

Minutes: February 26, 1999

Oregon Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Salem Public Library

Present: VOTING MEMBERS: Andrew Bonamici (Treasurer), Deborah Carver (ALA Rep), Sara Charlton (President), Anne Fox (Academic Division Chair), Paula Hamilton (Member-at-Large), Gary Jensen (Past President), Linda Johnson (Support Staff Division Chair), Terry Ann Rohe (Vice President), Jim Scheppke (State Librarian), Nancy Spaulding (PNLA Rep), Jey Wann (Secretary), Colleen Winters (Public Library Division Chair), Donna Zehner (Children's Division Chair). NON-VOTING: Anne Christie (Resource Sharing Committee Chair), Mary Norman (Intellectual Freedom Committee Rep), Ed House (Parliamentarian), Sue Kopp (Continuing Education Committee Chair), Sue Plaisance (Public Relations Committee Chair), Jackie Rose (OYAN Chair), Anne Van Sickle (Legislative Committee Chair). OTHERS: Merrialyce Blanchard (OLA Archivist), Jan Griffin (Support Staff Division Vice-Chair), Richard Sapon-White (International Relations Round Table).

Charlton called the meeting to order at 10:15.

Move and seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.
PASSED.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Bonamici distributed the budget through Jan. 1999. Bonamici said he talked to Cawthorne about membership. It seems to be going well to meet budget goals. As the rolling membership begins to have more impact, we may need to develop an algorithm to predict income from membership renewals.

There was an incident re: contracting and invoicing with the graphic artist for the Summer Reading Program. The result was a misunderstanding about when the payment was due. Charlton and Bonamici will draft procedures for contracting to avoid this kind of thing in the future. Zehner explained that the Children's Division depends on income from sales to be able to pay the graphic artist they hire. When the artist wanted to be paid, they hadn't taken in enough money to pay him, so they had to get a loan from the OLA general fund. Bonamici said that wasn't a problem, since the budget is in good

shape.

Johnson asked if all contracting by OLA units would have to be done through a central place. Bonamici said no, we just need to have a procedure in place. This will be on the agenda for the May meeting.

Jensen asked if Professional Administrative Services is going to give a report on the rolling membership year. Bonamici said that they could, and Cawthorne is working with PAS. Jensen would like a summary report at the end of the membership year.

Scheppke said he thought the membership income looked low. Did people renew in August, before the beginning of the membership year, and so get credited to last year? Bonamici said there was probably a lot of renewals in late summer when the renewal notices went out. Charlton will check with PAS.

Scheppke asked if the web page and Hotline are over budget. Bonamici said he will look into it; the report doesn't look right.

Johnson said that SSD had another instance of getting very late reimbursement from PAS. Bonamici and Charlton will look into it.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT. Scheppke said that the "omnibus library bill" was introduced two weeks ago, sponsored by Castillo, Patridge, Trow, and Westlund. Nan Heim (lobbyist) anticipates it will have a hearing in the next month or so in the Education Committee, and then will go to Ways and Means. There is no dollar amount attached at this time per Heim's advice. The dollar amount in mind are \$300,000 for Ready-to-Read (to increase to \$1 per child per year), \$500,000 for ORBIS, and \$500,000 for OSLIS.

Senate Bill 142 would allow some deregulation of phone companies in return for the company's investing more in the telecommunications infrastructure. The State Library is part of a coalition that's working on the bill. Scheppke distributed an OSL briefing paper on public access to the internet at public libraries in Oregon. Many rural public libraries have poor quality connections. Improved quality (such as T1 lines) would also be beneficial for OSLIS. The bill has a good chance of passing.

Bonamici asked how the phone companies feel about it. Scheppke said that they are officially neutral, but rumor has it that they favor the bill. (Secretary's note: since this meeting, I've seen one pro-SB 142 ad from

a phone company, and one anti-SB 142 letter to the editor)

Jensen asked if the Rural Telecommunications Group supports the bill
Scheppke said yes. Jensen asked if they are considering sharing
telecommunication resources, since a T1 line could be over-kill in some
circumstances. Scheppke said they are actively seeking opportunities to
share.

House said the League of Oregon Cities is afraid SB 142 would take
away some of their franchise fees, and will oppose it.

