

Executive Board Conference Call Notes
July 25, 2017 – 3:00 pm Central

Present for the call: President, Jim Neal; President-Elect, Loida Garcia-Febo; Past-President, Julie Todaro; Treasurer, Susan Hildreth; Karen Downing, Julius Jefferson Jr., Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, Mike Marlin, Andrew Pace, Gina Persichini, Patty Wong

Excused: Trevor Dawes

I. Midwinter 2022 and the broader issue of moving conferences

- Because of the pending “Bathroom Bill” in Texas, which would restrict public restroom access to transgender people, members are raising concerns about the scheduled 2022 Midwinter meeting in San Antonio. We have the option of moving the 2022 Midwinter meeting from San Antonio, TX to Anaheim, CA because we are far enough in advance to find a potential alternate site. Prices in Anaheim are competitive and hotel prices are expected to be lower than in San Antonio.
- Member questions/concerns to consider regarding the move include –
 - Why move this conference, but not past controversial conference locations like Orlando?
 - What precedent would be set by a decision to move?
 - What will be the effect on ALA groups holding meetings in states which might consider similar legislation?
- M. Ghikas noted that the 2021 conference in Indianapolis initially raised flags, because of “religious freedom” legislation proposed in Indiana, but ultimately rejected by the Legislature. At this point, it appears unlikely that Midwinter Meeting could be moved.
- We have very strong civil rights clauses in our contract with convention centers/hotels; however, states can make decisions beyond the control of hotels. If we back out too often they are likely to not want to do further business with us. Plus, our contracts do not compensate us for income lost if we do not have an alternative.
- J. Todaro commented that the TX Senate panel passed legislation regarding the bathroom bill and voted 8 to 1 in favor of passing the bill which is currently being protested at the Texas state capital. Additional bills are pending surrounding this issue as well as immigration and human rights.
- J. Todaro also noted that San Antonio has very robust school libraries and successful public library funding unlike Anaheim and the entire state of California.
- The August 8 conference call will be devoted primarily to this topic.
- The Board must discuss before the August 8th conference call how to proceed on votes. Will it be by consensus or unanimous vote? Also, need a definition of consensus and may need a fall back decision. J. Neal endorsed the idea of aiming for consensus but agreed we need alternative in case we are unable to reach consensus.

II. ALA and Everylibrary

- M. Ghikas sent out a document (an FAQ) to staff and to John Chrastka at EveryLibrary. The document was designed to help staff respond to questions from their Boards with regard to working with EveryLibrary and similar 501(c)4 organizations. The document

was developed in consultation with ALA legal counsel. It includes a potentially a permissible way for ALA to work with EveryLibrary, in consultation with ALA management and leadership, and in consultation with legal counsel.

III. ITTS Update

Sheri Vanyek, Director, ITTS, reported:

- a. Responsive Design – the structural work required to implement the new information architecture for the home page design was completed 7/25/17 is now mobile friendly. The re-theming project will be complete by the end of the fiscal year.
- b. ALA store – E-commerce will take 3 more weeks to complete. The content migration has begun and staff are getting new products in the Store. ITTS is forecasting launch at the end of August or early September. E-learning will be implemented in November and other small projects in October.
- c. ALA Connect –there will be a series of 16 ninety-minute video emails explaining the roll-out and new features sent by Pam Akins between now and 8/31/2017. After August 10, 2017 you will only be able to view public content in Connect. August 10-31 will be migrating all old Connect information to the new Connect. We will launch before August 31st if we complete all the transfer but the plan is to launch August 31st. Also plan to develop best practice to use ALA Connect. Pam Akins is working closely with Julianna Kloeppel who will be doing training.

IV. Brief Updates:

- a. 2017/18 Executive Board calls and conference call notes –Notes will be posted to the ALA website regularly following each conference call.
- b. 2017 and 2018 Budget update – There are revenue short falls in Publishing, Membership and the Midwinter Meeting. The FY18 budget will be adjusted based on the FY17 results and presented at the Fall meeting. Susan Hildreth will send out a note to Christine Hage (Council) regarding her inquiry about Publishing. A report is being developed which will help Council understand the Publishing budget.
- c. ALA/BCALA joint statement on Libraries and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion - BCALA has endorsed the statement and the statement was sent to other ethnic affiliates. We are waiting to hear back from the other ethnic caucuses and then it will be shared widely.
- d. Guidelines for officers regarding conflict of interest – Information is being gathered regarding ALA policies and Paula Goedert is getting guidelines from other similar associations. The goal is to get something together to have the initial discussions at Fall meeting and finalize at Midwinter.
- e. Center for the Future of Libraries Advisory Committee – Following the appointment of new Executive Director we will have opportunity to talk about the future of the Center and the nature of any advisory committee.
- f. Information Policy Fellows Program – Five groups are working to have draft together by September 2017 and rollout this fall. The budget by OITP and other sources of funding hopefully to be contributed to the pilot by the end of this year.

- g. IMLS funding update – The news to date is positive, but we are waiting for results after the August break then on to the Senate.
- h. Sustainability task force –J. Todaro finalized appointments. Co- chairs have been established and there is one more appointment to make. An update will be provided later in the year.
- i. Privacy Legislation – J. Neal asked the Board to look at privacy statement and review and give feedback. The statement will be combined with similar organizations that will be voicing support.