



Mar. 2021 Board Meeting Consent Agenda

American Library Association Councilor: Pamela Martin

As your councilor to ALA, I represent Utah on ALA's governing body. If you ever have questions or concerns about ALA, please let me know. You can reach me at pamela.martin@usu.edu or 435-797-2685.

Pre-Midwinter Actions & Discussions

Normally, conference business between conferences is minimal, but nothing about this past year has been normal.

Reorganization: ALA is trying to do some major reorganization during a pandemic. Council met several times to discuss proposed changes and finally voted to formally take control of the reorganization. You can view the reports from our many informational and discussion meetings on the Forward Together website:

<https://forwardtogether.ala.org/index.php/reports/> I was able to attend some, but not all of these meetings.

Our official Council meeting took place on December 3rd, where we voted on a timeline for moving forward:

- [Agenda](#)

Basically we are moving forward on the restructuring out of necessity, both hopefully to make ALA more fiscally sound and sustainable, and to better serve our members.

Budget: Because of the pandemic, FY 21 budget was not approved as it would normally be at annual 2020. You can find the documents for our Sept. 18, 2020 meetings below. We voted to approve the budget at this meeting.

- [Agenda](#)
- [BARC and Treasurer's report](#)

Midwinter

A [list of complete council actions](#) taken at ALA Midwinter will be available online as well as the [Midwinter Documents](#). I am going to provide a summary below and include highlights only. If you want my [FULL, very ROUGH notes](#), please feel free to peruse them at your leisure.

From January 22-January 26, I attended the midwinter virtual ALA Midwinter conference. In my capacity as ALA Councilor, these are the meetings I attended, noted in Mountain Time:

- Council Forum 1, Jan 22, 4:00-5:30
- Member, Councilor, and Executive Board Information Session, Jan 23, 10-11:30
- Chapter Councilor Forum, Jan 23, 11:30-1
- ALA-APA (Allied Professionals Association) Meeting, Jan 24, 11:30-12

- ALA Council I, Jan 24, 12-3:30
- Council Forum II, Jan 24, 4-5:30
- ALA Council II, Jan 25, 11:00-2:00
- Council Forum III, Jan 25, 4-5:30
- ALA Council III, Jan26, 11:00-2:30

ALA Midwinter Council Documents:

- [Midwinter Documents.](#)

Highlights:

- Lots of talk on COVID vaccines. Eventually passed this resolution:
 - [Resolution to Classify Library Workers as 1b Workers to be Listed as a Priority Workforce in Receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- Constitutional Convention coming in Spring 2021 to reorganize ALA
 - Nothing super definitive decided at midwinter, but [Forward Together Final Report](#) was given
 - [Working group](#) will be move us forward
- Resolution condemning white supremacy and fascism passed:
 - [Resolution to Condemn White Supremacy and Fascism as Antithetical to Library Work](#)

Intellectual Freedom Committee

The Intellectual Freedom Committee along with the Executive Board, the chair of the Diversity Committee and Wanda Huffaker, representing the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, have met together this past month to stay abreast of developments regarding the Diversity Studies Curriculum and new Library Materials Acquisition Policies of the Horizon Elementary School in Murray School district. Issues were raised when a teacher read *Call Me Max* by Kyle Lukoff, to her school class and parents complained about the content, calling into question titles earmarked for future classroom use in the school's diversity curriculum. ULA reaffirmed our commitment to intellectual freedom and Dan Mauchley spoke with James Wilson, current president of UELMA, to offer our support of their efforts with the school board and library staff.

Mountain Plains Library Association Representative: Joe Frazier

No news to report.

Youth Services Roundtable

YSRT had a wonderful virtual Winter Workshop with around 65 attendees. Kirsten mailed over 30 watercolor paint kits to library staff across the state as part of the mid-day presentation.

Utah State Library

- Colleen Eggett, the Director of the Utah State Library, retires on March 16. Colleen has worked at the State Library for 19 years in a variety of capacities. A recruitment process is underway.
- The Department of Heritage and Arts is getting a name change to Department of Cultural and Community Engagement. The change was submitted and approved during the 2021 legislative session.

Development

- LSTA/CARES/highlights from the last quarter.
- Launched the [One Book program](#) with Virga and Bone.
- Launched seven grants (six LSTA, one CARES) totaling \$402,200.01 worth of support to public and school libraries
 - Borrower Support Grant
 - Library Card Update project
 - Additional COVID Response
 - Children and Teen Book Enhancement Grant
 - Thrive125 Utah collection enhancement
 - Technology Enhancement grant
 - School library digital collection enhancement

-Sent out CLEF contracts for a total of \$565,000 to all 59 certified public libraries.

-Granted \$2000 to emerging libraries for supplies. (Only 2 so far but will likely be more)

Instituted electronic signing of grant contracts with Faye Fischer to save significant time and paper in the contracting process.

- Working with the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement on a comprehensive Bookmobile marketing campaign to create increased usage and awareness.
- Launched new marketing campaign to create awareness for Utah libraries / Utah Libraries Have You Covered.
- Hired Rural Services Program Specialist Cristina Reyes who will oversee USL's Bookmobiles

Resources

- New contract with PTFS for [Utah Government Digital Library](#) .
- New contract with Niche Academy to facilitate training on eResources on [Utah's Online Public Library](#).
- Pilot launched for Borrower Support Program, designed to encourage free interlibrary loan service across the state.
- Implemented a one-time grant program for emerging libraries using state funds. Funding helped provide much needed items such as shelving, furniture, library cards, and equipment to libraries that are not eligible for federal grants through the State Library.
- Implementation of new marketing program for Utah Libraries / Utah Libraries Have You Covered.
- Partnership between State Library and Multi-Cultural Affairs to promote titles that promote racial diversity and inclusion through the Book Buzz program.
- Experienced soaring demand for eBooks and audio books in the Beehive Library Consortium's OverDrive collection, administered by the State Library.

Blind and Disabled Program

- The Library for the Blind and Disabled, in conjunction with the National Library Service, Library of Congress, has been implementing a new method of circulating audio books to patrons. Multiple book titles are downloaded to a single piece of media and distributed to patrons. This replaces the one title per media distribution method that was implemented in 2009. All titles in the library catalog are immediately available, and also, fewer individual pieces means reduced loss and is a better use of resources.

- The Blind Program is participating in the braille e-reader pilot project, distributing electronic braille reading devices to Utah's braille reading population. The braille e-reader device allows patrons to download an electronic braille file to the device for immediate use. The library is also able to put multiple braille book files onto media and distribute this to patrons that do not have internet access to download directly to the device.
- Hired Faye Fischer as Contracts Analyst