

## **Rainbow Round Table Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**June 24, 2023 at ALA Annual at Marriott Marquis, Biology Room**

Present: Chair: Dontaná McPherson-Joseph, Chair-Elect: Nadia Orozco-Sahi, Past-Chair: Kathleen Breitenbach, Secretary: Lea Wentworth, Treasurer: LaJuan Pringle, RT Councilor: Erin Berman, Director at Large: Amy Dodson (via Zoom), Director at Large: Samuel Rumore, Director at Large: Nicholae Cline (via Zoom), Incoming Chair Elect Chaz Carey, Previous Board Member Anne Moore, Hillary Pearson from ODLOS, several member guests.

**Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am PT/ 9:30 am MT/ 10:30am CT/ 11:30 am ET**

1. **Call to Order** Board Meeting Called to Order 10:37 am

Item facilitator: Dontaná McPherson-Joseph

2. **Approval of Agenda & Minutes**

Action: Approve **agenda** for June 2023 Annual Executive Board Meeting, and approve the [minutes](#) of June 2023 Regular Executive Board Meeting Called to Order 10:37 am

Item Facilitator: Dontaná McPherson-Joseph

**Vote: approved**

3. **Introductions/new members**

Item facilitator: Dontaná McPherson-Joseph

Welcome to Chaz, Incoming Chair, has build community in Denver Colorado, and now Columbus. Is active with Intellectual Freedom Committee. They/She, open to all questions.

4. **IFLA and Sharjah International Book Fair in Dubai**

RRT is not allowed to make a public statement on this. We need to figure out how to support members impacted by this decision. Erin shared that IFLA takes bids from countries to host this conference. This cycle they only took bids from the Middle East and North Africa. Dubai may have been the only bid. The conference is fully funded by the host country, so attendance numbers won't affect IFLA monetarily. In 2018 IFLA held the

conference in Brazil, and there was a similar issue with safety because homosexuality is illegal there as well. As ALA president, Emily Drabinski is expected to attend the Sharjah book festival, but should not be expected to. There may not much we can do about the conference being held in Dubai, but we need to try to support people NOT attending due to safety. We maybe can advocate for sending delegates that will be safer, instead. IFLA LGBT group has made a statement that we should uplift. John DeSantis was able to attend the IRC meeting yesterday, and updated. Erin plans to ensure Council will be addressing this at this conference to make a statement. Nadia will reach out to IRT to see if they are drafting a resolution to bring to Council.

Item facilitator: Erin Berman/ Dontaná McPherson-Joseph

## **5. RRT Statements to Council**

2 resolutions are being brought to Council this weekend The first is at Council II at 10:50 the resolution asking for actions relating to the firing of Queer library professionals. Kat pointed out [This Recent Article](#) that they were interviewed for. There has been significant pushback from this article to some of the librarians speaking out.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> is asking to move Annual Conference to a “Not Pride” weekend in the future so that LGBTQ members can have Pride with their families and in their home towns. ALA has contracts, or hold dates with hotels through 2030, so this is a long term ask. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Resolution is at Council III.

Item facilitator: Dontaná McPherson-Joseph/Erin Berman

## **6. ALA Executive Board Update from Ana Elisa**

[Posted in Connect](#) and shared here for informational purposes

## **6. Announcements/Other Business/Adjournment**

Come to the membership meeting! **4 pm McCormick Place Room w176ab**

Item facilitator: Dontaná McPherson-Joseph

Adjourned at 11:31 am CT