

**Florida Library Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
October 15, 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)  
Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor (VM)

Non-Voting Members

Cheryl Wolfe, DEIA Committee Chair  
Eric Head, Advocacy and Legislative Committee Chair

FLA Staff

Karen Layton, Communications and Events Manager

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

(VM = Voting Member)

Natalie Houston, Region 3 Director (VM)  
Michael Sullivan, Region 5 Director (VM)  
Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 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 11:00AM.
- B. Establishment of quorum: Secretary Marina Morgan confirmed that a quorum was present at that time.
- C. Ex-Officio Reports
  - Amy Johnson, State Library
    - Amy Johnson was absent, no report at that time.
  - Robert Stuart, GrayRobinson was absent at that time, report given by Ray Baker, Region 1 Director.
    - FLA Legislative platform draft was shared with the Board for discussion. Document “Florida Libraries are Critical to Recovery” was presented. Focus on Economic Recovery, Supporting & Strengthening Education, and Funding Initiatives.
      - Board members suggestions:

1. adding diverse pictures
  2. adding pictures in a different setting, such as students' graduation, or related to library workforce.
- Library Day to be held on January 19, 2022 with a reception the night before on January 18.
  - Karen Layton, Communications and Events Manager presented.
    - New lease for office for 2022
    - All membership renewals went out
    - Conference planning underway
      - exhibitor registrations open in October
      - member registration open in November
    - Florida Libraries Journal fall edition will be published in November.
    - Library day in January 2022 with a reception the night before on January 18.

## 2. Consent Agenda

### A. Minutes of September 17, 2021

- Sonya Chapa, Region 2 Director, moved to approve the minutes. Matthew David, Treasurer, seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Financials (Matthew David, Treasurer)

### A. Carroll and Company Accountant's Compilation Report presented.

- Operating account has \$71,985.24.
- Hancock Money Market Account has \$231,181.29.

### B. Budget as of September 30 was presented:

- Total of membership amount is \$164,822. Any new memberships will be accounted towards next year budget.
- Annual conference total amount is \$64,862.
- Line 627 Other grants represents the payroll tax credit of \$14,000.
- Account and bookkeeping services cost went up due to additional services provided (Line 760.1)
- Scholarship budgeted for three; only two were granted, the third recipient did not respond.
- Cost with candidate for travel – conservative estimate \$1,000.
- Staff expenses at \$119,192.
- Bottom line – we do not need to transfer from reserve.
- 2022 Budget Draft will be presented at the November Board meeting.

### C. Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect, moved to approve the financials pending file name corrections. Laura, Region 6 Director, seconded. All in favor. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

## 4. Old Business

### A. Privatization Statement Discussion

- Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect presented. Shane met with Ray Baker, Region 1 Director to draft two privatization statements; they will be shared during the November Board meeting for review and vote.
- Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor, will forward the privatization statements question to ALA

### B. Interim Executive Director job update

- Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect, gave a brief update from the Human Resources Committee.
  - Four interviews, two top candidates with 60 min. interviews on October 21 and 22
  - Candidate to be recommended to the Board in November.

### C. Bylaws Task Force Update

- Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect presented, and Chair of the Bylaws Committee.
  - Bylaws Committee met on October 7, 2021 for initial discussion on how to proceed with reviewing the bylaws and manual. The bylaws will be reviewed first, followed by the manual in the Spring of 2022.

## 5. New Business

- A. Florida Library Association Legislative Platform
  - Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect, moved to accept the draft platform with additional photos and graphic design updates to follow. Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor seconded. All in favor. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Library Day - FLA Board Meeting in Tallahassee
  - Laura Spears, Past President, moved to have the January 2022 Board meeting moved from Friday, January 21 to Tuesday, January 18 at 2PM to accommodate the Library Day and the opportunity to make it a hybrid meeting. Marina Morgan, Secretary, seconded. All in favor. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously. No public input.

## 6. Announcements/Other Reports/Member Comments

- A. ALA Councilor Report
  - Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor presented the ALA Councilor Report (available [here](#))
  - Megan Cusick, Assistant Director, State Advocacy (ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Office) invited Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor, and Phyllis Gorshe, President to the 2021 NCSL Legislative Summit in Tampa:
- B. Laura Spears, Past President Announcement
  - Call for nominations to lead after Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect term.
  - Recommendations to be sent to Laura Spears, Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- C. Director Liaison Reports
  - Communication - Natalie Houston, Region 3 Director, was absent.
    - Brief report given by Phyllis Gorshe, President.
    - Question about the Discord server and the need to preserve communication.
  - Advocacy & Legislation - Ray Baker, Region 1 Director
    - No report at that time.
  - Awards & Honors - Matthew David, Treasurer
    - No report at that time.
  - Professional Development - Sonya Chapa, Region 2 Director
    - Focus on fall webinar series:
      - November 3, 2021 - "May the Funding Be With You: Grant Writing for Padawans". The Continuing Education Subcommittee webinar will present on the grant lifecycle.
      - November 10, 2021 – "Library Career 411". The Career Development Subcommittee webinar will feature a roundtable covering resume, library transitions, and other topics.
      - November 17, 2021 – "Leadership in Difficult times". The Leadership Subcommittee webinar will focus on how to make decisions in tough times.
        - Free for FLA members, \$10 for non-FLA members
        - Call for more Career Development Subcommittee members.
  - DEIA - Cheryl Wolfe, DEIA Committee Chair
    - The next Diversity Discussion on October 15, 2021, will discuss the book *Disability Visibility*.

## 7. Adjourn

- A. President Phyllis Gorshe adjourned the meeting at 12:11PM. Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marina Morgan, Secretary, seconded. All in favor. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Next scheduled Board of Directors Meeting: November 19, 2021, at 11:00AM.