



Utah Library
Association

ULA General Board Meeting

Date

March 6, 2020

Attendees

Present

Vern Waters, Rebekah Cummings, Emily Darowski, Teagan Eastman, Becca Lael, Kim Fong, Carla Zollinger Gordon, Angela Edwards, Linda Liebhardt, Allyson Mower, Mary Ann James, Dorothy Horan, Erin Morris, Patrick Hoerchel, Javaid Lal

Via Zoom

Daniel Mauchley, Katie Wegner, Pamela Martin, Greg Reeve, Trish Hull, Ashley Bassett

Opening

Call to Order

Vern Waters, President, calls the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Previous Minutes

Kim Fong makes a motion to approve the minutes from December 6, 2019. Emily Darowski seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Carla Zollinger Gordon makes a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Angela Edwards seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.

Agenda

Old Business

No old business

New Business & Reports

1. ACRL (Mary Ann James)
 - a. Mary Ann James reported that ACRL held their workshop on Feb. 13, 2020, which included a presentation on how to publish in an academic journal. The workshop was also recorded and sent to all members of the roundtable. They expressed their appreciation to ULA for the approval of funding for the event.
 - b. In December, it was discussed that the ACRL roundtable may be folded into higher education. There is some question in regard to its future.
 - c. Rebekah Cummings clarified that we are still officially affiliated with ACRL and stated that we may want to seek guidance from the academic division.
 - d. Daniel Mauchley stated that by-laws have not been changed yet, but there is some question regarding how the academic section chair interacts with ACRL.

2. DSRT (Katie Wegner)
 - a. DSRT has been working on presentations for the ULA conference focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion. The DSRT plans to have a strong presence at ULA conference.

3. GODORT (Jen Kirk)
 - a. By way of information, GODORT recommends that everyone take a look at ALA's Libraries' Guide to the 2020 Census. Most Census contact in Utah starts in mid-March. Information relevant to specific areas can be found at <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/2017/geo/roam.html>

4. LAMART (Becca Lael)
 - a. LAMART roundtable is working on revitalization and hopes to start meeting in 2-3 years. They are seeking guidance on how to hold successful events.

5. LIRT (Ashley Bassett)
 - a. LIRT continues to meet every other month and has several new attendees at meetings. They plan to hold a meeting during ULA Conference on Friday, May 15, at 8 a.m. in Room B. They will also have a table at the networking social.

6. LPSSRT (Linda Liebhardt)
 - a. The Paraprofessional Certificate Review Board is trying to boost its membership. A number of board members have left over the past year, leaving a skeleton crew to run the program. Two of the remaining four members have served for all ten years, and one for nearly that long.
 - i. Linda is hoping for at least four new members, especially as plans to retire in Dec. 2021. It is key to find people who are passionate enough to keep the program running.
 - ii. Several emails were sent out earlier in the week, but volunteers are also welcome. The board hopes to have a balance of public, school, and academic library people, as well as a balance of those with and without MLS degrees to ensure the program and review board continue functioning as designed. However, they are willing to be flexible to keep the program running.
 - iii. One candidate will receive their certificate at the annual conference, with the possibility of a second.
 - iv. Duchesne County has bolstered the number of active candidates. The board appreciates Daniel Mauchley for his support and encouragement of his staff to participate and be rewarded with a salary increase.

7. State Libraries (Vern Waters)
 - a. Rebekah Cummings reported on Library Day on the Hill. ULA worked with the Utah Cultural Alliance. ULA is now an organizational member, which grants access to their team of lobbyists. 50-60 librarians attended Library Day on the Hill and met with 80 out of 104 legislators. The ask was \$270,000 to make sure that every library has reliable internet access. Results aren't known yet, but Rebekah stated that she felt the day was successful overall.
 - i. The next Library Day on the Hill will be Feb. 11, 2021, and will once again be in conjunction with Arts Day.
 - ii. Erin Morris asked how the group decided what to ask for. Rebekah stated that Peter Bromberg was chosen to chair the Advocacy

Committee two years ago and that they met last year to talk about needs. It was decided not to create a bill due to the work involved, but instead to select an item that was already in the budget and advocate for it.

