

Florida Library Association Board Meeting

Minutes

October 19, 2018, 11:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

(VM=Voting Member)

FLA Staff:

Lisa O'Donnell, Executive Director

Karen Layton, Membership/Events Manager

Voting Members:

Sarah J. Hammill, President (VM)

Donna Vazquez, Treasurer (VM)

Tina Neville, Secretary (VM)

Jorge Perez, Region 1 Director (VM)

Anne Marie Casey, Region 3 Director (VM)

Phyllis Gorshe, Region 4 Director (VM)

Renaine Julian, Region 6 Director (VM)

Sara Gonzalez, ALA Councilor (VM)

Non-voting Members:

JungWon Yoon, USF Representative

Visitors:

Robert Stuart, Gray-Robinson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Voting Members:

Eric Head, Vice President, President Elect (VM)

Robin Shader, Past President (VM)

Matt Selby, Region 2 Director (VM)

Heather Sostrom, Region 5 Director (VM)

Non-voting Members:

Amy Johnson, State Library of Florida

Ray Baker, Advocacy and Legislative Committee Chair

Doug Crane, Florida Civic Advancement representative

Matthew David, Planning Committee Chair

Leila Gibradze, FSU Representative

Doug Crane, Florida Civic Advancement representative

Visitors:

1. Quorum and Agenda Review

- A. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Hammill at 11:00 a.m.
- B. Establishment of quorum: Secretary Tina Neville confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. **President's remarks**

- The One Book One State book selection is The One Thing by Gary Keller. The book will be promoted on the FLA web site soon. Please share the information and the web site's discussion forum.
- FLA is working with the State Library to collect donations for Hurricane Michael. Information is included on the FLA web site. Donors should keep in mind that sometimes the buildings are covered by insurance but, even when that is the case, individual staff may still need help. If you are aware of any individual Go Fund Me campaigns, please let the FLA staff know so they can add them to the web site.
- Gearing up for Library Day in Tallahassee on Feb 19, 2019. Still looking for a sponsor (approx. \$2000) so please let Sarah or Lisa know if you have ideas.
- Hoping to hire an editor for Florida Libraries after the spring issue. Many thanks to Karen for helping with publishing the next issue.
- There will be a board meeting in November. Eric will be running the meeting.

3. **Consent Agenda**

Minutes of the August 17, 2018 FLA Board Meeting

Anne Marie moved to accept the minutes of the August 17th meeting after replacing Laura Spears name with Ray Baker, the new chair of the Advocacy and Legislative Committee. Donna seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

4. **Treasurer's report** (Donna Vazquez)

- Donna shared the budget as of September 30, 2018 including a column with year-end projections. Total income is projected to be higher than anticipated but some of the expenses are higher as well. However, the final line looks good overall with a small profit projected by year-end.
- The balance sheet shows a very healthy budget.
- Donna also presented a draft budget for 2019. After everyone has a chance to look at it more closely we will vote on it at the November meeting.
- Tina moved to approve the financial reports, Anne Marie seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

5. **A. Executive Director's report**

Lisa shared her full report prior to the meeting. Some highlights include:

- Things are on schedule for library day on Feb 19. Many thanks to Chris Spencer and Robert Stuart. The FLA staff is also working with Renaine to have FSU students and faculty involved in Library Day. The Board still needs to approve whether we want to meet in person for Library Day.
- Conference planning is well underway. They have had their on-site meeting. They are working on keynote speakers and the opening speaker is confirmed.
- Budget for 2019 is probably the most aggressive in years.
- Membership is in the middle of the renewal process.

- Lisa attended the Florida Humanities Council forum since FLA was a recipient of advertising funding for the Great American Read
- The nominations process is underway.
- FLA is fielding phone calls about hurricane relief. They are working closely with the State Library to put the efforts where they are most needed.
- Sarah will be representing FLA at the FAME conference. Lisa will be attending the Public Library Directors meeting.

6. Business (New/Old)

A. Hurricane Michael relief efforts (Sarah J. Hammill)

- Thanks to Lisa for taking the lead on this. Ongoing emails will continue to update members on progress.

B. Colorado Library Association lawsuit with EBSCO (Sarah J. Hammill)

- The Colorado Library Consortium is being sued saying they are providing pornography in their EBSCO database. The Colorado Library Association is supportive of the Colorado Library Consortium. Sarah is looking for feedback from the board about whether we want to provide a comment. Board members offered the following questions and comments:
 - Will a statement of support be effective? How will the FLA membership be notified? Will it just be confusing and cause unnecessary concern? Isn't it a somewhat frivolous lawsuit?
 - Not everyone in Florida has EBSCO products so that could add to the confusion.
 - There was general agreement that we could be supportive of intellectual freedom in general without making a big deal about this particular suit.
 - Perhaps a basic statement of intellectual freedom and (as a letter) that we support the Colorado Library Consortium in their fight against their lawsuit, without putting out big notices to the membership here.
 - Sarah asked for an informal vote on sending a letter of support to Colorado but not spread the message to the FLA membership. Everyone is in agreement with that plan so Sarah will draft up a letter and share it with the board.

