



Oregon Library Association Executive Board Meeting

April 24, 2024, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Hybrid meeting Salem Convention Center and Zoom (OLA 3)

Minutes approved June 21, 2024

[Agenda](#)

Present: Ericka Brunson-Rochette (OLA President), Ayn Frazee (Sitting OASL President), Star Khan (Past President), Stuart Levy (OLA Treasurer), Roxanne M. Renteria (OLA Secretary), Shirley Roberts (OLA Manager), Buzzy Nielson (OLA Parliamentarian), Wendy Cornelisen (State Librarian), LaRee Dominguez (OLA EDIA Committee Co-Chair), Jeremy Skinner (Legislative Committee Co-Chair), Kate Laskey (Legislative Committee Co-Chair), Ian Duncanson (OYAN Co-Chair), Mark Richardson (OYAN Co-Chair), Monica hoffman (CSD Co-Chair), Sonja Somerville (Planning Committee Chair), Liisa Sjoblom (Leadership Committee), and Arlene Weible (OLA Awards Committee).

[ACTION ITEMS highlighted below] [ACTION ITEMS for everyone in yellow]

Welcome & Icebreaker (Ericka Brunson-Rochette)

- Our [community agreement](#) during our meetings.

Agenda Changes/Minutes (Ericka)

- Motion to approve February minutes passed

Candidates Intro's (Star Khan, Buzzy Nielson, and Ayn Frazee)

- Per the email Buzzy sent on April 19th, these are the list of candidates for the special election to be held shortly for the 2024-2025 term.
 - OLA Vice-President/President-Elect, 2023-24 (filling the current vacancy, will become President in September).
 1. Ayn Frazee
 - a. Ayn Frazee has agreed to run for the special election to fill the vacant Vice-President/President-Elect position. Unfortunately, Buzzy was unable to find a second person to run. Given the unique circumstances, and per the OLA bylaws, Buzzy requested permission via email from the Board to move forward on the special election with a single candidate. A quorum of the Board approved the request unanimously.
 - OLA Secretary, 2024-25
 1. Dillon Peck

2. Joshua Saranpaa
 3. Meghan Thompson
 4. Roxanne M. Renteria
- OLA Vice-President/President-Elect, 2024-25
 1. April Witteveen
 2. Laura Kimberly

Treasurer's Report (Stuart Levy)

- [Reports](#) as of March 31, 2024
- See detailed financials on the OLA [website](#) (Login required).
- FYE Report Overview comments
 - Shirley and Stuart feel the associations finances are in a good spot
 - Stuart reveals there is nothing to be concerned about at this time
- **Current Fiscal Year (September 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024)**

Balance Sheet (September 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024):

Checking: \$277,891.39

Total assets: \$1,268,348.92

Profits and Losses (September 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024):

- a. **Dues income: \$44,165.75** which is a 4.5% increase from this time last year (i.e. we are up \$1,918.50 in dues income compared to this time last year). We have budgeted \$60,000.00 for dues income for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- b. **Total income: \$158,384.88** which is a 8% decrease from this time last year (i.e. we are down \$13,793.06 in total income compared to this time last year. We are down \$21,000 in conference registration, but that is tempered by a \$7500 increase in sponsorships and grants.) We have budgeted \$286,159.00 for total income for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- c. **Total expenses: \$83,786.92** which is a 8.4% increase from this time last year (i.e. we have spent \$6,478.20 more than we did last year at this time, which is primarily due to more spending on Memberclicks, Merchant Account Fees, Leadership Professional Development Scholarships, and Advocacy Education/Awareness). We have budgeted \$286,159.00 for total expenses for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- d. **Net income: \$74,597.96** which is a 21.4% decrease from this time last year (i.e. we are down \$20,271.26 in net income compared to this time last year). We have budgeted \$0 for net income for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

Investments Update (September 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024)

- a. Connected Wealth Solutions (short to medium term investments)
 - OLA General Account: an increase of \$12,282.98 since September 1, 2023
Account value: \$165,830.76 and Original Investment: \$125,000.
 - OASL General Account: an increase of \$12,618.62 since September 1, 2023
Account value: \$175,051.89 and Original Investment: \$100,000.
- b. Donivan Wealth Management (long term investments)
 - OLA Reserve: an increase of \$32,653.41 since September 1, 2023
Account value: \$374,262.26 and Original Investment: \$233,916.80
 - Hull Endowment: an increase of \$16,641.07 since September 1, 2023
Account value: \$161,154.63 and Original Investment: \$155,000.
 - Hull Earnings: an increase of \$3,628.64 since September 1, 2023
Account value: \$87,089.49 and Original Investment: \$25,351.85

Association Report (Shirley Roberts)

- Bulk of time has been spent on last minute conference details
- Currently working on OBOB as well

State Librarian Report (Wendy Cornelisen)

- See [report](#)
- Overview comments:
 - Working on 5 proposed policy option packages
 - Waiting to hear from the governor if Ready to Read will be capped at \$50k
 - Page 3 refers to target numbers

Conference Report (Sonja Somerville)

