

ALA EXECUTIVE BOARD CONFERENCE CALL

Minutes for Tuesday, August 17, 2021

1:00-2:30pm Pacific / 2:00-3:30pm Mountain / 3:00-4:30pm Central / 4:00-5:30pm Eastern

Approval of Agenda & Minutes, Patty Wong ALA President

Board Meeting Minutes 15-June-2021, *EBD #2.0* was approved.

Board Meeting Agenda 20-July-2021, *EBD #9.1* as amended to add the Fall Conferences & LibLearnX update was approved.

Interim ALSC Director Alena Rivera was introduced to the Board. She shared information about herself and the work ahead for the Division.

LibLearnX & Division Conference Updates, Tracie Hall ALA Executive Director

Ms. Hall shared there are 3 Divisional conferences prior to the LibLearnX event in January 2022:

1. Core Forum (Oct 7-9) Baltimore, MD
2. AASL (Oct 21-23) Salt Lake City, UT
3. YALSA Symposium (Nov 5-7) Reno, NV

The Division Executive Directors and their Boards are monitoring the situation due to the delta variant. They are prioritizing safety and engaged in a communication strategy and comprehensive messaging. Each Division Executive Director is in direct conversation with legal counsel, their constituencies, and the ALA Executive Director.

ACTION: Tracie will send additional information as it becomes available. Will schedule conferences as a standing agenda item for the Board. The Board to look at impact which includes fiscal implications.

For LibLearnX, we are planning for a face-to-face conference with hybrid options and running through different scenarios.

Critical Race Theory draft statement *EBD #12.0 ACTION*, Deborah Caldwell-Stone, OIF Director

- Ms. Caldwell-Stone and Ms. Cusick worked with state chapter representatives, individual libraries and schools on challenges on the critical race theory and use of anti-race materials. It is important to have ALA's statement on the record and is asking for the Board's endorsement to the following motion. OIF received several challenges today all based on claims that schools or libraries are advancing critical race theory.
- The ALA Executive Board endorses the "Statement Opposing Initiatives to Censor Information Resources, Curriculum, and Programs Addressing Racial Injustice, Black American History, and Diversity Education," and supports the continued work of a subgroup of the Intellectual Freedom Committee charged with the creation of a toolkit to assist library workers, school librarians, and state and regional chapters in opposing censorship of books, curriculum, and programs addressing racial injustice, Black American History, and diversity education.
- The draft statement was shared with Texas Library Association, and they developed a [statement](#) based on it.
- Ms. de Campos Salles commended the folks who contributed to this effort in writing this clear statement.
- Mr. Jefferson moved for the Board to endorse the statement. Ana Elisa de Campos Salles seconded.

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- Mr. Jefferson would like to clarify the creation of this work group. OIF received the request and solicited the assistance from Chapters, PPA, ODLOS, and OIF committee to address Critical Race Theory.

Voted to **APPROVE** the motion to endorse the "Statement Opposing Initiatives to Censor Information Resources, Curriculum, and Programs Addressing Racial Injustice, Black American History, and Diversity Education," and supports the continued work of a subgroup of the Intellectual Freedom Committee charged with the creation of a toolkit to assist library workers, school librarians, and state and regional chapters in opposing censorship of books, curriculum, and programs addressing racial injustice, Black American History, and diversity education.

- Ms. Wong asked about the communication plan. The initial plan is to post a member news release, draft a blog post as well as work with individual state chapters and libraries to use the statement as necessary.

Board-led EDI Initiative Update Patty Wong, ALA President

The subgroup (Sam, Alex, Libre, Patty) met with the goal that helps the Executive Board to think about EDI work across the agency. To work on team engagement, develop an equity lens for the work, and advocate for an EDI approach and analysis for association wide efforts as appropriate. More to come.

Small Business Administration Loan Compliance for \$150,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) EBD #12.1 ACTION Resolution to change the Illinois Registered Agent EBD #12.2 ACTION, Denise Moritz, Interim CFO

- Ms. Moritz stated *EBD 12.1* is a compliance requirement for the Small Business Administration for the Executive Board to acknowledge and accept fiduciary responsibility for the loan. ALA received \$150,000 of an EIDL. Currently in the process of applying for an additional amount and this is the result of that effort. Ms. Farrell shared that we did not receive the full amount we wanted, but did get this one. Maggie Farrell moved; Eboni Henry seconded. No discussion.

