

Minutes: January 15, 1999

Oregon Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Salem Public Library

Attending: VOTING: Andrew Bonamici (Treasurer); Sarah Charlton (President); Anne Fox (Academic Division, and representing Gary Jensen); Linda Johnson (Support Staff Division); Terry Ann Rohe (Vice President); Jim Scheppke (State Librarian); Nancy Spaulding (PNLA Rep); Jey Wann (Secretary); Connie Bennett (representing Colleen Winters, Public Library Division); Donna Zehner (Children's Division). OTHERS: Bonnie Allen (Conference Committee); Colleen Bell (Publications Committee); Connie Bennett (Legislative Network); Mary Norman (Intellectual Freedom Committee); Ed House (Parliamentarian); Jackie Rose (Young Adults Network); Anne Van Sickle (Legislative Committee). GUESTS: Nan Heim and Jody Fischer (lobbyists)

Charlton called the meeting to order at 10:06. We determined that we had a quorum.

Moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the November meeting.
PASSED

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT. Scheppke said that, although the legislative session has started, it's too soon to predict what will happen. He hadn't heard when the OSL budget will be heard yet (Note: we have since heard that it will be in April). The Dept. of General Services and the Secretary of State's Office may go first. The budget committee chair is knowledgeable about libraries, and the members may be sympathetic and knowledgeable about library issues, particularly the senators.

The CPS/ORION statewide ILL system, which allows simultaneous searching of library catalogs and patron-initiated ILL requests, is progressing. Eastern Oregon libraries (Eastern Oregon University, Blue Mountain Community College, and Treasure Valley Community College) will have a pilot installation running by mid-year. This would serve all ten eastern Oregon counties. House asked if eastern Oregon libraries are still pursuing forming a library consortium. Scheppke said yes, but they probably won't go the legislature until next session. They are laying the ground work now.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Charlton reported the membership of the Nominations Committee: Mary Ginnane (Oregon State Library); Carol Dickerson (Lake Oswego Public Library); Gary Jensen (Western Oregon University Library).

BY-LAWS CHANGES. House distributed a list of proposed by-laws changes and copies of the pertinent sections of the by-laws. By-laws in sections 2 & 3 (the constitution) can only be changed by a vote of the full membership. The other sections can be changed by the Executive Board.

2.531 (amend to include email as a means for voting to amend the constitution). Scheppeke said that the constitution should be hard to amend. Johnson said that not everybody has email. There was discussion about the mechanics of voting by email. Moved and seconded to include use of email for elections amending the by-laws, but not the constitution (sections 2 & 3 of the by-laws). **PASSED.**

3.0111 (Joint OLA/ALA student membership). This was already passed at the August meeting. Charlton will check with ALA to make sure they're still interested.

3.0331 (adding email as a means for voting for officers). We discussed the logistics of voting by email, including how to avoid the possibility of people voting twice. House said PAS would have to check. Scheppeke asked if the OLA listserv is up to date on membership. Bell said it will be, and that it differs from the Hotline mailing list, which goes to some who aren't members. We also discussed the issue of anonymity if voting by email. If OLA had membership numbers, could this solve some of the potential problems? Moved and seconded to recommend this change. The Board recommends that the Nominating Committee discuss of one-person-one-vote issue and the issue of anonymity. **PASSED.**

3.731 (allows email as a means for voting for by-laws changes). What percentage of members voting should be required if voting by email? Scheppeke asked why we have a quorum requirement if we can pass things with just a majority of the members present at the general meeting? The answer is that we can't have the meeting without the quorum. There was discussion of the definition of an active member. Does it include institutional memberships? House says that institutional members, OEMA joint members, and subscribers can't vote. There was discussion of whether that's fair. Steinke said that OEMA doesn't allow

OLA joint members vote in OEMA elections. Moved and seconded to recommend this change. PASSED.

5.021111 (changing address of ALA Washington Office. Moved to accept, amended to leave the address off entirely. PASSED AS AMENDED

The sections below (5.021114-6.622) were discussed and PASSED as a group, with amendments and exceptions as noted:

5.021114 (delete Wilson Library Bulletin). Amended to change OEMA Interchange to OEMA Newsletter

5.02312 (depositing materials of historical value with the State Library). We postponed action on this. We will invite Merrialyce Blanchard, OLA Archivist, to the next Executive Board meeting. Bell brought up the issue of archiving web documents.