- iii. Dorothy Horan shared her support for Library Day on the Hill and said that she learned a great deal from similar experiences in Washington, D.C.
 - b. NLS confirmed in February that the state library will house the supply of currency readers.
 - c. The State Library has purchased access to a database called Creative Bug Crafts, an adult learning platform focused on arts and crafts. It will be available to all Utah residents with a library card. Training is upcoming.
8. ULA Conference (Teagan Eastman)
- a. The conference schedule is available now at 2020ula.sched.com. An email blast will be sent to ULA members on Monday.
 - b. The networking social will be held Thursday, May 14, at 4:30 p.m.
 - c. Sponsors are still needed, as are donations for the silent auction.
 - d. Donations this year will go to the Minersville Public Library. New items are preferred, but anything in good condition will work.
 - e. The conference committee is keeping an eye on the coronavirus outbreak. At present, there are no cases where someone contracted it in Utah. The convention center has not expressed concerns at this time. More information will be released if the situation changes.
9. Newsletter (Vern Waters)
- a. Mindy Hale resigned from doing the newsletter. Someone else is willing to build it, but needs help gathering content. All board members are encouraged to submit their ideas.
10. Awards (Vern Waters)
- a. Award Recipients are still being selected. Those will be finalized one week from today.
11. Scholarships (Trish Hull)
- a. Scholarships for the conference will stay open until approximately April 15 so that any award winners who may need scholarships will have the opportunity to apply.

12. By-Laws Subcommittee Report (Daniel Mauchley)

- a. Daniel reported that the proposed changes to the by-laws are so extensive that it doesn't make sense to put them in a ballot. Rather, he suggests a full by-laws revision rather than multiple amendments. He proposes that the revised by-laws be reviewed with the membership at the 2021 conference and edited as needed.
- b. The subcommittee hopes to have the revised by-laws ready for review by the membership in the fall to give time for feedback. This will allow time to make changes, send out an update before the conference, then hold the revision meeting.
- c. Specific changes:
 - i. The original articles of incorporation from the 1980s have been located and are now available on ULA's website.
 - ii. Remove Article I from by-laws - duplicated in Articles of Incorporation.
 - iii. Remove Article III from by-laws - duplicated in Articles of Incorporation.
 - iv. Article 10 - filling vacancies has been simplified within the text. It refers to Article 16.
 - v. Meetings - how to call special meetings. The subcommittee saw a possible need for a closed session, so drafted something patterned after the Utah Open Meetings Act.
 - vi. Added provisions to excuse a disorderly person from meetings.
 - vii. There is currently no caveat in the by-laws to remove an officer if they are negligent in their duties or commit misconduct, so an article has been added about disciplinary action. Requires an open vote with $\frac{2}{3}$ of board approving.
 1. Dorothy Horan stated that Presidents have previously hired, fired, and removed people. She thinks the executive committee should handle removing board members and doesn't want anyone to be shamed.
 2. Pam expressed the opinion that this is an essential addition and she fully supports these changes.
 3. Daniel stated that the issue is with the executive committee. If one of those people needs to be removed, there needs to be a mechanism.
 4. Trish stated that she is on a city council. The purpose of the closed session is so that there is no shaming.
 5. Dorothy stated that she still doesn't like it. She said the association has fired two treasurers in the past and gotten rid

of board members who never did anything. These situations can be very sensitive.