Voted to **APPROVE** the Executive Board of the American Library Association authorizes acceptance of the SBA loan of \$150,000 and designates Denise Moritz, Interim CFO, and Tracie Hall, Executive Director, to sign the SBA loan closing documents.

- Ms. Moritz stated *EBD 12.2* is the change in the Illinois Registered Agent. There was a change in the Officer and so this is housekeeping.
- Ms. Wong asked why the Executive Director is not the agent. Ms. Moritz stated this is primarily an administrative task. If there were any legal actions against APA, the registered agent would serve the legal documents. ALA Executive Director would be informed.
- Eboni Henry moved; Libre Booker seconded.

Voted to **APPROVE** The Executive Board of the ALA Allied Professional Association, Inc. appoints Denise Moritz, Interim CFO, as the Registered Agent for said corporation at the location address of 225 N Michigan Avenue, Suite 1300, Chicago, Illinois, 60601.

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Emerging Issues Board members

Ms. Wong asked for any emerging issues from board members.

- Ms. Farrell shared that Interim, CFO Denise Moritz shared with BARC chair, Rodney Lippard the 3rd quarter financials. ALA is performing better than anticipated.
 - **ACTION:** Ms. Farrell will send an update status report on the 3rd quarter financial results. Will do a deeper dive in October Board Meeting. Acknowledged ALA staff for their commitment in managing Finances.
- Ms. Schneider was impressed by the call for the ALA Virtual Volunteer fair. She would have appreciated receiving advance notice so that members could reach out to their liaison groups. Ms. Reyes Governance Director will ensure that Board is aware of these type of initiatives in the future. The Virtual Volunteer Fair was mentioned in the Executive Director Report from Midwinter (January) and Annual Conference (June).
- Mr. Neal would like to see progress on the liaison roles. Perhaps a one pager as a result of the Executive Board Meetings to the groups the Board member's liaison with. Ms. Reyes shared the Executive Board liaison list to ALA Staff liaisons.
- Ms. Rodriques shared she did not have access to one of the committees she is liaise with. Ms. Reyes mentioned there may have been staff delays in adding the Board member to the rosters.
- Ms. Booker shared that she hasn't had the bandwidth to reach out to her groups and believes this resource would be helpful.
- **ACTION:** Add "Liaison Assignments" in the September board agenda.
- Ms. Henry stated there are active committees who are proactive in outreach. She shares that she is a resource for anything they need, keeps them abreast of pressing issues, and is communicative of availability. She receives notes from committee meetings and shares notes of board meetings. Ms. Wong suggested to information share the different things board members do as liaisons.
- Mr. Jefferson stated that being a board liaison is about communications and developing relationships.
- Mr. Neal put forth a motion to have a two-month pilot of sending a brief document highlighting actions taken at the ALA Executive Board meeting and other items as appropriate to be distributed to ALA Executive Board Members, who will then share with the groups they liaison with. Ms. Jefferson seconded.

Voted to **APPROVE** to have a two month pilot of sending a brief document highlighting actions taken at the ALA Executive Board meeting and other items as appropriate to be distributed to ALA Executive Board Members, who will then share with the groups they liaison with.

- Ms. Wong shared for the Fall October Board Meeting, she plans to bring a consultant (2-2.5 hours) on how to be a mission driven Board.

Closed Session Report Out (July 20)

- Patty Wong, ALA President shared that the ALA Executive Board appointed members to the new working group (the next steps of Forward Together) Transforming ALA Governance (TAG) Task Force.

The ALA Executive Board adjourned into closed session.

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ALA Board Members Present:

1. Patricia (Patty) Wong, President
2. Lessa Pelayo-Lozada, President-Elect
3. Julius C. Jefferson, Jr., Immediate Past President
4. Maggie Farrell, Treasurer
5. Libre (Latrice) Booker, Executive Board Member
6. Ana Elisa de Campos Salles, Executive Board Member
7. Sam Helmick, Executive Board Member
8. Eboni Henry, Executive Board Member
9. Larry Neal, Executive Board Member
10. Alexandra Rivera, Executive Board Member
11. Christina Rodriques, Executive Board Member
12. Karen Schneider, Executive Board Member
13. Tracie D. Hall, ALA Executive Director ex-officio