6.611 & 6.612(changing "biographical" to "bibliographical" in the Oregon Authors Committee duties)

6.622 (removing "who has usually been a member of the Oregon State Library staff" from the duties of the Oregon Authors Committee chair). The entire paragraph will be deleted.

8.11 & 8.112 (processing of membership tasks). Charlton will instruct the Membership Committee to re-write and submit to the Executive Board.

15 (change Library Support Staff Round Table to Support Staff Division). Moved and seconded. PASSED

19 & 21 (remove Junior Members Round Table and Small Libraries Round Table by-laws, since the round tables have been suspended?) Bell and House said it is important to archive the text of the by-laws if they're taken out of the current by-laws. Scheppke said the non-current by-laws should be archived in paper. Moved and seconded. PASSED.

Charlton will appoint a committee to re-write the following by-laws in Chapter 40:

- 40.12 vs.40.030; 40.021 vs. 40.0304, 40.022 vs. 40.0305, 40.061 vs. 40.091 - to get rid of redundancy.
- 40.13 (do profits from t-shirt sales go to General Fund or HAS?)
- 40.14 (change LSCA to LSTA)

- 40.15 (should "all LSCA funds should be spent for local library grants" be rescinded?)
- 40.16 (should "OLA supports the nuclear freeze" be rescinded?)
- 40.17 (Per Capita Grants are now Ready to Read Grants. Should this paragraph be rescinded?)
- 40.18 (Threshold Criteria is no longer being used. Should this paragraph be rescinded?)

41.0 (Does the mailing list policy need to be updated to include email addresses?) We decided to leave this as is. We want to avoid Spam. If another library association wanted to contact OLA members, it would be easier to use the listserv than to get the email addresses of members.

43 (Updates needed to Conference Policy). Charlton will instruct the same committee that re-writes Chapter 40 to deal with this chapter as well.

Wann asked if anyone has seen a reference to Final Reports in the by-laws. The secretary has traditionally solicited interim and final reports from OLA units, but she hasn't been able to find anything in the by-laws about final reports.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE. Allen (who won the prize for longest distance traveled to this meetingJ) said the packets have been mailed. She will check to make sure that all areas of the state received them. The conference looks good, productive, and affordable. There will be good revenue from exhibitors. The Committee needs to know who the next Conference Committee chair will be; Charlton and Rohe are working on getting a chair. Bonamici said having the OLA treasurer also serve as the conference treasurer is working well, and that PAS is doing well handling the exhibit revenue. It may be well to continue this in the future, and perhaps include in the by-laws.

Paula Hamilton is the conference fund-raiser. Schepke says that IAC thought they didn't contribute enough to last year's conference. Allen asked if there were any guidelines for reflecting the size of the contribution in the publicity, etc., at the conference. The Committee would like to make some large contributors more prominent. Schepke said there are no Executive Board guidelines. Allen said perhaps they could sell advertising in the program. She also asked if there was any organization OLA would *not* accept contributions from.

Allen said working with the Seaside conference center is great.

The Committee will do a survey to find out if the distance to the conference is an obstacle.

Regarding the issue of the conference being scheduled at major religious holidays: Charlton said the next committee with check and be more sensitive (this year's conference starts on the first day of Passover). Long-range planning is best for picking non-holiday times. This should probably be in the conference procedures; the Committee will look into it.

LEGISLATIVE NETWORK. Bennett said plans for Legislative Day are underway. She has had five or six responses to the mailing, and is doing follow-up calls. The Network has divided into six regions so that the phoning and other responsibilities can be more evenly distributed.

Van Sickle talked about the agenda for Legislative Day. There won't be a breakfast, since legislators generally don't attend. There will be a briefing at 9:00, with Nan Heim and Jody Fischer (lobbyist) and a legislator (TBA). People will then do their individual meetings. At noon, there will be a wrap-up session (and brown-bag lunch), and there may be a speaker. Van Sickle urged participants to return the forms indicating whom they're going to visit ASAP. When talking about the Ready to Read grants, it's important to explain what they have accomplished so far.

Van Sickle distributed proposed amendments to ORS 357.206. This is a kind of omnibus library bill that would put a number of things into the statutes. Schepke pointed out the section that would expand ORBIS. The Oregon University System is in favor of this. ORBIS would like to add more libraries, including PSU, Central Oregon Community College, and OHSU.