- 430+ registrants
- Committee expects to host approximately 300 attendees each day
- There were a number of single day registrants
- Conference center has been incredibly helpful, and things are progressing smoothly
- When it comes to programs...
 - Purposely sought out discussion based programs so the library community has an opportunity to come together and talk about solutions
- New additions designed to promote inclusion or meet different needs
 - Sensory Room
 - Social/Arts & Crafts Room
 - Conference Buddy Program (29 pairs)

Update on Salem Public Library/Libraries Facing Budget Cuts (Ericka/Sonja)

- See [Salem Reporter](#) article for a Salem Public Library Update
- See [Eugene Weekly](#) article for an overview of budget cuts at Eugene Public Library
- Overview Comments
 - Tension increased in Salem on March 21st, when various budget options were revealed by the city council: a) Library could lose 1/3 of the budget or b) close the

library

- Salem Public Library advocates got involved—emailing city counselors, attending a rally, and speaking up for over 1 hour and 40 minutes at a city council meeting—and as a result SPL received a one year reprieve and 365 days to think-tank additional funding strategies.

Awards (Arlene Weible)

- See [OLA Awards Announcements](#)
- Overview Comments
 - Arlene shared the list of OLA 2024 award winners selected by the Award Committee
 - Motion to approve the list of OLA 2024 award winners passed unanimously
 - Buzzy reminded the group that the lifetime membership award is available to be awarded each year but often forgotten, please consider nominating candidates in 2025

Update on PNLA Joint Conference Request (Shirley)

- Shirley revealed PNLA reached out to OLA seeking a partner for 2026
- A brief discussion was held on the merits of accepting their offer and partnering (as well as other conferences scheduled to be held in Portland)
 - Cons
 - OLA is not a member of PNLA
 - PNLA has moved to an individual model (like OLA), and there is a complicated history that exists
 - PNLA is struggling—2024 is being held in Juneau, Alaska and there are only 3 vendors currently registered
 - If we partnered, PNLA would want to do so in 2026 (which is Hillsboro as far as OLA is concerned)
 - They would leave all programming to OLA
 - Liisa: historically, split in profits with joint ventures such as WLA is based on attendees
 - Shirley: has not heard back from WLA regarding future partnerships
 - Pros:
 - Ericka: building connections
 - Buzzy: attendees appreciate joint conference learning opportunities
 - Kate: curious how expectations might shift over time, and to what extent they are willing to participate beyond covering expenses
 - Roxanne: promoting EDIA means abandoning the master's tools. Perhaps, we should reframe our metric for success, and de-emphasis the importance of profits in lieu of building relationships. She has a hard time denying folks asking for a hand-up.
 - LaRee: location is better than Juneau
 - Shirley: would like to proceed with further research and put together a proposal to present to the board.

Legislative Update (Jeremy Skinner/Kate Lasky)

- Hoped to get a position approved to support Oregon School Libraries—once it became clear this would be unsuccessful they pivoted due to SB1585
- Bill died on the floor when they ended the session due to political maneuvering
- Oregon libraries opinions regarding censorship was made clear
- Broadband study funding is larger than expected
 - SLO will consult with the Broadband Office and be involved in the RFQ process and is offering advisement on the equity grant
- See [Draft agenda for 2024-2025](#)
 - Overview Comments:
 - Jeremy would like the OLA board to put together a plan for the lobbyist to use
 - The plan would unfold as follows:
 - 1. Focus on messaging and communication
 - 2. Get everyone onboard with a specific legislative approach
 - 3. implementing the legislative approach

Website Audit Feedback (Ericka)

- Two LIOLA mentees put together a feedback audit
- See [Audit Report](#)
- Overview Comments:
 - Will present findings to the board on May 10th @ 1-3pm (including their 30 minute presentation)
 - As a result, the May 17th meeting will be canceled

August Retreat/Board Meeting (Shirley)

- Date change: August 15-16th in Bend
- Location: The Waypoint Hotel on 3rd Street
- Priority will be given to incoming OLA heads, and those who do not live in Bend (area)

Unit Reports (All)

- ACRL-OR (Carly Lamphere)
 - [ACRL-OR Unit Report 03_15_2024 \(1\).docx](#)

Action Item Review/Next Meeting (Ericka/Roxanne)

- ACTION ITEM: Shirley needs to clarify if PNLA misspoke when they mentioned 2025 is virtual/2026 is Oregon/
- ACTION ITEM: Shirley would like to conduct further research and put together a proposal with PNLA (Hillsboro 2026)
- ACTION ITEM: Buzzy will continue to seek a second VP candidate
- ACTION ITEM: Ericka mentioned brainstorming what future support for Salem Public Library could look like//Agenda Item?
- ACTION ITEM: Jeremy would like the OLA Board to review the hyperlink and provide suggestions before May 28th

Adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Appendix. Common OLA Abbreviations.

- ACRL—Assoc. of College & Research Libraries
- CSD—Children’s Services Division
- EDIA—Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Committee
- IFC—Intellectual Freedom Committee
- LEG—Legislative Committee (formerly Library Development and Legislation)
- LIOLA—Leadership Institute of OLA
- OASL—Oregon Assoc. of School Libraries
- OBOB—Oregon Battle of the Books
- ORCA—Oregon Reader’s Choice Award
- OYAN—Oregon Young Adult Network
- PLD—Public Library Division
- REFORMA—REFORMA Oregon
- SLO—State Library of Oregon
- SSD—Support Staff Division