Spaulding asked how this would impact cable regulations, and
wondered if cable isn't sometimes better than T1. Scheppke said the bill
is intended to bring as many phone companies in as possible, but it
doesn't cover cable companies.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Charlton said Len Fresier, a retired librarian,
is running for school board in Portland and wants OLA to support his
candidacy. His focus is to keep music and art in the schools. Rohe said
Fresier organized a program to give books to new mothers to read to
their babies. Moved and seconded to support Fresier's candidacy.

Wann said she didn't feel informed enough to make this decision, since
she wasn't familiar with the Portland school board race. Jensen asked if
OLA routinely endorses candidates. There was considerable discussion.
Because of the obvious differences of opinion, we voted by show of
hands rather than voice. Results: Yes, 6; No, 5; Abstained, 1. **PASSED.**

QUESTION RE: OLA CONFERENCE. Can libraries with institutional
memberships send staff as the member price? No, they may not.

STAFF EXCHANGE WITH FUJIAN PROVINCE. Sapon-White said
the Fujian Library Association is interested in an exchange program
with OLA. People going on the exchange would need housing and
"running around money". Charlton said that, if we do this, we need a
policy (for instance, only OLA members are eligible), and an
application process. She distributed copies of emails from Ernest Perez
discussing the program. (Perez spent 2 months in Fujian Province last
year on an exchange program between the Oregon State Library and the
Fujian Provincial Library, and 2 librarians from the Provincial Library
visited Oregon libraries last fall).

There was discussion on how we would deal with this kind of program:
decide the dollar amount on a case-by-case basis? Charlton said it's up

to the Board to decide if and how to do this. Hamilton asked if vendors could help out, as Blackwell's did about 10 years ago.

Sapon-White asked what guidance the Board could give in terms of time-frame Charlton said this would have to be implemented next fiscal year because of the budget. Moved and seconded for to pursue the Fujian exchange further and bring more information to the Board.

Scheppke asked if OLA and FLA would develop an agreement similar to the one between OSL and the Fujian Provincial Library. Hamilton asked if this kind of exchange is also possible with other countries. Sapon-White said IRRT is already set up to do that.

House asked if this would be a permanent arrangement with FLA. Charlton said Perez thinks it is a long-term interest.

Johnson asked if all active OLA members would be eligible. Yes, they would.

Bonamici said he wouldn't want to budget for a 6-year commitment like the one between OSL and FPL. IRRT might suggest financial support from the host library.

Van Sickle said she wouldn't want to do the China exchange at the expense of exchanges with other countries.

Rohe asked if the OLA program could piggy-back on the OSL agreement.

Scheppke said the proposal isn't just for staff exchange, but also for things like setting up listserv. PASSED

Moved and seconded to set aside \$2,000 in next year's budget to explore the Fujian exchange, and establish communication and travel between libraries in other countries and OLA.

Johnson asked if the money would be for actually having an exchange, not just for planning, etc. Yes.

Scheppke said we shouldn't be doing next year's budgeting yet. NOT PASSED.

Sapon-White will come to the May Board meeting with more information.

ARCHIVAL POLICY. Charlton said OLA needs a place to store the archives, as it's really hard to keep track of.

Blanchard distributed a proposed retention policy from the mid-1980s. She hasn't received anything from past presidents for years. The archives are currently at the State Library (where Blanchard works), and space for them is included in the plan for OSL's new special collections area.

Jensen asked if OSL is still willing to house the OLA archives. Scheppke said yes, but they will need help with the labor involved. Jensen suggested students in the PSU archivist program might do so as a practicum.

There were several other questions: Do we need a special committee on this subject? Do the archives include web page stuff? Could we get guidelines from OUS archivists? Is the archive for storage, or to make the information accessible?

Bonamici said there's a difference between things that should be in the archives permanently and things that should be on a retention schedule.

Moved and seconded to appoint a committee to draft procedures and possible by-laws changes about the OLA archives. PASSED. The Committee will include Charlton, Bonamici, and Rohe.

2010 COMMITTEE. Carver said the committee has met once so far, but only about 50% of the members attended, since it was a snowy day.

