

RBMS Budget & Development Committee Meeting Minutes
ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco
Saturday, June 27, 2015, 3-5:30 p.m.

Present: Mary Lacy (chair), Ethan Henderson, Jeffrey Marshall, R. Arvid Nelsen (ex-officio), Blynn Olivieri, J. Fernando Peña (ex-officio), John Pull, Sarah Schmidt, and Cherry Williams (ex-officio)

Visitors: Katharine Chandler, Danielle Culpepper, Mark Greenberg, Will Hansen, Laura Micham, John Overholt, and Henry Raine

Excused: Erika Dowell, Athena Jackson, and Mark Peterson

The meeting started at promptly at 3 p.m. at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square Hotel.

1. Introductions, Approval of Minutes, etc.

Fernando Peña volunteered to take minutes. After customary introductions, minutes of the Committee's last meeting at ALA Midwinter in Chicago on January 31, 2015 were approved without changes.

2. Leab Award Fund Report

Although exact figures were not available, Mary Lacy reported that the balance of the Leab Award Fund is currently around \$44,000, so the \$50,000 minimum for 2022 mandated by ALA/ACRL is within reach.

3. Leab Award Long-Term Funding Plan

The agenda item was deferred. Mary Lacy stated that there has still not been any progress in modifying the indenture.

4. RBMS Conference Budget Reports

- **2015 Oakland:** Arvid Nelsen reported that \$62,300 was raised for the conference, healthily surpassing the target budget of \$51,000. He hopes that the section will end up with a budget surplus, but we will have to wait until Tory Ondrla has balanced the books over the next couple of months.
- **2016 Miami/Coral Gables:** Mary Lacy and Cherry Williams informed the Committee that the tentative budget of \$162,352, based on a minimum 307 paid registrants at \$290 (plus Booksellers' Showcase income and additional fundraising), should be approved by the ACRL Board this weekend in San Francisco.

5. RBMS Conference Scholarships Update

- **2015 Fundraising Results:** Arvid Nelsen reported successful fundraising during 2014-2015 to fund 20 scholarships (worth \$14,760) to attend the section's Oakland conference. Generous donations were especially needed considering that the 2014 Las Vegas conference ended with a \$2,000 deficit,

so there was no profit sharing as had been frequent in past years. A total of \$7,987 was raised from RBMS members, which was supplemented by \$5,000 from ACRL and a very generous grant of \$6,000 from the Delmas Foundation (surplus funds raised of +\$4,000 are available for 2016). Arvid noted that the Delmas grant came despite trustee Deirdre Stam's caveat last year that the foundation rarely if ever funds the same cause two years in a row. Committee members discussed whether the separate ask letters (one to past scholarship recipients and another to current and former section chairs and Executive Committee members) were effective in raising the necessary funds. Mary noted that this year, generous donations had been received both from past scholarship recipients and current and former Executive Committee members. Arvid phoned donors to thank them as soon as he received updates from ACRL.

- **Workplan for Future Fundraising:** Blynne Olivieri has posted a work plan on ALA Connect with a schedule of what we should be doing when. In addition, Sarah Fisher is updating Budget & Development Committee FAQ that E.C. Schroeder started; she will make this available as soon as it is finished. Discussion followed on how section chairs know what their expectations are regarding fundraising, thanking donors, etc. Right now, expectations are communicated directly from the Budget & Development Committee chair to the section chair, and not from past chair to current chair.

Also discussed was the possibility of making recurring monthly donations to the Scholarship Fund. This has been beyond the capacity of ALA in the past, but Blynne Olivieri volunteered to investigate the possibility again.

For the first time in 2014, Arvid Nelsen solicited donations from scholarship recipients of the Las Vegas conference later that summer with great success. Cherry Williams will try this again in July, soliciting donations not just from scholarship recipients but from all conference attendees. This will be the first time all conference attendees are asked to contribute to the Scholarship Fund right after the conference, so success is uncertain.

6. Proposals for Use of Section Funds

- **Printing run for *Your Old Books* (YOB):** Katherine Chandler, Publications Committee chair, is investigating expenses for reprinting YOB and asks whether we need to do it through ACRL, which she thinks is too expensive. About 5,000 copies of YOB were last reprinted in 2011, with expenses shared between RBMS/ACRL and ABAA, which subsidized half the print run. YOB is intended for general audiences and is frequently distributed at antiquarian book fairs, although exact figures on how copies have been used in the past are unavailable (John Pull suggested asking James Ascher, Publications Committee chair when YOB was last reprinted, for data). Committee members agreed to ask ABAA and Rare Book School if they are interested in helping subsidize another print run. Will Hansen volunteered to approach the ABAA and Danielle Culpepper will ask Rare Book School.

- **Ongoing Reimbursement Requests:** Katherine Chandler said that she has requested reimbursement of \$138 in Diversity Committee-related expenses for creating orientation handouts, which according to Mary Lacy were approved by this Committee in September 2014. Arvid Nelsen added that the Diversity and Membership & Professional Development Committees have ongoing reimbursement requests related to printing postcards and materials for the RBMS Conference orientation, respectively.
- **RBMS Website Hosting Upgrade:** Mary Lacy reported that the anticipated website hosting upgrade, which would have cost an additional \$110 annually, will no longer be necessary, as current webhosting capacity has improved without costs rising.

7. RBMS Fundraising for 2015 ACRL Conference Scholarships

Mary Lacy reminded the committee of RBMS's successful contribution to the ACRL 75th Anniversary Scholarship Campaign. RBMS raised \$1,905, which resulted in three named scholarships for attendance to the ACRL Conference in Portland, Oregon in March 2015. RBMS was the highest fundraising section.

8. ACRL Budget & Finance Update

There was no report.

9. Budget & Development FAQ

Sarah Fisher reported that she will finish her work on the FAQ soon and will pass it on to Mary Lacy when it is completed (see "RBMS Scholarship Update/Workplan for Future Fundraising" above for more details).

10. Other

Cherry Williams told the Committee that at the ACRL Leadership Council meeting on Friday she learned that ALA will replace ALA Connect with Higher Logic in the near future.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Fernando Peña