as free membership for a year to ease the transition. Sara Feldman is president of EOLA.

OYAN: 29 people attended a book talk workshop. As of Monday, 40 have signed up for the mock Printz award at MCL – 9 are teens.

IFC: IFC is revising their website. They have a team contacting members around the state to find out what information would be best to include in a toolkit. They are working on a clippings project about banned and challenged books. Pacific University has a digital commons database. They are abstracting the clippings and getting permissions to add them to the database.

Outreach RT: Rick reported that Cynthia Peterson is making an effort to get the Outreach RT back together. Forward names of potential members to her.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Next meeting - January 22, 2010, at Springfield Public Library.