



**Minutes of the Membership Meeting of the Exhibits Round Table January 27, 2020**

A meeting of the Membership of the Exhibits Round Table of the American Library Association was convened on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 8:00 am at the ALA Midwinter Meeting held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA.

In attendance were vendor members: David Lysinger (Chair), Susan Rhoad (Vice Chair - Vendor), Gene Shimshock (Secretary), Elenita Chmilowski, Kate Waldron, and librarian members Susan LaPerla, Kelly McElroy (Vice-Chair Librarian).

Absent from the meeting were vendor member Rachel Lehmann (Treasurer), Jason Wells, and Kirk Whisler and librarian member Rachel Clukey.

Also in attendance were: ALA management and staff: Earla Jones, Lina Zabaneh, Paul Graller, and Anne Manley.

Approximately 50 exhibitor members were in attendance.

**Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order, declared a quorum and opened the meeting at 8:05 am. Introductions were made.

**Reports and Presentations**

Ms. McElroy announced the call for programs for ALA Annual. Deadline is set for March 16. She spoke that the programs would be educational in nature...highlight collaborations, etc.

Mr. Shimshock announced a call for interest in joining the Board. The slate calls for three vendors and one librarian to be nominated and voted on at ALA Annual for the 2021-24 term.

Ms. Jones reported Current registration numbers: Attendee registration for Philadelphia currently at 5,428 with total registration at 8,078. Breakdown reported as follows:

	Denver	Seattle	Philadelphia
Attendees	5,311	6,470	5,428
Exhibitors	<u>2,682</u>	<u>2,718</u>	<u>2,650</u>
Total	7,993	9,188	8,078

Ms. Jones reported that focus groups are being conducted to get feedback on MidWinter planning...over 250 individuals (first timers, attendees, exhibitors) are providing recommendations on learning goals, exhibits, etc.

She reported that as of yesterday, 1,276 registered for Annual.

A general discussion about the future of Midwinter ensued. Questions asked included what was being done to encourage director attendance. Another about the possibility of emphasizing a technology track.

Ms. Manley gave an update on the benefits of the Champions program. Also, about improvements on communication both to and from the members.

Mr. Lysinger gave a quick update on the activities of ERT. He announced the raffle for ExhibitorLive passes. One, possibly 2 will be made available for the raffle. ERT members all qualify but they must enter to win. Mr. Lysinger notes that the face value of the registration is \$1,200. More information to be forthcoming.

Mr. Lysinger acknowledged Cindy Bowles from the Texas Library Association. Ms Bowles announced that the conference will be March 24-26...with a shortened Tuesday - Thursday Exhibits Schedule. She introduced the new TLA Executive Director. Shirley Robinson.

### **Member Q&A**

General questions were asked about the of Future of Midwinter...2021 Indianapolis - same exhibits schedule...2022 San Antonio will be a brand new event. Focused on education and professional development...Exhibits will be Friday-Sunday.

Questions about 2021 and 2022 demographics so exhibitors can make decisions. ALA feels that 2021 will be pretty much the same demographic.

Eliminating Monday Exhibits for 2021 - general impression was that members were interested in eliminating Monday exhibits. ALA will send out a survey to gauge interest.

### **Adjournment**

With no further questions or business for the meeting, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:52 am.

Respectfully submitted, this day, April 6, 2020 by:



Eugene A. Shimshock  
Secretary