

**Public Library Association  
Board of Directors  
2014 ALA Annual Conference Board Meeting  
June 28, 2014  
Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada  
DRAFT Board Actions**

*To be reviewed and approved at the Fall 2014 PLA Board of Directors Meeting*

- Present:** Carolyn Anthony, President; Larry Neal, President Elect; Eva Poole, Past President.  
Directors at Large: Melinda Cervantes, Portia Latalladi; Georgia Lomax; Pamela Sandlian Smith; Felton Thomas; and Jay Turner
- PLA Councilor:** Christine Lind Hage
- PLA Staff:** Barb Macikas, Executive Director, Linda Bostrom, Manager, Professional Development; Steven Hofmann, Manager, Web Communications; Kathleen Hughes, Manager Publications/ Editor *Public Libraries*; Mary Hirsh, Project Manager; Melissa Faubel Johnson, Meeting Planner/National Conference Manager; Amy Sargent, Marketing and Communications Manager; and Lian Sze, Program Coordinator.
- Guests:** Rob Banks, ALA Executive Board Liaison; Clara Bohrer, Chair, PLA Budget & Finance Committee; Miguel Figueroa, Director, ALA Center for the Future of Libraries; Jamie Hollier, Project Manager, DigitalLearn.org ; Deborah Jacobs, Director, Global Libraries, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Chris Jowaisas, Program Officer, Global Libraries, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Vailey Oehlke, Incoming PLA Board Member; Manya Shorr, Incoming PLA Board Member.

1. Welcome and introductions.
2. **By consent, approved** the adoption of the agenda with the addition of the PLA Executive Director evaluation added to the agenda.
3. **By consent, accepted** the following reports on the consent agenda: 2014 Spring Board Draft Actions (2014.68); Awards 2014 Report (2014.69); Continuing Education Report (2014.70); Committee, TF, Advisory Group Biannual Reports (2014.71); Digital Learning Center-IMLS Project Report (DigitalLearn.org, 2014.72); Membership Report (2014.73); Nominating Committee 2015 Election Slate (2014.74); PLA 2014 Report (2014.75); PLA 2014 Election Results (2014.76); "Public Libraries" Magazine Report (2014.77); Publications Report (2014.78); Technology Report (2014.79); Washington Office Report (2014.80)

Discussion agenda

4. **President's Report**, *Carolyn Anthony* (no document). Anthony reported on her activities since the Spring meeting. These included: PLA signing on to a letter related to changes in the trustee structure in New York state; progress of the PLA Performance Measurement Task Force; and plans to attend a library conference in Taiwan.
5. **PLA Strategic Plan Review** (2014.82/2014.82a). *Carolyn Anthony* reviewed the revised draft, three-year strategic plan and the process that led to the draft that included: a meeting of PLA board, committee chairs, past presidents and other leaders at the 2014 Midwinter Meeting, facilitated by Board members Pam Sandlian Smith and Portia Latalladi; revisions

based on that discussion and reviews of PLA membership and other surveys and another review by the Board at their Spring 2014 meeting. During discussion it was noted that the focus on public awareness in the plan could have links to the Aspen Institute initiative about the future of public libraries and changing the public's perception of public libraries. Following discussion it was moved and the PLA Board **approved** the motion to adopt the strategic plan as presented.

7. **PLA Boot Camp Program Review** (2014.83). PLA Board member *Pam Sandlian Smith* suggested that it was time for a review of the long-standing program to insure the program reflects the direction of libraries and PLA. In general, PLA should review on-going programs on a regular basis. There was agreement that there is a need for management training. A working group was assigned to assist staff with the review and to make a recommendation to the Board. Jay Turner will chair the group and Melinda Cervantes, Georgia Lomax and Portia Latalladi volunteered to serve on the group.