Allen asked if there had been any feedback on the proposal from the Community College Library Association. Van Sickle said "not yet". Allen says community colleges are frequently lumped together with K-12 schools (as "K-14"), so it may be important specifically to include them in the proposed statute. Bonamici said perhaps that could be covered by referring to "post-secondary libraries".

Johnson asked if the Ready to Read grants proposal had been lowered from \$2 per child to \$1 per child. Yes, because the proposed amendments ask for money for other things for libraries, and because of the anticipated low economic forecast.

House asked what "any public entity" means in Section 2 ("any public entity serving the public school system"). Scheppke said it was aimed at OSLIS, which has participants from many different public organizations. House also asked why the proposal doesn't ask for \$2 per child for Ready to Read, even though \$1 per child would be acceptable. Scheppke said that Nan Heim recommended keeping the total for the entire proposal under \$2 million. It would take an additional \$700,000 to increase the R to R grants to \$2 per child.

OEMA. Steinke distributed a revised Oregon School Library Information System (OSLIS) brochure. There are now 119 participants, and only three counties have no participants (Harney, Grant, and Klamath). This cost-effective, cooperative effort equalizes resources for students around the state. There are now pilot elementary school sites, whose tasks are building the website and selecting resources. The elementary site should be up this spring. OEMA is trying for a Dept .of Education grants because nearly 1,000 schools still don't have access to OSLIS.

OSLIS is OEMA's primary legislative agenda.

OEMA leadership supports the OLA legislative proposal, although it has been controversial, because some feels that local districts should take care of themselves.

Scheppke asked if the OLA legislative agenda is on the web site. Bell said she will put it on as soon as she gets it (Van Sickle has been having email problems)

House asked if there will be a Legislative Day fact sheet. Van Sickle said yes.

OEMA continued. Tom Sprout is the OEMA Legislative Day chair. They will have a similar agenda to OLA's. They will also have students demonstrating the OSLIS site, and can show it to legislators in their offices.

Sarah Beasley, Jean Townes, and Jayne Guidinger will the OLA reps to the joint OLA/OEMA committee.

PNLA REPORT. Spaulding said they are looking for PNLA Quarterly editors and a Young Readers Choice Awards chair.

OYAN has asked for information about the decision-making process regarding OLA's continuing membership in PNLA. Children's Services

Division would also like to know. The minutes from the Feb. 1998 meeting show the decision to have OYAN, CSD, and OEMA share the costs. There's no "sunset clause" for this arrangement. OYAN had requested a position paper on OLA's PNLA membership; however, the Executive Board feels it's no longer an issue. Rose says that OYAN probably no longer want a position paper in that case.

Spaulding said that PNLA hopes to have its 2001 conference in Oregon, and highlight the Pacific Digital Library. Bell said is an international project involving the western U.S., Japan, and Korea.

ACRL. Fox said they are busy with conference activities. They are also actively recruiting support staff for their executive board, and working on programs of interested to all academic library groups. ACRL is also staying abreast of academic consortia

Community colleges now appoint their own ACRL representative.

ACRL supports the legislative agenda.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION. Zehner said the summer reading manuals are out. There is a task force pursuing sponsorship for summer reading. They have surveyed libraries regarding summer reading, but have had a less than 50% response rate so far.

CSD raised \$1,600 for scholarships from their fall workshop.

The Mock Caldecott Awards program was successful.

SUPPORT STAFF DIVISION. Johnson says they are working hard on the SSD conference in July. A partial listing of conference sessions will be posted on the web site in the next few weeks.

There is one more Soaring to Excellence teleconference, which is on disaster planning

SSD is sponsoring an OLA pre-conference on diversity.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE. Norman distributed new data and a draft executive summary of the Committee's survey of library internet policies. The survey was conducted by phone, and 128 out of 130 libraries responded.

House asked if the Committee feels that internet access is not a problem. Norman said yes, it's not a problem, and the survey shows

that.

Norman asked where the surveys & policies collected should go.

Allen asked what "few problems" means. Norman said it means that there aren't problems in public perception of internet use. Allen says her community college library has problems with patrons and pornography on the internet.

Charlton asked in academics in general see a lot of pornography on the internet in their libraries. Academics at the meeting said that they do. UO library has assisted in apprehending someone spreading child pornography, which is illegal. Threatening email has been sent to President Clinton from academic and school sites. Public libraries apparently don't have these problems.

Schepke suggested a summary report of the survey could show a percentage next to the number of libraries that have policies, as this is important to legislators.

