

Rainbow Round Table Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, June 25, 2022, 11:00 am EST

Present: Kathleen Breitenbach, Chair; Elizabeth Marshak, Director-at-Large, Deb Sica, Round Table Councilor; LaJuan Pringle, Treasurer; Anne L. Moore, Secretary.

Joining via Zoom: Rae Anne Montague, Past Chair; Lea Wentworth, Director-at-Large; Karen Schneider, Liaison to ALA Executive Board, Dontana` McPherson-Joseph, Chair-Elect.

1. Call to Order

Kat called the meeting to order at 11:03.

2. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

The minutes of the May 2022 meeting were accepted, with a correction of the spelling of Erin Berman's name. The agenda for this meeting was accepted.

3. Executive Session

Kat announced Rachel Wexbaum, who is chair-elect (2022-2023) has resigned. The bylaws state the Executive Board can appoint to fill a vacancy. Dontana` McPherson-Joseph, who is chair-elect, is willing to step up be a co-chair with Kat.

Motion by Deb Sica - As a result of the incoming chair's resignation, the board appoint Nadia Orozco-Sahi as incoming chair, with Dontana McPherson-Joseph becoming the chair, with support from Kat. Lea Wentworth will move into the secretary position.

Seconded by LaJuan. Motion amended that Kat will serve as a past-chair, with support from Rae. LaJuan supported the amendment. Motion passed.

Those present in person and on zoom did introductions. Kat thanked everyone finishing their terms on the board.

4. Treasurer's Report

LaJuan has not received the second quarter report from ALA. The last report from November (first quarter) stated we had \$136411 in our account. Karen mentioned the new CFO mentioned she is reviewing the data from the second quarter of this past year and that accounts for the holdup in the report being released.

Kat mentioned we are waiting for ALA staff to update the volunteer form so we can put a call for the non-book committee volunteers.

5. RRT Councilor Report

Deb Sica going into governance discussions this afternoon.

6. ALA Executive Board Update

Karen has sent an update, which is posted on Connect.

7. RRT visibility within ALA

Deb is concerned over the neglect of the RRT from the lack of staff support and staff turnovers. She is eager to see us keep our profile high. Some of the issues she identified are our councilor position not included in the election, American Libraries not including the Stonewall Awards in their list of book awards, badge ribbons for the RRT not available for the conference, and RRT not being included in the ALA social justice initiative. We have not had a representative on IFRT. How do we cover this? Our book lists and awards are strong. Karen mentioned the online version of American Libraries was corrected but the print has not made a correct. Karen and Ana Elisa have drafted a memo to send to the current and incoming ALA president to talk about the RRT visibility and the oversights. Anne recommended creating a yearly calendar of 'to-do' and a timeline so our RRT leadership knows of deadlines and is not relying on ALA staff to notify us. Deb mentioned there is an old version of this in the Google docs which we can update.

Deb also proposed an emerging leader position that is focused on increasing RRT visibility. Dontana has been an emerging leader. Nadia is an emerging leader this year. Elizabeth suggested we used to have 'hug a homosexual' in the exhibits. Dontana said this is similar to a YALSA initiative she participated. Ana Elisa and Christina Rodrigues joined the meeting. Christina, who is the Executive Board representative to American Libraries suggested we ask for a liaison to the American Libraries board.

La Juan asked if we have any plans to address the recent political decisions. Kat mentioned we still have time to submit programs for LibLearn X.

8. Announcements/Other Business/Adjournment

Nadia asked if she can continue on her other two RRT committees as well as take on the chair-elect position. The consensus is that yes, she can if she has time to do both these assignments and commit to her position on the executive board.

The membership meeting is at 11:00 tomorrow.

Stonewall Awards are scheduled for Monday - all board members should plan to attend. If not able to attend please let Kat know. Kat provided an update on the authors who will be attending.

The meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.