Vision 2010 will start from scratch rather than using Vision 2000 as a template. The unveiling will be at the 2000 OLA conference. The vision will be from the user's perspective, as opposed to being a more internal document like Vision 2000. Aspects of the report will include: Summary of OLA's achievements in the past 10 years; Vision statements from OLA units; Statement predicting what the labor, demographic, and economic trends will be in 2010.

The Committee may use the OLA website for comment.

Carver would like to be on the agenda at the OLA conference, perhaps at each meal.

Committee members are: Deborah Carver, Chairperson; Margaret Barnes; David Bilyeu; Eva Calcagno; Dale Edwards; Michael Gaston; Jeanne Goodrich; Jan Griffin; Lajeane Humphries; Curtis Kiefer; Jeri

Petzel; Charles Piquette; Wyma Rogers; Terry Rohe; Joanna Rood; Jim Scheppeke; Gail Warner; Janet Webster.

ALA REPORT. Carver said the ALA Council has re-vamped its procedures, and that the meetings are now much more productive. She distributed her report from ALA MidWinter.

There are some concerns that, although ALA's financial state is good, conference and membership fees continue to go up.

The Joint ALA/OLA pilot membership for librarianship students was approved at the August board meeting. House says we are waiting to hear from ALA about his. He can submit a by-laws change. Bonamici asked if it would be a temporary change, since it's a 3-year trial. House will work on this. Carver distributed the ALA document on this.

The Spectrum Initiative, which is to increase diversity in the library field, has invited chapters to send 2 representatives to training sessions at the ALA conference in New Orleans. Do we want to send someone? Donate money? Charlton suggested asking in the Hotline if anyone who is already going to ALA is interested. Interested people should contact Carver. The attendee would then give training in Oregon. There's no cost for the ALA training sessions, but there would be a cost for the training in Oregon.

Scheppeke asked if ALA is considering a salary-based membership fee. Carver said not yet, but they may be. Scheppeke said it would be a good response to ALA's good financial status, as ALA's membership fees are high enough to make it difficult or impossible for some people to join.

The Chapter Relations Committee will be represented at the ALA Congress on Professional Education. It is asking chapters to submit concerns and recommendation related to professional education. Carver sent a copy of the OLA Continuing Education Committee report to ALA.

Scheppeke distributed copies of HJR 52 from Rep. Patridge. The resolution states, in part "political subdivisions in the state may, through the use of zoning authority, regulate the location of sexually oriented business." Patridge is aware of OLA and wants to avoid a Freedom of Speech conflict.

Scheppeke said that 2 similar referrals have been in previous elections. Previous versions amended the Free Speech provision of the Oregon

constitution. The current bill adds a new section to the Bill of Rights. Scheppeke thinks that it would change free speech rights, but not Section 8, the free speech section of the Constitution.

Van Sickle said that Patridge said the bill was an effort to recognize that sexually oriented businesses will continue to exist, and to give political subdivisions the opportunity to deal with them through zoning.

There was considerable discussion about whether the bill has the potential to spawn "red light" districts, and what its impact might be on businesses such as bookstores that sell information on safe sex.

Charlton is referring the bill to the Intellectual Freedom Committee.

BY-LAWS CHANGES. House said the membership will vote on the by-laws changes at the general membership meeting at the conference.

Cawthorne is working on changes to the membership procedures. House is cleaning up other things, like the "Nuclear Freeze". The Conference Committee is cleaning up Conference procedures. None of these require a vote of the membership.

PNLA REPORT. Spaulding is working with OEMA and OYAN on payment procedure for OLA's PNLA membership.

OYAN REQUEST. Rose presented a petition requesting division status for OYAN, and distributed proposed revised by-laws for OYAN as a division. OYAN would have to make another change to become a division, as their current by-laws don't require that members also be OLA members.

Jensen asked if there is overlap between OYAN and the Children's Division. Zehner said there is a little, but very little duplication of effort.

Scheppeke asked what the motivation for the request was. Rose said the organization has grown from an interest group to a group that also acts as an advocate for young adults. They want to participate more fully in OLA. Moved and seconded to approve OYAN's petition. Motion amended to make it contingent on more by-laws changes. (Chapter. 22.21)

Further discussion: Could OYAN, as a division, let non-OLA people subscribe to their book reviews newsletter? Yes. Could there be a definition of "young adult"? Yes, they will address that. Would they

change their name? Probably not; there aren't any requirements.
PASSED.

