

American Library Association
Retired Members Roundtable
Membership Meeting

June 29, 2024
P 2 PM (PT)

Summary

PRESENT: Lisa Kippur, Ann Marie Pipkin, Sandy Roe, Linda Cravens, Judi Moreillon, Carla Larsen, Alicia Yao, Kay Cassell, Louise Sherby, Ray James, Michael Golrick, Katherine Phenix, Nann Hilyard, Donna Crammer, Rocco Staino (Past Chair), Michele Lauer-Bader (Chair), Naomi Angier (Vice Chair), Jana Prock, Phyllis Bornstein, Nancy Bolt and Dorcas Hand.

Introductions (everyone went around the table and introduced themselves)

- **Review agenda**

- **Approval of minutes of our last board meeting, April 17, 2024 (Posted on ALA Connect June 13, 2024)**

Naomi Angier moves to approve.

Ann Marie Pipkin seconds

Minutes unanimously approved.

- **Chair's report – Shelley Lauer-Bader**

ALA Connect

Shelley wants to be sure that everyone is getting information about RMRT and the best way to do that is to subscribe to RMRT messages through ALA Connect. You can choose to obtain individual emails, and/or a weekly digest. Check your accounts to be sure you are subscribed. Check out the ALA Connect FAQ [Help/FAQ - FAQ \(ala.org\)](#).

Round Table Assembly Report

Shelley and Naomi attended the Round Table Assembly as part of the ALA Conference. The Assembly and ALA are renegotiating and reevaluating the operating agreement between all divisions and round tables and ALA. The ALA Executive Board will vote on a formula for an operating agreement between the two as far as monetary exchange. The formula relates to the Net Operating Surplus of the divisions and round tables at the end of the year. Options about where the money in round table accounts is going is something that has not been resolved. Naomi will be attending a Round Table Assembly meeting on July 12th to gain more information.

Kay Cassell, RMRT Treasurer did not have current financial information and will follow-up with Danielle.

Ann Marie suggested we could produce a proposed budget for FY2025 to include items for the next ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia. There were some suggestions (that were discussed later in the meeting) on using the budget money which included:

- Buying a table at the United for Libraries Authors' Tea and the Laugh is on Us events for the Board and members attending the conference.
- Additional Swag (although Danielle advises we should stick with what we have and wait until we run out before ordering any additional items)

Additionally, we spend money on the following annually.

- Contribution to Freedom to Read
- Speakers
- Social Events

It should be noted that the Horrock's Travel Award and the Gadfly Awards come out of separate accounts.

It was suggested to produce a reasonable budget forecast for the next three years. This was voted upon, Ann Marie Pipkin proposed, and Naomi Angier seconded. This was approved.

Follow-ups:

- Kay Cassell will contact Danielle Ponton to find out how much we have left in our budget at the end of FY2024.
- Kay Cassell will find out if there was a budget for FY2024, so we know what we typically use funds on.
- Kay Cassell will check with Danielle to see if there is some sort of proposed budget template.
- The RMRT Board will produce a budget forecast for the next three years.

• **Bylaws - Ann Marie Pipkin**

The Bylaws were renamed Procedures last year. According to the official Round Table Assembly, we need to change the name to Rules (Lisa has already updated the website in response to the change).

There have been some updates to the document including:

- Section 4: Dues, the structure has been clarified in we do not have control over the rates, this is something set by ALA. The rates are currently at \$15/year.
- Section 5: this was added where we can have added fees.
- Terms of officers needed to be clarified.

- The Treasurer is a 2-year commitment with the first year being an assistant treasurer position, or treasurer elect where the current treasurer will teach policies and processes to the treasurer elect.

The Rules policies will be voted upon in the fall RMRT board meeting.

Follow-ups:

- Do we need to vote on an Assistant Treasurer in the Fall?
- Do we have a new liaison to ALA or does Steven Yates continue as our liaison?
- We will vote on the Rules updates in the fall RMRT meeting.

- **Committee and liaison reports**

- *Small Round Table Councilor - Aaron Dobbs* (did not attend meeting)
- *ALA Executive Board Liaison - Dr. Steven D. Yates* (did not attend meeting)
- *Membership – Lisa Kippur*
 - Website Updates: Lisa has been updating the website which went through two iterations in the past 9 months. At first, she made the website consistent, added photos and created a member of the month page. After February ALA went to a new platform for their website in which Lisa attended three trainings and was finally able to get everything updated on the site, it is still a work in progress, but the site is looking put together and inviting.

Follow up:

- If anyone has ideas for improvement on the website, reach out to Lisa directly at lisa.kippur@outlook.com.
- Every Member Counts Idea: This has been tabled and will be moved to the Fall RMRT meeting (follow-up)
- ALA Swag update: Swag worked well for the ALA Conference. Lisa has been handing out brochures, eyeglass cleaner cloths and luggage tags at every event and the RMRT booth as well.
- United for Libraries: We had planned on meeting with United for Libraries at the conference but Deborah Doyle got pulled into a meeting and could not meet with us so Lisa will be scheduling another meeting.

