

ALA EXECUTIVE BOARD CONFERENCE CALL

Minutes for Tuesday, May 17, 2022

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

President-elect Lessa Pelayo-Lozada called the Executive Board meeting to order at 3pm CT.

Approved by Consent:

- Board Agenda, *EBD #9.15*
- March Board Meeting Minutes, *EBD #2.12*

ALA Treasurer and Operating Agreement Working Group Update, *Maggie Farrell*

- ALA Treasurer reported that they are currently working on the upcoming June financial meetings which will consist of a FY22 update, results of LLX, FY23 budget planning and details of contributed revenue. A second iteration of the FY23 budget will be reviewed in June, the goal is to achieve a surplus.
- A draft rewritten policy of the Operating Agreement is currently being worked on. Rethinking around policy vs. practice – what is a policy that needs to be changed periodically vs what is a practice that needs to be more flexible and responsive to current needs.
- Co-chairs of the Operating Agreement Working Group are meeting with Divisions and Round Tables leadership. There is support in updating the policy in removing the overhead, but there are questions around the budget process to fund shared and member value services. They are curious about implementation and impacts. The recommendation will be to create a new budget process, all key stakeholders must be involved on what the future process will look like.
- EB Member Neal noted the concern from the PLA Board about the long-term investment allocation at 5% which has been allowable in the operating budget or back to endowment, but for FY23, divisions were told to put into the operating budget.
- Treasurer Farrell noted that has been discussed, and CFO Tsourdinis has been meeting with PLA staff to clarify the issue. CFO Tsourdinis noted that in February endowment trustee meeting, they inquired about 5%. At the time, there was no first iteration of the FY23 budget. At that time, requested the maximum, but if it was not needed, it would be used to balance budget. For the first budget iteration, a strategy to address deficit was utilization for the full 5%. Treasurer Farrell noted that at the April meetings, no endowment transfers were approved.

ALA Branding Work Group Update, *Lessa Pelayo-Lozada*

- President-elect Pelayo-Lozada noted that ALA's consultant, Mission Partners, are narrowing down options to replace Libraries Transform campaigns. They will do targeted listening sessions in order to refine prior to presenting to the Board for approval. Past President Jefferson noted this endeavor can be a game changer for the association.

ALA EXECUTIVE BOARD CONFERENCE CALL

Unite Against Book Bans Update, *Deborah Caldwell-Stone*

- OIF Director Caldwell Stone shared that 25+ national partners joined ALA in Unite against Book Bans campaign and there has been good coverage in the media. The campaign was well received at the recent American Writers Festival.
- Continue to build out and expand capacity, including media training for member leaders.

ALA Annual Conference Update, *Earla Jones*

CS Director Jones provided the following updates:

- Paid registration at 5,775, \$1.9 million, reflecting 70% to revenue registration target
- 400+ digital experience registrations
- \$2.18 million exhibitor revenue
- Averaging 300 registrants per week, which should get us to our registration target
- The scheduling feature should be available in the next few days and the mobile app will be live by June 9.

Past President Jefferson asked why the delay in the scheduler. Director Jones noted that it is a tech issue with the vendor. President Wong noted that there are many questions and requests, and it may be worth considering an announcement. Director Jones noted that a communication has been placed on the scheduler.

Board Member Onboarding Plans, *Sheryl Reyes*

- Governance Director Reyes shared the schedule for the New Board Member orientation, which will continue virtually again this spring. This will occur in four sessions over the next few weeks: 1. Finance; 2. Legal & Association overview; 3. Division Overview; and 4. Board Engagement and Outreach & Professional Development and Education. Continuing Board members are also welcomed to attend, otherwise this is a closed session.
- President-elect Pelayo-Lozada noted if there has not been an opportunity for her to meet one-on-one with Board member, please reach out with any ideas or suggestions for Board engagement.
- There will also be future orientation and onboarding opportunities throughout the summer and fall.
- Past President Jefferson shared concerns that the Board is moving away from being an executive body to a supporting body and would like to discuss the issue offline with Executive Director Hall.

Draft Council Agendas for June, *Sheryl Reyes*

- Director Reyes shared and outlined draft Council agendas for Annual Conference in June, which reflect committee action items and/or requests to speak. The agendas are subject to changes as further committee updates or resolutions arise.

ALA EXECUTIVE BOARD CONFERENCE CALL

- Past President Jefferson emphasized the need to be mindful of time allocations for some agenda items.
- EB Member Rodriques also noted that there will be interest in discussion operating agreement updates and encouraged more than the current 15 minutes.
- President Wong asked any other requests or suggestions be sent to Director Reyes, copying President Wong and Council Secretariat Burgess.

Additional Items

President-elect Pelayo-Lozada reminded Board Members to share any requests regarding 2022-23 liaison assignment with her by the end of week.

The Board adjourned into closed session to discuss nominations.

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. Karen Schneider, Executive Board Member
6. Eboni Henry, Executive Board Member
7. Larry Neal, Executive Board Member
8. Libré Booker, Executive Board Member
9. Alexandra Rivera, Executive Board Member
10. Ana Elisa de Campos Salles, Executive Board Member
11. Sam Helmick, Executive Board Member
12. Christina Rodriques, Executive Board Member
13. Tracie D. Hall, ALA Executive Director ex-officio