8. **ACTION.** Review of financial reports and adoption of the FY2015 Budget, *Clara Bohrer*, Chair, PLA Budget & Finance Committee and *Barb Macikas*. *Bohrer* and *Macikas* reviewed: Financial Analysis Overview: FY 2014- April 2014, (2014.84); FY 2014 Year-To-Date by Project Report thru April 2014 (2014.85); and FY15 Budget (2014.86). Following the recommendations of the PLA Budget & Finance Committee and discussion it was moved and **approved** that the Fiscal Year 2015 budget be approved as presented and that LTI interest that will be added to the FY15 budget operating budget will be used for development of a new program to be held in non-PLA conference years.

9. **Review of the ALA Council Agenda**, (2014.87). *Christine Hage*. Hage seeks input from the PLA Board prior to Council sessions so that she can adequately and accurately represent PLA's point of view at Council Meetings. Hage reviewed items from the Council agenda and asked the Board for their counsel. Items under discussion prior to ALA conference related to the role of the ALA Planning and Budget Assembly as well as controversy around the screening of the 1977 film, "The Speaker."

10. **PLA Emerging Leader Project**, *Carolyn Anthony* and *Barb Macikas* (2014.90). Anthony and Macikas reviewed the document and the suggested EL projects. The Board recommended moving forward on the member engagement and the Member Value and Professional Resources projects. Jay Turner volunteered to assist the EL groups.

11. **ALA Executive Board Liaison Report**, *Rob Banks* (no document). ALA Board member Banks reported that the ALA conference in Las Vegas has exceeded the ALA conference held in Anaheim. He also noted that ALA membership overall is down; two-thirds of ALA members are division members. The ALA budget for this year is holding, revenue is down but expenses are also down. Planning has begun for the 2015 budget. It will be planned around the strategic initiative developed by the ALA Board to support advocacy, information policy and leadership/professional development. The PLA Board noted concerns about the sustainability of the ALA budget and structure given declining membership. Concerns were also expressed related to ALA technology capacity given budget cuts.

12. **Gates Foundation Update**, *Deborah Jacob*, Director, *Global Libraries* (no document). Jacobs reviewed the Foundation's plans to wind down the Global Libraries program over the next 3-5 years. This transition will happen slowly with no programmatic changes to budgets this year or next year and a smooth transition. Over the past 20 years, the Foundation has invested \$1 billion in public libraries globally in order to provide opportunities for access for library users around the world. The PLA Board thanked Deborah Jacobs for her leadership and the Foundation for its tremendous support of libraries and the impact it has had on our communities.

13. **ALA Center for the Future of Libraries**, *Miguel Figueroa* (2014.89). Figueroa provided an overview of new program, which is modeled on a similar program used by museums and is funded in part by IMLS. The center will be an incubator for innovation and ideas. Figueroa asked the Board to assist in the development of priorities and ideas and said he will look forward to working with PLA. He is interested in engaging library organizations. He was asked how the center fits into ALA and its structure and indicated this is still in progress but that the Center will likely be structured like an ALA Office.

14. **E-Rate Update**, *Carolyn Anthony* (2014.88). Anthony introduced a discussion of the status of e-rate reform. A discussion of the formula for calculating the cap for Category 2 funding for wi-fi for libraries and whether a square footage allocation was the best method ensued. It was announced that ALA OITP had organized a meeting with FCC representative Gigi Sohn, Special Counsel for External Affairs, to discuss e-rate and the formula, immediately following the Board meeting. PLA Board members Carolyn Anthony, Larry Neal, and Pam Sandlian Smith as well as incoming president-elect Vailey Oehlke and incoming Board member Rivkah Sass, John Szabo, director, Los Angeles Public Library, and David Leonard, head of IT, Boston Public Library were planning to participate.

15. **Thanks to outgoing Board members** (2013.88) PLA President Carolyn Anthony presented past-president Eva Poole with a Resolution of Thanks and thanks were offered to outgoing Board members Portia Latalladi, Georgia Lomax and Christine Hage.

16. **ACTION**. PLA President Carolyn Anthony invited everyone to attend her President's Program featuring Barry Lopez. It was moved and **approved** to adjourn at 4:05 p.m.