ACADEMIC DIVISION REPORT. Fox represented the Division at the national ACRL conference. There has been some concern over the cost of joining the national organization, as there is with ALA. ACRL does offer some financial support.

CHILDREN'S DIVISION REPORT. Zehner reviewed the grant with Metropolitan Group for the Summer Reading Program. The Division wanted to pursue corporate sponsorships to keep costs down, although they had a mixed experience with the McDonald's grant several years ago. They got a grant from OSL to explore options with Metropolitan Group. Metropolitan Group encouraged brain-storming, and possibly expanding the scope of the program. CSD did a survey; of 124 sent, they received 60 replies. Metropolitan Group didn't find a printer for program materials this year, so libraries had to pay. Pursuing sponsorship is an on-going process which will probably take another year. They will most likely go with several smaller sponsors rather than one large one, as this seems more palatable to libraries.

Jensen said Zehner had said earlier they are considering selling their program or products to other states. Zehner said yes, depending on what left-overs they have. The manuals would probably be of the most interest. Jensen asked is CSD could develop packing that didn't specify Oregon or OLA. Spaulding said she thought they might take more energy than it's worth.

SUPPORT STAFF DIVISION REPORT. Johnson said that Diane Welch, president of the Council on Library & Media Technicians, will be keynote speaker for the SSD conference. She will also present a session on retirement planning. The preliminary flyers have just been mailed. Registration costs will be set in March.

SSD co-sponsored a teleconference with PORTALS (the day of this Exec Board meeting). Attendance at the Soaring to Excellence teleconferences is up.

University of Oregon preservation & conservation staff will do a 1-day mending workshops this fall, co-sponsored by SSD. SSD may also finance taking the workshop on the road.

The Riverhouse in Bend is now definite for the 2000 SSD conference.

LEGISLATIVE DAY. Van Sickle said it was unfortunate that many people didn't attend, as they were unsure of what to expect from the legislature and didn't know how to approach them. About 50 people attended, and had marvelous response from legislators. Van Sickle had very good response from all she talked to concerning Ready to Read grants, including Lynn Snodgrass. Legislative Day, Part 2, will be April 15. B. J. Quinlan is doing a Ready to Read display for the Galleria in the capital.

Editorial project: The Legislative Committee distributed packets to library directors of all areas whose legislators are the Senate Education Committee or the House General Government Sub-Committee of the Ways and Means Committee. The packets encourage library directors to meet with their local newspaper editors to get positive things in their local paper about libraries.

OSL's budget hearing will be April 20. OLA members will testify on the importance of the Ready to Read grants.

Van Sickle stressed the positive situation in the legislature regarding libraries.

CONFERENCE REPORT. Kopp gave conference registration figures to date: Total registration, 303; Tangled Web pre-conference, 19; Managing Websites pre-conference, 26; Diversity pre-conference, 19; Not Child's Play pre-conference, 18; Sweaty Palms pre-conference, 54. The Conference Committee budgeted based on 400 attendees, and feels that's within reach. Almost all exhibit tables have been sold.

Charlton said the President's Reception will be open to all rather than by invitation as in the past.

Bonamici said Hamilton has been very positive about fundraising results.

Jim Hayden is sending Charlton the contract for next year's conference. She will let us know the dates.

Jensen said that Redmond could handle the 2001 conference, but housing is a problem. Sunriver is very expensive. He will check into Pendleton.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT. Kopp distributed the CE Committee proposal. They are focusing on having stakeholders meetings. Please let her know if there are others not listed

on the proposal who should be included.

RESOURCE SHARING COMMITTEE. Christie said they hope to have an action plan by the May 21 Executive Board meeting.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT. Plaisance said OLA will have a display in the Capital Galleria on April 13, during National Library Week.

They have applied to have a bookmobile at the State Fair. They will make the bookmobile into a castle, complete with a dragon. If the application is accepted, they will need volunteers to staff it.

Their next application will be to the Starlight Parade.

The next Board meeting will be March 31 at 5:00 in Seaside, location TBA.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

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