6. Rebekah expressed that there needs to be some clarification, because these situations are all quite different. Paid employees, presidents, and committee chairs are all appointed differently.
 7. Daniel stated a disciplinary clause should be focused on the executive committee. Paid employees should be dismissed by the executive committee. Committee chairs are appointed by the president and should be dismissed by him as well.
 8. The majority of the board agrees that elected officials should also be included as part of this, since there isn't another good way to remove them if necessary.
- viii. Article 7 talks about rights and privileges of ULA members. The subcommittee questions whether a board member has to be current on their dues. Right now it is implied, but not explicit. The committee has considered making dues salary-based. There is no proposal at this time, but they are reviewing data.
1. Rebekah stated that there should be three tiers, maybe a \$30k and \$60-70k tier, as well as keeping the student/lower tier.. There's a big difference between someone at a university than someone working full time at a library.
 2. Kim Fong asked about potentially offering a discount to those who serve on the general board. She stated that it could encourage people to serve.
 3. Pam stated that she can ask at the next Chapters Conference at ALA Annual to find out what's common practice in regard to dues. Daniel also says a lot of those are posted online, so he and Joe can probably find a lot of them.
- ix. Article 9 - triennial audit. The audit should be done every three years, but has not been done. Joe talked to Mountain Plains and they were able to do theirs for \$1500. Daniel expressed that it would be good for the confidence of our members to know that we're being fiscally responsible with the audit as well.
- x. Strategic Plan - There were previous discussions about eliminating the strategic plan, but the subcommittee has changed their opinion and instead advocates for a simple, 3-year strategic plan. Goals and focus are currently part of the by-laws, but would be better suited to the strategic plan.

- xi. Executive Committee makeup - At present, the program chair serves on the executive committee but the conference chair does not. The subcommittee questioned whether this is correct.
 - 1. Dorothy Horan stated that the program chair used to have a more overarching responsibility.
 - 2. Rebekah asked what the experience was of those who have held those positions. Patrick stated that it was weird that he was at the executive committee meeting and the conference chair was not. Emily expressed that a come-as-needed model would work well for both positions. Teagan said that being invited as needed would be sufficient.
- xii. Roundtable elections- In the by-laws, roundtables have a steering committee. Right now, the nominating chair decides how many members-at-large the committee has. The thought was that the steering committee should decide together instead of just one person.
 - 1. Rebekah said that because we just went through roundtable elections, a lot of these questions came up. She feels personally that there should be autonomy within the roundtables to decide that. She suggests taking out the nominating chair, since it isn't being used, changing it to a steering committee, of which the chair is a part.
- xiii. Term limits - The subcommittee questions whether term limits should be included in the by-laws since many roundtables often struggle to fill positions.
 - 1. Rebekah expressed that we don't want vacancies, but we also don't want to have one person run a roundtable for 30 years because people are afraid to unseat them. Kim also says it's a slippery slope and wouldn't like to see that removed.
 - 2. The board agrees it should be left as currently written.
- xiv. Program board - The program board was discussed at the last meeting, but it was unclear how to proceed.
 - 1. Patrick stated that the responsibilities are not a heavy burden. It's two months of some real hard work, but it's manageable.
 - 2. Other event programming is done by other committees. The Program Chair mainly works on the conference.
 - 3. Rebekah pointed out that there is no ULA calendar that has all events outlined. She suggested that should be under the purview of the executive director. A posted calendar would help everyone function smoothly.

4. The board agrees that this needs more clarification and discussion in the future.

13. Financial Report (Javaid Lal)

- a. Last year's financial status was reviewed with the committee. Javaid reported that the fund balance is in good shape. It will decrease as money is expended for the annual conference, and will go increase as more registrations come in. Total income this year is down compared to last year, but there's hope it will pick up as the conference gets closer. Individual memberships are down significantly, mostly due to large accounts, like BYU, that have not been paid yet. Javaid stated that it's likely larger organizations are waiting to renew until the conference gets closer to take advantage of discounts.

14. Legislative Bills (Vern Waters)

- a. HB243 - This bill is primarily directed at retailers to put a warning on books, videos, games, etc. that contain pornography. It has been submitted to the state senate and has been placed on the second reading calendar. Libraries are not specifically exempted, but likely won't be affected since they're post-retail.
- b. HB408 - Pornography Exposure Prevention amendment. This bill seems to be targeted at EBSCO host databases and contains numerous requirements to prevent possible exposure to pornography. ULA is concerned because past challenges to EBSCO databases have created problems for libraries.

15. OTHER - ULA fall workshop is in Springville this year on Sept. 25. A call for proposals will go out soon.

Closing

Adjournment

Carla Zollinger Gordon makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion is seconded by Angela Edwards and the vote is unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.