



Minutes of the Executive Board
Exhibits Round Table
June 25, 2017

Board Members in attendance:

George Abbott, Jay Askuvich (Treasurer), Kelly Coyle-Crivelli (Chair), Joseph Eagan, Alice Knapp (Secretary, Librarian Vice-Chair), Stephanie Lund, David Lysinger, Susan Rhoad, Gene Shimshock

Board Members absent:

Katie Halata, Michelle Montgomery

ALA Staff and Representatives and Guests present:

Mary Ghikas, Paul Graller, and Andrew Pace

Call to Order

A meeting of the Exhibits Round Table was called to order by Chairperson Kelly Coyle-Crivelli.

The Secretary advised the Chair that the Minutes of the January 22, 2017 Midwinter Board Meeting would not be submitted at this time.

ALA Board Talking Points

Mr. Pace submitted the ALA Board Talking Points to the Board for consideration and inclusion on these Minutes.

A discussion ensued regarding whether the "big name" speaker might increase Monday attendance in the Halls. No further action was taken.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer submitted the ERT financial report. Reported a fund balance of \$20,135. Major payments pending for the ERT-sponsored Snack Cart and meeting expenses. The report was approved and attached to these minutes.

The Treasurer submitted the ERT Membership Report: Corporate membership is 177 up from 172. Personal is 298 up from 291. Total is 499 up from 487. Mr. Eagan mentioned that the ALA Board Talking Point hadn't mentioned the fact that ERT wasn't listed among roundtables gaining members and that he would address this with Mr. Pace. The report was approved and attached to these minutes.

Reports from Committees

Hoy Scholarship (Ms. Coyle-Crivelli): The Silent Auction is underway. Current donations near \$5,000. Good number of quilts and items. The Chair acknowledged the excellent location, signage and overall display of the quilts and other auction items. This was met with general agreement among the Board.

Library Relations Committee (Ms. Knapp): Discussed the need for coordination among board members regarding scheduling participation in the New Members Round Table as a positive way to inform new ALA members about the value of exhibits. This was met with general agreement among the Board.

Programs Committee (Ms. Knapp/Mr. Eagan): There were 15 total program submissions for this year's conference. 5 of the 15 were approved for sponsorship and inclusion in the ALA Annual Conference program. Both co-chairs expressed frustration that with the relatively short evaluation period and time conflict of the librarian members, there wasn't enough time to work with several of the programs that had potential and might have met with approval had there been time to coach the contributors. The report continued:

- about the need to expand the number of librarians involved with the Programs Committee (and with the Round Table in general);
- The submission tool while convenient for submissions reduced the flexibility evaluators had with the less formal process; and
- Opening submissions for program in advance of Midwinter wasn't ideal as many exhibitors would not be able to consider a program until after the event.
- Saturday programs were well-received. We have coverage for Sunday programs
- The committee members agreed to contact submitters whose programs were not approved in order to better prepare them for the next evaluation cycle.

It was generally agreed that the ability to have programs is a significant benefit to the Membership and should be one of the agenda items for the monthly working calls to sufficiently plan for the 2018 Conference.

Further discussion ensued regarding the possibility that programs might be co-sponsorship by Divisions and that this would help build publicity and attendance. It was acknowledged that most sessions are co-sponsored. The proposal met with the general approval.

Nominating Committee (Mr. Shimshock): Was pleased to report that a slate consisting of two librarian candidates and four vendor candidates was presented to the Membership for the election of the 2020 term. He acknowledged the support of the Board and Paul Graller in soliciting candidates. He committed to update the "Board Term" report after the elections.

New Business

The Chair reported on the general success of a Friday Library "Comicon" and proposed that ERT might sponsor the event on the pre-conference day. The proposal met with general approval and agreement that it be added to the business of the Board.

General discussion about Exhibit activity levels, traffic and floor operations were generally favorable.

A Report from ERT Representative Accessibility Task Force (Mr. work is done and that its 72 page report was submitted to the Council.

Being no further business before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Shimshock

Board Member (Appointed)

January 25, 2017