



Arkansas Library Association

**Arkansas Library Association
Board Meeting
Friday, April 20, 2018, 1:00 PM
Laman Library, North Little Rock, AR**

- I. **Call to Order** – President Covington called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. **Roll Call & Minutes** – Lynn Valetutti circulated the sign-in sheet and distributed a copy of the minutes from the February 16, 2018, Executive Board meeting. Judy Calhoun made a motion to approve the minutes and Phillip Shackelford seconded it.
- III. **Budget and Account Update** – Lynn Valetutti shared the status of our current finances. There is \$66,628.19 in the Region’s checking account in which \$54,496.51 is scholarship monies. The remaining operating monies is \$12,131.98. Britt Murphy motioned the acceptance of the budget update and Jessica Riedmueller seconded it.

ALA Councilor’s Report – Lacy Wolfe reported that Jeff Julian is leaving ALA so; he will not be available to present at the conference. She did get information on the ALA Advocacy Boot camp for the conference and forwarded it to Dean and Phillip. Lacy worked in conjunction with Susie Kirk to update the ArLA brochure, which she distributed at the South East Arkansas Literary Festival that she attended with Lynn on April 13, 2018. ALA will increase membership dues \$1.00-\$5.00. The election votes to amend the director’s job description required a quorum of 25% of the membership to make changes but only 20.79% voted. The results indicated that they were not in favor of removing the MLIS degree requirement from the director’s job description. Congressional Research Service reports are now available after 20 years of ALA advocacy. ALA elections results are in and the new President elect is Wanda Brown from Winston Salem, NC. She is an academic librarian. In addition, ALA has signed on with several organizations with a letter to the Senate concerning the inclusion of citizenship in the 2020 census. The Marrakesh Treaty, which facilitates access to published works for the blind, was sent to the Senate Committee on judiciary for approval.

Committee Reports

Conference Committee – Daniel Fouts announced that the ArLA conference online registration was now available. There was discussion on the clarity of the rates. Creative Fair software was suggested as an alternative tool to reconfigure the registration form and for conference promotional materials.

Legislative Committee- Courtney Fitzgerald will be attending National Library Legislative Day on May 7-8, 2018 in Washington, DC. She noted that “Dear Appropriator” letters have begun circulating in the Senate to fully fund the 2019 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and a second letter for funding for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (ILA). She also followed up on Lacy’s comments regarding the Marrakesh Treaty. Courtney shared that the Museum and Library Services Act of 2017 was being introduced by several Senators to reauthorize funding for LSTA. She advocated contacting your local Senators to show their support by co-sponsoring. In addition, Congress recently voted on gutting the net neutrality protections. Congress is empowered by the Congressional Review Act (CRA),

which can nullify the FCC's actions and overturn the FCC's ruling. Courtney recommended contacting and emailing members of Congress to support this reversal.

School Librarians- Cassandra Barnett presented the results from a survey that she independently developed and emailed to the school librarians. Her results indicated that the school librarians preferred the summer conference; she was concerned that membership might be impacted. The board concluded that we need to promote the combined conference and its benefits. The organization's initiative is for a single annual event.

IV. Old Business

- a. Brooks Blevins books- Lynn attended the South East Arkansas Library Festival and sold one book. Weather complications cancelled the festival. Discussion occurred regarding the status of the books with no definitive outcomes. Books will go back to State Library for safekeeping.
- b. ADA and interpreters at conferences – Lacy contacted Karen Aguilar at ALA regarding providing disability accommodations at our conference. Karen iterated that these services were required unless they caused an undue hardship to the organization. Lacy will solidify Karen's answer. Britt Murphy recommended forming an Adhoc Accessibility Committee to investigate. Jessica Riedmueller to chair the committee with along with the following volunteering members: Britt Murphy, David Eckert, and Ron Russ.

V. New Business

- a. ArLA Bylaws and plan to correct inconsistencies with round table and divisions- David Eckert presented the inconsistencies of the divisional structure of ArLA. They do not follow the ALA model. There are no provisions in our Bylaws to dissolve or realign the divisions and roundtables. David suggested having the membership vote on this issue. It was decided to assign the resolution of this inconsistency to the Strategic Planning Committee.
- b. Strategic Planning meeting update- The Committee identified four areas of focus for a three-year plan. The plan will be presented at the Fall Conference at the open business meeting. The plan will be circulated for comments prior to conference.

FOCUS AREAS

- 1) Governance Successor-plan a line of communication between board successors.
 - 2) Conference- market, promote and have one full conference including all ancillary divisions.
 - 3) Structure dues and membership to be cost effective.
 - 4) Increase Communication- "How ArLA benefits the member and their job".
- c. Conference 2019 dates/location- It was determined that the 2019 Conference will be held in Hot Springs, Arkansas in late September or early October depending on Hotel availability. Lynn will contact Prime Management for them to identify potential options.

Other new business:

VI. Correspondence/Announcements

Simone Kirk announced that there would be another Infobits on May 18, 2018 at the Garland County Library in Hot Springs.

Crystal Gates announced that the SELA annual conference is in Greenville, NC on October 31, 2018- November 2, 2018.

Dean is securing a meeting with Amigos at ALA regarding their scope of administrative services available to our organization. Judy Calhoun will contact Michael Palmer from Treeline Management to inquire about their services and pricing. The Association of Small Rural Libraries uses this management company.

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Adjournment – Ron Russ made a motion to conclude the meeting and Phillip Shackelford seconded it. Dean Covington adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Valetutti