

Minutes: May 22, 1998

Oregon Library Association
Executive Board
Mount Angel Abbey

Attending: Wyma Rogers, Secretary; Janet Webster, Parliamentarian & Academic Division Chair; Sara Charlton, President-elect; Gary Jensen, President; Sue Kopp, CE Committee Chair; Ed House, Past President; Diedre Conkling, SRRT Rep; Steven Engelfried, Children's Division Chair; Anne Van Sickle, Legislative Committee Chair; Aletha Bonebrake, Public Library Division Chair; Paula Hamilton, Member at Large; Jim Scheppke, State Librarian; Connie Bennett, Legislative Network Coordinator; Anne Christie, Resource Sharing Committee Chair; Carol Ventgen, PNLA Representative; Jackie Rose, OYAN President-elect

Meeting was called to order and a quorum declared. Wyma Rogers carried a proxy for Ronnie Budge. Minutes were approved following a motion by Charlton, second by Hamilton.

Van Sickle reported for discussion goals of the Legislative Committee for 1999. They included:

- Ready to Read grants upped to \$2.00/child
- IF issues as they occur through initiative or legislation
- Monitor initiative process for items affecting libraries
- Support ORBIS-PORTALS merger
- Support an increase in materials budgets in all higher ed libraries
- Request funding for statewide access to SearchBank @ 18 cents/capita
- Develop enabling legislation for local govt. to use SDC for libraries

Webster reported that the Academic Division wanted to analyze the ORBIS-PORTALS merger. Scheppke said that some libraries, such as Multnomah County PL and the Oregon Historical Society could be left out. Decision was to monitor the merger but reserve support for now. Scheppke said we shouldn't go to the legislature for what local libraries are already paying for. SearchBank is the IAC product available to all public libraries now for 18 cents/capita. Jensen suggested asking for a

percentage discount on it. Scheppke stated that we have a good chance of getting the \$2.00/child for Ready to Read and that the SearchBank request might be seen as competing with that effort. Decision was to drop this item.

Webster suggested supporting the LINK project and requesting funds for it, following up on the evaluation of the project this summer. House suggested that OLA be ready to address other issues such as funding of database subscriptions for libraries, since this should prove to be a positive session for libraries. Jensen suggested requesting only a per cent discount on it. Webster asked about school library support. Jensen said that the main focus of school libraries will be the media specialists. These suggestions were not taken up by the Board.

House said that this was not a good time to go for local government System Development Charges (SDC) for libraries, and withdrew this goal from consideration. House moved approval of the goals of the legislative committee as including: \$2.00/child for Ready to Read; Intellectual Freedom issues as they occur; monitor initiative process; monitor ORBIS-PORTALS merger; and support increase to materials budget in all higher ed libraries. Charlton seconded. PASSED

Bonebrake reported that ten Eastern Oregon counties are working on a consortium. She said they might be going for enabling legislation. Jensen asked her to send the text of the proposal to the Executive Board for consideration of supporting enabling legislation as part of the 1999 goals.

Treasurer's Report. Jensen presented it. Webster noted that we must include the projected conference expenses so that the amount proposed for lobbying will not exceed 20% of the entire budget. Jensen will see to this. Ventgen noted that some PNLA expenses should be shown on the report and are not. Bonebrake asked if the Joint Conference sent us a final statement of distribution of funds. Jensen will request this through Shirley George.

State Library Report. Scheppke reported Jerry Young has been reappointed to the State Library Board and new members are Jim Edmondson and Jim Hayden. He said the State Board adopted the rules proposed by OLA for net lender reimbursement with two changes. The State Board set a cap or budget limit on the program and they refined the wording so that non-automated transactions could get the higher reimbursement. Scheppke commented on elections, indicating that Deschutes, Josephine and Fern Ridge were passing, Umatilla was not.

Measure 53 was too close to call. Eugene Public Library will be on the ballot in the fall for a building and increased operating levy. George Bell won his primary election. Yea George!

OLA Web Site. Jensen said that Benedicto and Bell are interested in renewing their contract. Webster mentioned that the fee might be less next year since the site has been set up and now needs only maintenance. Bonebrake moved and Charlton seconded that we renew the contract with the Publications Committee setting up an evaluation process and Jensen negotiating the fee. PASSED.

Nominating Committee. Rogers read out the slate of new officers: President-elect Terry Rohe; Secretary Jey Wann; PNLA Representative Nancy Spaulding; and ALA Representative Deb Carver. She praised those who stood for office and congratulated the winners. Jensen will write letters to all candidates thanking them for their willingness to run for office. Jensen initiated discussion of the questions and responses from candidates by OYAN. Comments included appreciation of the interest shown by OYAN, concern that questions from a lot of groups could make it even more difficult to get qualified people to run for office, and concern that it be coordinated with the Association so that all responses were available before people had voted. The conclusion was that a procedure might be developed for committees to submit questions that would be handled by the Nominating Committee.