C. Nominating Committee (Sarah J. Hammill)

- More coming soon. There should be a slate for approval at the November meeting.

D. Library Day activities (Ray Baker – unable to attend)

- The tentative agenda for February 19, 2019 was shared.

E. Fort Myers High School: IF concern

- There has been a parent objection to a book used in the Lee County Schools. The book was removed in spite of a policy in place that requires a review before a book is removed. The issue wasn't so much that the book was pulled as that it was pulled without following their own review policy.
- Sarah shared the information with FAME and they are looking into it.
- Brian Cooper has asked if FLA wanted to join in on a joint letter of concern; however, they are looking for signatures by today (October 19).
- Sarah suggested that another option would be to send out a statement of support for FAME.

- If we support this issue, we should be prepared to support all similar issues and are we prepared to do that? Sara commented that, having been on the IF committee in past years, we have sent multiple letters in one year for cases where the rules aren't followed.
- Renaine moved to have FLA sign the joint letter. Tina seconded. In discussion, is the organization that is offering the letter a legitimate organization? Several members are familiar with the organization and feel that they are quite legitimate. No additional discussion. Motion passed.
- Sarah will follow up with FAME and let them know that FLA will be signing the letter.

F. ALA – Opt in to National Advocates ENGAGE?

- By joining in, it shouldn't cost anything financially but will allow us to share our advocacy databases with ALA and vice versa. This will give us access to over 237,000 advocates.
- Phyllis moved to opt in to ALA's ENGAGE. Anne Marie seconded. No discussion. Motion passed. Sarah and Lisa will share this information with the Advocacy Committee.

7. Committee Reports

In the interest of time, instead of going over each committee individually, Sarah asked anyone with news about their committee to share it now.

- Awards (Tina Neville)
 - Tina shared a question from the committee "At the September meeting, someone said that her institution has a marketing department that is not made up of library people; they typically write and submit award nominations. Since they aren't actually library folks and therefore not FLA members, can they still submit awards on behalf of their institution, which is an organizational member? Karen thought they could, but I seem to recall that last year it was said that organizational membership didn't cover the staff. I don't think that last year's question covered, for example, university public relations staff submitting on behalf of the library, though."
 - Board response: As long as the institution is an FLA member, it should be ok to have nominations submitted. Tina will notify Stacie of the Board's response.
- Advocacy & Legislative (Ray Baker/Eric Head) no report
- Conference Committee (Sarah Hammill and Karen)
 - The committee is doing a great job. The hotel seems very accommodating. They have already sold two sponsorships and three booths.
- Continuing Education (Matt Selby) no report
- Finance Committee (Donna Vazquez)
 - See above
 - The accountant is almost done with the 2017 financial review.
 - At the last Finance Committee meeting, there weren't enough people present to have the discussion from bankers on additional possibilities for investments so Donna is hoping to reschedule that meeting.

- Public Library Standards Certification (Phyllis Gorshe)
 - The Committee is working on setting the next meeting
- Fundraising Committee (Donna Vazquez)
 - Notes from the Committee Chair were shared prior to the meeting.
- HR Committee (Eric Head) no report
- Intellectual Freedom (Renaine Julian)
 - See above regarding the Colorado and Fort Myers issues.
- Leadership Development (Anne Marie Casey) nothing new to report
- Library Career Development (Heather Sostrom) no report
- Membership & Marketing Committee (Heather Sostrom) no report
- Nominating (Robin Shader) no report
- Planning (Matthew David) no report
- Scholarship (Jorge Perez & Karen)
 - The call for submissions has been sent.

8. Regional director reports

- Matt Selby had a chance to meet with Congressman Brian Mast at his library yesterday.
- Anne Marie commented that she met with library staff at the Volusia Regional Library system. They are planning a “meet the officials” meeting after the elections.
- In Pinellas County, TBLC gave library champions awards to Congressmen Brandes and Christ.

9. Other Reports

A. ALA Councilor (Sara Gonzalez)

- Lots of discussion about library meeting rooms, they voted to rescind what had been approved at conference. They have re-written it and it is available for comment.
- The ALA President reached out to Florida about the hurricane and what might be needed.

B. State Library (Amy Johnson) no report

C. Florida Civic Advancement (Doug Crane) no report

D. Legislative report (Robert Stuart) no report

10. Announcements

- Sarah will be attending FAME in Orlando in the Disney Springs area on November 29th and 30th She is happy to have company if anyone wants to come be at the exhibit booth with her.

10. Member Comments none

11. Adjourn

Donna moved to adjourn. Tina seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be November 15, 2018, 11:00am - 12:30 pm