GODORT Government Information for Children Committee, Minutes
ALA Annual Virtual Meeting Monday, June 29, 3:30-4:15 pm EDT

In attendance: Emily Alford, Susanne Caro, Jenny Groome, Lauren Hall, Dominque Hallett, Lynda Kellam, Greg March (incoming chair), Marna Morland, Emily Rogers (chair), Vicki Tate

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Old Business

   a. The GODORT GIC LibGuides have migrated from the previous host site at the University of Central Florida to the GODORT LibGuides site. The GODORT site has guides for all of the UCF sites except for the Government Comics page. Lesson Plans and Standards pages merit further updating.

   b. Updates to Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM) are complete.

3. New Business

   a. Greg explained the background of the ALA representative to the National History Day (NHD) Advisory Council, who has been from GIC in recent years. Greg gave background about the position but is stepping down from serving as representative and will supply further information about the position to anyone interested in serving. Jenny expressed interest, and Susanne pointed out that the representative does not have to be from the GIC committee, so the position can be made available to the GODORT membership through the listserv as well.

   b. Now that the GIC LibGuides are in a more updated format, there needs to be outreach to promote them for use by appropriate audiences. Lynda suggested that the GODORT Education Committee member who is from a K-12 setting will be a good contact for promoting guides and other GIC activities; Greg will follow up with her to make that contact. Jenny offered feedback that the site at present is not appealing to children; committee members discussed ways to get input to address this gap. The committee discussed possible new topics for guides, including one on voting and elections, and committee members will look to the Education Committee’s Elections Toolkit to link to and adapt information for various age groups for a GIC guide.

   c. Promotion of Government Information for Children

      1. The deadline for the Constitution Day poster contest is October 2, 2020. GIC has traditionally been a sponsor of this contest and can be involved with helping to promote it.

      2. National History Day poster contest is a unit of the National History Day activities, which take place in June. Greg will distribute more information to
incoming committee members. This year’s theme for National History Day is “Communication in History: The Key to Understanding.”

3. Ben’s Guide is another opportunity for promotion of GIC. Outreach possibilities for GIC, both the Guides and other GIC-related information, include state library associations and their conferences, the Home Schooling Association, public libraries, and public service announcements on public college radio stations, which are required to provide free public information to audiences and can reach an audience of the general public beyond school and library audiences.

d. Looking ahead to next year: Greg addressed the work of the committee for next year, focusing on continuing with some of this year’s work and taking on a new Voting and Elections LibGuide, promoting the Constitution Day Poster Contest, and otherwise dividing responsibilities among continuing and incoming committee members. Marna and Emily A. volunteered to work on the Voting and Elections guide. Greg suggested holding a meeting of the committee in late July and will send out a Doodle poll to gauge availability.

e. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 EDT.