Charlton asked what would happen if the legislature tried to legislate library internet access. Would recent court decisions in other states apply? Fischer said that the circuit court decisions don't apply to other states. The Loudon County, Virginia, case dealt with filtering *all* internet terminals, not just those for children.

Norman said the final executive summary of the survey will be out soon, and will be on the web.

LOBBYISTS REPORT. Fischer said the session has had a quiet start. The House committee appointments are fairly calm. The Senate is relatively moderate. The Senate atmosphere is relaxed and cooperative, but the House atmosphere is tense. In Fischer's and Heim's opinion, the conservatives in the House are not friends of libraries.

Heim and Fischer have had second thoughts about the omnibus library bill the Legislative Committee is proposing. It would be difficult to get a republican senator to introduce it, but it won't stand much of a chance if introduced by a democrat.

Van Sickle asked what OLA should do, and what participants should do on Legislative Day.

Charlton asked if the conservatives dislike libraries as institutions, or if they dislike some of the concepts that are in library collections. Fischer

said it's the stuff in the collections they object to, not the libraries themselves.

House disagreed with Fischer's characterization of some conservative legislators as "book burners". He had a positive experience giving a conservative legislator a tour of his library, and thinks that the conservatives need to be educated on library issues. He suggested using a conservative argument to support the omnibus library bill.

Heim said that Legislative Day is not the key to getting things done in the session. It's more important to have legislators visit libraries before the session starts.

Heim expects the extreme conservative trend to end with this session.

Steinke says it's important to promote OSLIS, as it is essentially a filter to the internet for K-12: it groups together authoritative, well-done information for student use.

Schepke said that ORBIS saves money by resource sharing, which is a conservative goal. The IF Committee report shows that libraries are already protecting children. Everyone should understand that the omnibus bill is a long-shot, but it's the first time we've tried anything like it, so there's value in doing it.

Bonamici asked if it's possible to partner with organizations like the Associated Oregon Industries to show that public libraries are a benefit to the business community. Heim said it's difficult to get such cooperation because groups like AOI already have their own agendas.

Fischer said that the extra money the groups usually compete for during the legislative session is not there this session.

Van Sickle asked if the omnibus bill would be hard on the OSL budget. Heim said no.

Schepke said the governor's recommended budget includes a 14% increase, so it is possible that there will be some money left over.

Heim suggested leaving the dollar amount blank for the Ready to Read grants, and letting the Ways & Means Committee fill it in. They could ask potential sponsors if they would prefer the amount left blank. (Possible sponsors include: Vern Duncan, Tom Hartung, Susan Castillo, Peter Courtney, and Marilyn Shannon)

Van Sickle asked when the bill should be introduced if we chose to go ahead with it. Heim said right away.

Schepke said the bill is substantive legislation about making grants, and could do without any dollar amounts. The bill also would build a coalition of different types of libraries.

Steinke said that 18 schools libraries invited legislators to visit, but she doesn't know the outcome.

Moved and seconded to introduce the omnibus library bill. Schepke asked if we'd dealt with the community college issue. Heim said Legislative Counsel's office will actually write the bill, so it's o.k. as long as we know we mean two- and four-year post-secondary institutions. PASSED with one abstention. Dollar amount will be left up to the sponsors.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE. Bell said that Billeter is working on the RFP for production of the OLA Quarterly.

The Committee hasn't pursued advertising on the OLA web site, but Benedicto has volunteered to contact the Oregon Booksellers' Association.

OLA is moving to the new website, which will accommodate unlimited mailing lists. They are getting all the OLA Quarterlies on the web and doing other re-design things. They are working on a list of OLA award winners; please let Bell know if anyone's missing.

There have been no negative comments about discontinuing the paper Hotline.

There's a discrepancy between the number of honorary life members and the number of honorary life memberships that have been awarded. Please let Bell know if anyone who's received a life membership has died.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Bonamici distributed the new budget, reimbursement procedures, and reimbursement forms.

House asked if they budget's o.k. Bonamici said that nothing jumps out at him as being incorrect; however, he only received right before he made his report.

Schepke said the dues income looks low. Even with the rolling

membership year, we would expect most renewals to have been in the most recent quarter. Bonamici will check with Cawthorne.

Spaulding said the Small Libraries Round Table shows money even though it has been suspended. Bonamici asked what to do with that money. Moved and seconded to revert it to the general fund. PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40

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