

**Florida Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2021, 11:03PM – 12:13PM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

(VM = Voting Member)

Voting Members

Phyllis Gorshe, President (VM)
Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect (VM)
Laura Spears, Past President (VM)
Marina Morgan, Secretary (VM)
Matthew David, Treasurer (VM)
Ray Baker, Region 1 Director (VM)
Sonya Chapa, Region 2 Director (VM)
Alyssa Koclanes, Region 4 Director (VM)
Michael Sullivan, Region 5 Director (VM)
Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director (VM)
Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor (VM)

Non-Voting Members

Cheryl Wolfe, DEIA Committee Chair
Melanie Higgins, Membership Committee Chair
April Lafferty, Professional Development Committee Chair

FLA Staff

Karen Layton, Communications and Events Manager

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

(VM = Voting Member)

Natalie Houston, Region 3 Director (VM)
Natalie Taylor, USF
Robert Stuart, Jr., GrayRobinson
Amy Johnson, State Library of Florida

1. Quorum and Agenda Review

- A. Call to Order: President Phyllis Gorshe called the meeting to order at 11:03AM.
- B. Establishment of quorum: Secretary Marina Morgan confirmed that a quorum was present at that time.
- C. Ex-Officio Reports
 - Karen Layton, Communications and Events Manager presented.
 - A tax-exempt amazon account was created.
 - All necessary signers have been added or removed from the bank accounts and credit cards.
 - Fee waved for late tax submission penalty.
 - Conference plans are going forward. An onsite visit at the conference venue will take place on September 27, 2021.

- Sarah Devine will be in charge of “Share It”, a new section on the monthly newsletter.
- Florida Libraries Journal fall edition will be published in November.
- Robert Stuart, GrayRobinson was absent at that time, report given by Ray Baker, Region 1 Director.
 - Legislative platform draft will be shared with the Board for discussion.
 - Planning is underway for Library Day in Tallahassee on January 26, 2022.
- Amy Johnson, State Library
 - Amy Johnson was absent, no report at that time.

2. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of August 20, 2021
- Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor, moved to approve the minutes. Ray Baker, Region 1 Director, seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Financials (Matthew David, Treasurer)

- A. Budget as of August 31 was presented.
- B. Balance Sheet as of August 31. Carroll and Company compiled financial statements for FLA as of and for the period ended August 31, 2021, were presented.
- C. Money Market Statement as of August 31. Money Market Demand Account Summary from Hancock Whitney was provided.
- Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect, moved to approve the financials as presented. Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director, seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

- A. Interim Executive Director job update
- Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect, gave a brief update from the Human Resources Committee.
 - Deadline for receiving applications for the Executive Director position was September 10th and the job position will be open until filled.
 - The committee reviewed 11 applications, 4 were selected for the first round of interviews.
- B. Membership Survey
- Melanie Higgins, Membership Committee Chair, provided key takeaways from the FLA Membership Survey. The report compiled by the Membership Development Committee is available [here](#).
 - The Board will continue to discuss these issues at the next October meeting and will follow up with committees to respond to the matters brought up in the report.

5. New Business

- A. Bylaws Task Force
- Phyllis Gorshe, President, provided a brief update on the Bylaws Task Force. First meeting will be on October 1st.
- B. FLJ Editorial Board Spring edition change
- Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director, gave a brief background on the FLJ Editorial Board and presented the new Spring edition change. At the last editorial meeting, the Board discussed publishing a smaller pre-conference edition in addition to the Spring edition (which will focus on the FLA conference). A post-conference edition will be published in the summer, where presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to publish peer-reviewed articles.
- C. Campaign for Grade Level Reading
- Jennifer “Jenn” Faber and Natalie Houston, Region 3 Director, met and discussed the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Phyllis Gorshe, President, provided a brief overview of the Campaign for Grade Level Reading meeting and the various opportunities for libraries and youth services librarians.

D. No public input

6. Announcements/Other Reports/Member Comments

A. ALA Councilor Report

- Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor shared the ALA Councilor Report.

B. Director Liaison Reports

- Advocacy & Legislation - Ray Baker, Region 1 Director
 - No report at that time.
- Awards & Honors - Matthew David, Treasurer
 - Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect, present at the last committee meeting, provided a brief report.
 - Subcommittees organized and a Vice-Chair was selected.
- Communication - Natalie Houston, Region 3 Director
 - Absent, no report at that time.
- Conference - Alyssa Koclanes, Region 4 Director
 - Absent at the time, brief report provided by Phyllis Gorshe, President.
 - Conference Committee will meet on September 27, 2021, and start reviewing the conference submissions.
- DEIA - Cheryl Wolfe, DEIA Committee Chair
 - The committee is working on the monthly newsletters.
 - The next Diversity Discussion on October 15, 2021, will discuss the book *Disability Visibility*.
 - The committee submitted a proposal for the annual conference.
- Intellectual Freedom - Michael Sullivan, Region 5 Director
 - The committee submitted a proposal for the annual conference.
- Membership Development - Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director
 - Melanie Higgins is the new Committee Chair.
 - A Vice-Chair was selected.
- Professional Development - Sonya Chapa, Region 2 Director
 - The three subcommittees submitted proposals for the annual conference.
 - Focus on fall webinar series:
 - November 3, 2021 - the Continuing Education Subcommittee webinar will present on the grant lifecycle.
 - November 10, 2021 - the Career Development Subcommittee webinar will feature a roundtable covering resume, library transitions, and other topics.
 - November 17, 2021 - the Leadership Subcommittee webinar will focus on how to make decision in tough times.

7. Adjourn

A. President Phyllis Gorshe adjourned the meeting at 12:13PM. Matthew David, Treasurer, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael Sullivan, Region 5 Director, seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Next scheduled Board of Directors Meeting: October 15, 2021, at 11:00AM.