Arkansas Library Association
Annual Business Meeting
Friday, October 16, 2020, 4:00 PM
Online via Zoom

I. **Call to Order** – President Crystal Gates called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

II. **Roll Call & Minutes** – Attendance was taken via Zoom Chat. Dan Boice motioned to accept minutes from the previous business meeting, September 29, 2019, and Janice Weddle seconded it.

III. **Financial Report** – Lynn Valetutti announced that the checking balance was $94,893.97 with approximately $39,500 of Scholarship money and 11,100 in LEAF funds. There is $40,680.06 in the Edwards Jones account. Lynn reported that ArLA had completed a review of the financial accounts following problems with the 2018 taxes completed by Prime Management. She also advised the membership was down. The P&L statement is appended.

IV. **President's Report** – President Crystal Gates thanked the Bylaws committee for their work on completing the revision of the Bylaws and the ArLA Handbook. She acknowledged and thanked the Pandemic Response Committee for providing forums for libraries to discuss how COVID-19 affected them. She thanked the people who made the mask program possible by sewing and shipping out masks to many ArLA members. She advised that ArLA had released a social justice statement. She thanked Philip Shackelford for being able to convert the in-person conference to a virtual format and thanked ArLA members for supporting the Association

V. **ALA Councilor's Report** – ALA Councilor Lacy Wolfe reported that she attended ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia and ALA Annual virtually. She reported on the ALA Forward Together initiative and included a 10 page presentation (attached). Forward Together is the organization discussing the reorganization of ALA. The ALA would like to narrow the voting body, but reducing the voting body may disenfranchise the large number of people ALA represents. She will continue to follow the updates and will report as more information is known.

VI. **Committee, Division, and Round Table Reports**

<u>ALPS</u> – reported that the group will continue to grow and build their CI. They have plans to resume InfoBits in 2021. They held several Zoom sessions over the summer for training and networking
Officers for the coming year:
Chair – Stewart Fuell, Central Arkansas Library System
Secretary – Chelsea Young, UA Little Rock

<u>Arkansas Association of School Librarians</u> – The group will form a new CI called COSLLE (Community of School Librarians and Library Educators). They are working on ways to differentiate ArLA from AAIM and will focus on books, authors, and a culture of reading. Officers for the coming year:
Chair - Quanta Wyatt, Armorel Public Schools
Vice Chair – Dr. Kevin Powell, University of Central Arkansas
Note: Report appended

Awards – The virtual ceremony was successful, if a bit different from usual. Officers for the coming year:
Chair – Allie Stevens, Calhoun County Library

Bylaws – Janice Weddle outlined the goals and work of the Bylaws committee for the year. She also reported the new ArLA Handbook is expected to go before the board for review in December.
Note: Report appended

Conference – Philip Shackelford thanked everyone for being flexible and attending and presenting at the conference virtually. He also thanked the Conference Committee and the Publication Committee for their hard work. Officers for the coming year:
Chair – Rachel Shankles, University of Central Arkansas
Note: Report appended

Colleges & Universities – Britt Murphy reported that CULD and ArkLink held a joint meeting in November. She predicts that CULD will continue as a CI and work on defining the value for the organization for ArLA members. Officers for the coming year:
Chair – Brent Etzel, Arkansas Tech
Note: Report Appended

Emerging Leaders – Due to COVID the 2020 Emerging Leaders class will complete their program in 2021. ArLA will provide continued support to 2020 Emerging Leader Tonya Ryals through 2021. The committee will choose a new Emerging Leader for 2022 in summer/fall of 2021. **Note:** Report appended

Future Conference Site Planning – Crystal Gates was able to negotiate dates with the Ft. Smith site to reschedule for an in-person 2021 conference with no additional fees or loss of money.

Intellectual Freedom – Nothing to report.

Legislative – Nothing to report.

Marketing & Public Relations - Susie Kirk reported consistent posting throughout the year on social media. The committee updated the ArLA brochure and will continue promoting vendors and award winners. They are considering starting a marketing and social media CI.

Membership – Dean Covington reported that the primary work of the membership committee will focus on institutional memberships. The committee hopes to have a proposal by January 2021.
Note: Report appended.

Public Libraries & Trustees – Carol Coffey reported that the group is planning to transition to a CI. The pandemic reopening forum was their primary event for the year, and they had a turnout of 45 people. Officers for the coming year:
Chair – Joe Hudak, Central Arkansas Library System

Reference & Instruction Services – Janice Weddle reported that the division has completed paperwork to form a CI. Officers for the coming year:
Chair – Shawna Thorup, NWACC
Chair-Elect – Jessica Riedmueller, University of Central Arkansas

Resource & Technical Services – Nothing to report.

Scholarship – This year's scholarship was awarded to Elizabeth Hurtado of the Springdale Public Library.

Strategic Planning – Nothing to report.

Two Year Colleges – Ron Russ reported the TYCRT will transition to a CI. They had two meetings, and noted that participation was more robust with online meetings. They had 78 attendees at their conference program, and have a new column in *Arkansas Libraries*. Officers for the coming year:
Chair – Tina Bradley, ASU, Mtn. Home

Youth Services – Ruth Hyatt reported that Youth Services focused on staff skills and keeping each other afloat during COVID. They will continue to use Zoom as a regular platform, and will transition to a CI.
Chair – Ruth Hyatt, Arkansas State Library

Web Services – Ron Russ reported that the committee worked on the conference website, virtual basket auction pages, and the mask ordering form. They are considered a website redesign, and will be doing mailing list maintenance. **Note:** Report appended

Arkansas Libraries – the Fall/Winter publication will come out in December and will report on the conference. Britt acknowledged Amy McGohan and Susie Kirk for their work on the conference publication.

Pandemic Response – Philip Shackelford reported that over 1000 masks were made and delivered to Arkansas library workers in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee is working on short/long term planning and data collection.

VII. Business Items

a. Bylaws Revisions – the Bylaws revisions were approved by the ArLA Membership. Janice Weddle defined the committee's timeline for completing the ArLA Handbook for the remainder of the year. A full copy of the Handbook will be sent to the Executive Board for review by December 3rd or 4th. The Board will meet on December 11th to vote on the adoption of the Handbook.

b. Communities of Interest – Crystal Gates announced that the documents needed to form a CI have been made available on the ArLA website. Forms should be sent to Crystal until January 1st, when they will be sent to the new Executive Board. Janice Weddle asked and Ron Russ confirmed that there will be an electronic form embedded on the website to submit a CI application.

VIII. Election Results

- **a.** President-Elect – Rachel Shankles, University of Central Arkansas
- **b.** Treasurer-Elect – Kristen Cooke, Arkansas State Library
- **c.** Secretary – Janice Weddle, Hendrix College
- **d.** At-Large Representatives
  - **i.** Carol Coffey, Central Arkansas Library System
  - **ii.** Ron Russ, ASU, Beebe
  - **iii.** Jennifer Wann, Arkansas State Library
  - **iv.** Nithin Lakshmana, NWACC
- **e.** SELA Representative – Emily Rozario

IX. Announcements – Crystal Gates announced that in line with the new Bylaws, the Executive Board changeover will happen on January 1, 202. She invited everyone to attend the 2021 Annual Conference on October 15-17, 2021.

X. Public Comment

XI. Adjournment – Crystal Gates adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Riedmueller