Conference Committee. Carver reported that the process of planning the conference went well even though the time line was tight and the committee was short staffed. Evaluations showed that the conference speakers were appreciated. There were some complaints that there were not enough public library programs for those other than managers. Exhibits sold well at higher prices. The goal was for \$20,000 profit; profit was \$17,286, with \$7300 raised by Kim Thompson. Carver said that the first part of the week was not convenient for many people and did not recommend setting another conference for Monday-Wednesday. Also, they recommended that the conference treasury responsibility be part of the OLA treasurer's assignment. There was discussion of other conferences overlapping with OLA, and perhaps cutting attendance. Those included Online NW and the LSSD conferences. Some thought we should consider coordinating conferences.

Conference manager Proposal. House said that the intent of hiring a conference manager was to save OLA money and lessen the burden on volunteers who re-learned the process every year. Five RFP's were sent out and two proposals were received. Jim Hayden's proposal included

negotiating hotel fees, room rates, meal costs, menus, attending conference committee meetings and being on hand at the conference to handle details - \$1500. John McCulley's proposal included drafting an RFP and receiving proposals from possible sites and negotiating the various fees, including possibly negotiating fees for additional items such as photocopying - \$1000. Both proposers are qualified and experienced in conference management, House said. The Board liked the proposal that the conference manager attend committee meetings to coordinate with them and be on hand for the conference and felt it would be worth the additional cost. Charlton moved and Rogers seconded that Jim Hayden be awarded the contract for the year 2000 conference. PASSED, with Schepke abstaining. Vision 2010. Schepke proposed that a task force be set up to draft the proposal for the establishing of a committee, that might include hiring a planning consultant and requesting LSTA funds for so doing. Charlton moved and House seconded that a task force be appointed to establish a Vision 2010 Committee. PASSED. Jensen appointed Charlton, Jensen, Schepke, and Engelfried for the task force and requested a report for the July meeting.

President-elect. Charlton reported that she is recruiting members and chairs for committees, and that members should feel free to nominate themselves. Webster suggested that the SSD Conference might be a good opportunity to recruit committee members. Rogers suggested that current committees suggest members and chairs for next year.

ALA Legislative Day. Schepke and Charlton reported a good experience for Legislative Day in Washington D.C. There was great support from the Oregon delegation who will be publishing a letter in support of LSTA funding.

Retreat. Charlton reminded members of the Annual retreat for old and new Executive Board, August 3-4, Silver Creek Falls. She requested input for the agenda.

Division Reports.

Academic. Webster said election results will be available May 30. Menucha is the annual conference site. Maureen Sullivan, ACRL President, will be there to speak on where libraries fit into virtual universities. Children's. Engelfried said that summer reading program sales are down. They are looking for sponsorship for the program. The Metropolitan Group who works with Multnomah County Library, proposes to work with the Children's Division to get summer reading

materials free to libraries and possibly performers for programs statewide. Their proposal which also includes consulting and planning would cost \$6500. They want to request funding from unprogrammed LSTA funds. Engelfried moved and Bonebrake seconded approval of such a request. PASSED.

Public Libraries. Bonebrake said that there was good support for the conference programs, with some being standing room only. During a discussion of how to work on balance for conference programs, Webster suggested that ideas for programs be put on a web site so all could see and take on programs as desired. Election results for Public Library Division are due soon for two Board members and a Secretary.

Committees.

Continuing Education. Kopp handed out a proposal for the CE committee for review. She requested the Board email her comments before June 8.

Public Relations. Jensen reported that some problems in producing the Intellectual Freedom video indicated a need to back off that project for now.

Oregon Authors. Jensen reported that the chair has left for San Francisco and this committee is in need of a new chair.

Resource Sharing. Christie indicated that as Jim Scheppke had reported earlier in the meeting, the recommendations of the Resource Sharing Committee which were previously approved by the OLA Executive Board were accepted with two adjustments - one was to set a cap on the total amount of money which would be reimbursed, and the other to refine the wording so that a reimbursement at the larger amount would be allowed for manual transactions. Also, she said the committee will be following the unfolding of the situation with the statewide courier service.

PNLA. Ventgen reported that the Board has been looking at the relevant position papers. We gave them OLA mailing labels so we should be getting conference information soon. The PNLA conference is August 12-15 in Sun Valley, Idaho. Ideas for the organization included an Adult Readers Choice Award and a Pacific NW Bibliography.

Legislative Network. Bennett reported that legislative heads had been

chosen for each district and would soon receive letters requesting them to contact legislators. A good way to keep the job and library politics separate is outlined in a past Oregon Library Quarterly. House asked if we could put it on the OLA list serve.

Other Business. Jensen said that Entertainment 99 wants to work with OLA. Consensus: no. Webster asked what is happening with the rolling membership year. Jensen said that McCulley's are developing a method to handle it with quarterly updates. All current joiners will get a full year. Charlton moved and Scheppke seconded that the Membership Committee be charged with writing new procedures for their committee incorporating the rolling membership year and bring to the Executive Board for approval. PASSED.

Next meetings:

July 23, Salem Public Library

August 3-4, Retreat in Silver Falls

August 28, Oceanside, final meeting of 1998 Executive Board.

Adjourned.

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