

Florida Library Association Board Meeting
Minutes
January 15, 2021, 11:00am

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

(VM = Voting Member)

FLA Staff

Lisa O'Donnell, Executive Director
Karen Layton, Communications and Events Manager
Melissa Stocks, Member Services Coordinator

Voting Members

Laura Spears, President (VM)
Phyllis Gorshe, Vice President, President Elect (VM)
Donna Vasquez, Treasurer (VM)
Sarah Divine, Secretary (VM)
Eric Head, Past President (VM)
Ava Brillat, Region 1 Director (VM)
Kresta King, Region 2 Director (VM)
Cheryl Wolfe, 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

Athanasia Fitos, Planning Committee Chair
Amy Johnson, State Library of Florida
Robert Stuart, Jr., GrayRobinson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Christine Patten, Region 3 Director (VM)
April Frazier, Planning Committee Past Chair
Lorrain Stinson, FAME
Matthew David, FLA Member
Katie Flury, GrayRobinson
Natalie Taylor, USF
Douglas Crane, Advocacy & Legislative Committee Chair
Leila Gibradze, FSU

1. Quorum and Agenda Review

- A. Call to Order: President Laura Spears called the meeting to order at 11:04AM.
- B. Establishment of Quorum: Secretary Sarah Divine confirmed that a quorum was present at that time.

2. Consent Agenda (Laura Spears, President)

- A. Minutes of December 18, 2020 (Sarah Divine)
 - Motion (Michael) to accept the minutes from December 18, 2020 as presented. Keila seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Membership Report (Melissa Stocks, Member Services Coordinator)
 - Currently at a 52% Renewal Rate.
 - Ongoing targeted efforts to grow renewal numbers.
- C. ALA Councilor December Report (Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor)

- Resolution report submitted in December, will forward to Board Members.
 - Resolutions, memorials, and tributes can be submitted to Heather for ALA Council Approval at Midwinter Conference. Deadline is Thursday, January 21st.
 - ALA Midwinter Conference will be fully virtual. Dr. Jill Biden will be speaking.
- D. Marketing Report (Karen Layton, Communications and Events Manager)
- Analytics for FLA emails and Florida Libraries Journal.
 - Motion (Cheryl) to accept the Consent Agenda reports as provided. Donna seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Financials (Donna Vasquez, Treasurer)

- A. Financial Overview as of December 31, 2020 was presented.
- B. Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2020 is healthy.
- C. Money Market Statement as of December 31, 2020 (reserves) also healthy.
- All documents available at https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1gPz2iflb8SuwC_NKHGK8ykLL2639uOly
 - Motion (Keila) to accept the financial reports as of December 31, 2020 as presented. Cheryl seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Draft 2021 Budget
- Budget presented includes conservative estimates. LSTA grant funding for Conference and Paraprofessional Certification may be available to apply towards 2022 income.
 - Motion (Ava) to approve the 2021 Budget as submitted. Eric seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. FLA Office Updates

- A. Executive Director Report (Lisa O'Donnell, CAE)
- Advocacy Committee has created a timeline for the Love Your Library Campaign. Tools will be provided for members to contact their legislators and share the FLA Advocacy video - contract for video creation is coming soon.
 - Communicating with FL House Speaker regarding statewide literacy efforts.
 - Paraprofessional Certification planning is moving forward. More to come soon.
 - Organization Annual Report has been filed as required.
 - Committee realignment is moving forward.

5. Business

- A. Advocacy Project Updates (Phyllis Gorshe, Vice President)
- February is Love Your Library Month. February 1-19 are the committee weeks prior to legislative sessions. Members are encouraged to reach out and share library service information with local legislators and officials.
- B. Committees: Next Steps (Laura Spears, President)
- Committees were realigned to coincide with what we do as an organization, as well as the resources we have to support them.
 - Cheryl shared updates and concerns from the Professional Development Committee.
 - Keila shared updates from the Awards and Honors Committee.
 - Board Members are asked to share updates and information from their committees at the February 19 Board Meeting.
- C. Values Statements from DEIA Task Force (Laura Spears, President)
- Open floor for discussion or questions about draft value statements.
 - Motion (Eric) to accept an amendment proposed by Michael to combine "professional and non-professional" into "all library workers". Heather seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Motion (Phyllis) to accept the DEIA Task Force Core & Aspirational Value Statements for FLA. Ava seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Annual Conference Update (Sarah Divine, Secretary & Chair of Conference Planning Committee)

- Plans are still in place for a hybrid event. Committee is currently working on selecting and scheduling breakout sessions.

6. Other Reports

A. Division of Library & Information Services (Amy Johnson)

- Focus and emphasis on watching state budget developments during committee weeks.
- Library Services and Technology Act Grant Applications will be due March 15th.

B. Advocacy & Legislative

- Robert Stuart, Jr., GrayRobinson
 - Expecting passage of COVID Liability Bill providing legal protection for employers/entities acting in good faith.
 - Discussion of replacing Library Day 2021 with a 1-2 day phone call campaign along with sharing advocacy video.

C. ALA Councilor

D. FAME / FACRL Representative

E. Other

7. Announcements/Member Comments

- None.

8. Adjourn

- A. The meeting was adjourned by President Laura Spears at 12:42PM. Motion (Keila) to adjourn the meeting. Michael seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Next regularly scheduled Board meeting: February 19, 2021