Follow-ups:

- Lisa will find out where we are with membership as of June 30, 2024 (did our membership increase)
- Lisa will be scheduling a meeting with NMRT and United for Libraries (two separate meetings) to discuss partnerships.
- Lisa will update the website.

○ *Treasurer's Report – Kay Cassell*

The treasurer's report is referred to under the Chair's Report as Kay needs to obtain the budget numbers from Danielle to complete her report. She will have that information for the fall board meeting.

○ *Nominations & Election – Rocco Staino*

Rocco was able to coordinate our new board with Sara Kelley Johns as the new president, most of others on the board agreed to serve another term.

○ *Program Committee*

Naomi is the program committee! She was able to coordinate all the programs during the conference including the Friday night RMRT dinner, the Geisel Library Tour, and the San Diego Zoo speakers from the Conservation Wing.

She will be working on joint events between NMRT and United for Libraries (separate events)

Follow-up:

- Lisa will schedule meetings for RMRT with NMRT and United for Libraries.
- If anyone would like to be a part of the Social Committee, please reach out to Naomi directly at naomiangier@comcast.net

○ *Book discussion - Nann Hilyard*

Today's book discussion will follow the RMRT meeting. The book prompt for this discussion is Book about California.

Look out for a book prompt in reference to the September 5th Sunday meeting.

• **Awards – Kay Cassell**

Kay coordinated a committee of three which included Louise Sherby and Ma'lis Wendt and Kay as Chair to review all the applications. See below for the winners.

○ Horrocks Award – Lisa Kippur

- Gadfly Award – Carla Larsen, who is attending her first ALA Conference!!!!

For more information on the winners, check out the website at [Awards Committee | Retired Member Round Table \(ala.org\)](#)

- **Freedom to Read Foundation - Nann Hilyard**

Nothing to report.

- **Social Media**

- *Website*

Lisa has been coordinating the website however, that is not a responsibility of the Membership Chair. She just picked it up when she became chair because the website is such a useful tool for perspective and current members. If anyone would like to assist Lisa with the website or take it over, please contact Lisa at lisa.kippur@outlook.com

- *Facebook*

There is a lot of confusion related to the Facebook site as there is an ALA run site and there is a Facebook site that Ann Marie put together and posts on. The Facebook Site that Ann Marie coordinates is the most active. No one is sure of the status but this needs to be investigated. No one volunteered to investigate the Facebook site, but Ann Marie will continue to monitor the site she coordinates as many RMRT members have posted photos from the conference there. [Facebook](#).

- **Proposal to create a Technology Committee – Discussion**

In relation to the above discussion, it may be good to have some sort of Technology Committee to assist with Facebook and Website coordination. No one volunteered to help, but this could be an agenda item for the fall meeting where more time can be devoted for a more robust discussion.

- **American Libraries – Article & request for feedback**

Shelley received a message from Diana Panuncial, Associate Editor, American Libraries. This is the magazine of ALA. She also hosts a podcast, Call Number with American Libraries.

Her team is brainstorming potential story ideas centered on retiring librarians reentering the workforce. She is reaching out directly to RMRT members to gauge what the landscape is currently like, as well as hear any personal stories you may have. There are three initial questions, and they would like your input to inform preliminary research.

1. Have you retired since the pandemic?

2. Are you taking on library work, or another type of job?
3. Did you use any library resources or programs to help you get back into the workforce?

You can send your answers directly to Diane at dpanucial@ala.org

- **RMRT appointment to serve on ALA Annual Program Jury**

The ALA Annual Program Jury reviews all program ideas for next year's ALA Annual Conference. The reviews take place during September and October and August 30th is the deadline to let Naomi know if you are interested in being considered. There are 30-40 proposals to be read.

Follow-up:

- Jana Prock, janaprock@gmail.com, volunteered to assist.

- **RMRT appointments to Intellectual Freedom Committee & Committee on Professional Ethics/Naomi Angier**

Intellectual Freedom Committee

Ray James is the incoming chair of the committee and will liaison with RMRT however, he would like a member of RMRT to have an appointment to the committee. His big goal is to work on a manual. Most of the meetings are on Zoom and there will be a meeting at the LibLearnX conference in the winter (which is the last conference). They also meet at ALA Annual in person on Friday afternoon. Liaisons cannot vote but RMRT needs a representative.

Follow-up:

- Shelley Lauer-Bader volunteered.

Committee on Professional Ethics

The committee is looking for someone from RMRT to serve a 1-year term on the committee. Check the website for more information [Committee on Professional Ethics \(COPE\) | ALA](#).

Follow-up:

- Let Naomi know if you would like to be a part of the committee. Her deadline is Friday, July 12th.

REMINDER – IN-PERSON BOOK DISCUSSION @ ALA ANNUAL, SAN DIEGO, SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 3:30 PM – Book Prompt – ‘ANYTHING CALIFORNIA’

Next *VIRTUAL* 5TH SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION, SEPTEMBER 29TH Book Prompt - TBA