

GODORT Legislation Committee
August 20, 2020

Attending:

Committee members: Shari Laster, Rachel Seissler, Kay Cassell, Bernadine Abbott Hoduski, Deborah Yun Caldwell, Valerie Glenn

Guests: Aimée Quinn

Minutes: Valerie Glenn

Priorities for the upcoming year:

- Better grip on the resolution process
 - Our committee's main charge is responsibility for writing resolutions (policy statements, tributes/memorials) for consideration with GODORT
 - Shari intends for this group to meet regularly and be prepared for issues as they arise instead of waiting for a conference to act.
- Working among the GODORT community to improve our relationship with ALA Public Policy & Advocacy and engage in more active efforts to inform GODORT members on policy and legislative issues
 - Shari and Lynda Kellam (Chair of GODORT) have met with Gavin Baker from the ALA Office to discuss the relationship between GODORT and the advocacy arm of ALA
- Bernadine suggested that we review statements of policy previously written by this committee - agenda item for next meeting
- Bernadine would like the committee to revisit a resolution on preservation that was previously drafted but was never approved by GODORT. She would like to see if this could be turned into an award with money and recognition.

Update on ALA activities:

- More information will be forthcoming about ALA's financial position soon
- Biggest advocacy pushes for ALA this fall are Census 2020 and the elections (access to voter registration, etc.)
- Post-election, there will be a big push to educate new members of Congress on library issues
- National Library Legislative Day - not yet clear what that's going to look like
- Continuation of ALA's Policy Corps program - Gavin expects this program to continue
- FDLP legislation: there is "interest" in picking up the FDLP modernization act (won't be until after this Congress at least)
- Lynda's initiatives for GODORT include education - Deborah included a link to the GODORT webinar series on civic engagement: <https://godort.libguides.com/civcduty>

PPM (Policies and Procedures Manual) revisions:

- Shari has some proposed revisions to our chapter:
 - 3A2 needs to be removed because the Subcommittee no longer exists.
 - Action: review the PPM chapter http://www.ala.org/rt/sites/ala.org/rt/files/content/godortPPM/godortPPM2020/Chapter20_Legislation_2020.pdf and contact Shari with additional changes before our next committee meeting.
- Bernadine suggested adding the handout developed for the (then)-WO. We will need to review and ensure the document is updated first. Bernadine will send Shari the older policy statements for distribution. There was confusion about which document was being mentioned. Aimee will send the document she's referencing to Shari.
- Kay suggested trying to meet close to the FDLP conference/DLC meeting scheduled for mid-October. Shari will suggest Lynda incorporate an update into her Friday chat schedule close to the DLC meeting.