Members present: Kimberly Redd (ALA staff liaison), Lessa Kanani’opua Pelayo-Lozada (ALA Executive Board Liaison), Marcus Lowry, Sarah LeMire

Members absent: Dr. Hong Huang (chair), Dr. Carl Antonucci, Angela Barnes, Regina Beard, Annemarie Roscello, Ayaba Logan (committee associate), Amber Loos (committee associate)

1. Welcome and Introductions – Sarah LeMire
   Sarah convened the meeting.

2. Ruth Gordon Gadfly Travel Allowance Award:
   A. Joseph Eagan (Retired Members Round Table) and Danielle Alderson (RMRT staff liaison) presented the Ruth Gordon Gadfly Travel Allowance Award.
   B. SSGC members provided feedback and suggestions for clarification.
      Recommendations included clarification that:
      • Potential applicants cannot apply for Norman Horrocks-Rowman & Littlefield Award and the Gadfly Award in the same year.
      • There may be expectations in addition to attendance at conference (i.e. attending the RMRT award ceremony).
      • Awardees will receive funds 30 days in advance of conference attendance.
      • This is a spend-down award with a current balance of $27,000.
      RMRT will revise their proposal and resubmit to SSGC so SSGC members may discuss and vote electronically.

3. Reports:
   A. Executive Board Liaison Report (Lessa Pelayo-Lozada)
      • The steering committee on organizational effectiveness is being chaired by Lessa and has 18 members. They have held 30 interviews and an in-person summit to imagine the ideal ALA. They have options for the membership to consider and give feedback at open sessions, including virtual sessions in February and March. They intend to give recommendations in June, but that timeline is fluid.
      • Avenue M is conducting a marketing and communications study. This includes an IT assessment, such as ALA Connect, email protocols, and reporting back to ALA staff.
      • There are proposed changes to Midwinter. This new Midwinter would be compressed with meetings, publishing, and key topics. It would be limited to 2 days of meetings and five sessions per day. This would also allow Midwinter to go to smaller cities than it currently does.
• The executive director search opens again next month (February) and will end in October 2019. Courtney Young is still chairing the search, and many representatives remain the same, while some are new.
• ALA is considering selling the ALA building, with Executive Board oversight. ALA would then rent space with a smaller footprint.

B. Kimberly Redd
  • ALA general scholarship applications are currently open. Applications are coming in, and they have received close to 500 applications.
    • There was a technical glitch so the application opened September 7 instead of September 1, so the deadline is being pushed back a few days.
  • All juries have been seated.
  • SSGC meeting is scheduled for the Friday of Annual this year.
  • The ALA Scholars program will launch at Annual 2019. Recipients of 2018 scholarships will be coming on Thursday of Annual for the VIP reception. Recipients of ALSC, LITA, and other division scholarships will have engagement activities with their groups.
  • Kim has been doing a big push for donors to the general scholarship fund. They now have a link to the general scholarship fund on the landing page.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm. Minutes by Sarah LeMire.