

**Florida Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2022, 11:03AM – 12:41PM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

(VM = Voting Member)

Voting Members

Phyllis Gorshe, President (VM)
Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect (VM)
Laura Spears, Past President (VM)
Marina Morgan, Secretary (VM)
Matthew David, Treasurer (VM)
Ray Baker, Region 1 Director (VM)
Sonya Chapa, Region 2 Director (VM)
Michael Sullivan, Region 5 Director (VM)
Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director (VM)
Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor (VM)

Non-Voting Members

Amy Johnson, Division of Library and Information Services
Vanessa Reyes, Representative from University of South Florida
Eric Head, Advocacy and Legislative Committee Chair

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

(VM = Voting Member)

Natalie Houston, Region 3 Director (VM)
Alyssa Koclanes, Region 4 Director (VM)
Cheryl Wolfe, DEIA Committee Chair
Leila Gibradze, Representative from Florida State University

FLA Staff

Karen Layton, Communications and Events Manager
Jennifer Pratt, Interim Executive Director

1. Quorum and Agenda Review

- A. Call to Order: President Phyllis Gorshe called the meeting to order at 11:03AM.
- B. Establishment of quorum: Marina Morgan, Secretary, confirmed that a quorum was present at that time.
- C. Ex-Officio Reports
 - Robert Stuart, GrayRobinson, provided a brief update on the state of Florida congressional redistricting map and the Public Libraries construction grants request with non-recurring money.
 - As of today's date, February 18, 2022, the Public Libraries construction grants are zero in both the House and Senate. Additionally, regarding the

Career Online High School, there is no funding in the bill, but there is a House sponsor.

- The House and Senate are aligned with a renewal of the recurring general fund (\$17 million) plus \$2 million in federal spending authority. Amy Johnson, State Librarian and Director of the Division of Library and Information Services (DLIS), clarified that there is an additional \$2 million for the competitive grant program under LSTA.
- Amy Johnson, State Librarian and Director of the Division of Library and Information Services (DLIS) reported that the State Career Service in support of Resource Sharing will be moving to FedEx from UPS. Amy also mentioned the FLA pre-conference session, Reset and Reconnect Library Friends Groups and Foundations, with Amy, Beth Nawalinski (United for Libraries, American Library Association) and Peter Pearson as speakers.
- Jennifer Pratt, Interim Executive Director, provided a brief report.
 - Membership renewal: email sent to ten member organizations; three have renewed, and several sent invoices. Sent an email to other 15 groups that have not renewed and waiting for an answer.
 - Library Day: reached 31 legislators about construction grants.
 - Board elections: webpages with bios for each candidate set up, website live as of this morning.
 - Committees: participated in various committee meetings.

2. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of January 15, 2022, Marina Morgan, Secretary

- Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director, Region 3 Director, moved to approve the minutes. Ray Baker, Region 1 Director, seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Financials (Matthew David, Treasurer)

A. Budget as of January 31, 2022

- Income: individual membership dues at 75% mark; with annual conference registration recently open, the exhibitor sales and sponsorships totaled \$34,980.
- Expenses: conference expenses added; professional fees not included in the report due to a delay with the check.
- Bottom line projected for the year to be in the negative at -\$55,243.

B. Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2022,

- Total operating account \$150,368.17
- Total Hancock Money Market account \$231,189.07
- Total income \$162,235.34
- Total expenses \$29,993.49

C. Sonya Chapa, Region 2 Director, made a motion to approve financials as submitted with a date change from December to January 31. Marina Morgan, Secretary, seconded. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

A. Nominating Committee - Election Update

- Laura Spears, Past President reported that the election ballot went up and encouraged everyone to vote.

B. Bylaws Task Force Update – report provided by Shane Roopnarine, Vice President, President Elect.

- The task force is in the process of reviewing the bylaws, making changes and discussing them offline.

- Shane asked if anyone has specific feedback to send it to the task force which includes Shane, Phyllis, Jennifer, Robin Shader, and April Fraser.
- No specific timeline to finalize reviewing the bylaws, it may be extended into the next year past the annual conference.

5. New Business

A. Image Guidelines Statement, Cheryl Wolfe, DEIA Committee Chair

- Cheryl Wolfe, DEIA Committee Chair was absent. No report at the time.

B. LSTA Grant Applications, Jennifer Pratt, Interim Executive Director

- A summary of Proposed LSTA Grants was presented, and included Florida Public Library Standards Update 2022, Keeping the FLA Conference Accessible in 2023 with a hybrid component, and a detailed budget and speaker expenses..
- The following feedback was provided by Board members:
 - Provide attendance numbers from last year's hybrid conference, as well as impact statements from hybrid conference.
 - Instead of asking for an amount that is only going to cover the technology for the annual conference, perhaps there will there be something that we'll be able to reuse for future conferences.
 - Frame the narrative to asking for funding that would bring a virtual avenue that provides benefits to virtual programming, virtual training, and education.
 - Mention the high AV cost imposed by the venue; however, we cannot use this argument as we have a contract with a vendor.
- Ray Baker, Region 1 Director made a motion that we proceed with writing the grants with feedback provided by the Board, with a draft ready by March 14, 2022. Laura Spears, Past President, seconded. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Director Search

- Jennifer Pratt, Interim Executive Director, presented Steps to Hiring a New Director. The document, highlighted the steps, details, the person responsible for the said step, and completion date.
- The preference would be to find a suitable candidate, and if not found, then to look into the management companies options.
- A vote to give direction moving forward was ensued. Eight Board members were in favor of proceeding with an Executive Director search, two abstained, none opposed.
- A suggestion was made to have the HR Committee make a recommendation to the Board at the March meeting to give direction moving forward with either the Executive Director search or a management company.

6. Announcements/Other Reports/Member Comments

A. ALA Councilor Report

B. Heather Sostrom, ALA Councilor emailed the report,

C. 2022 Sponsor Email Template

- As Board members we can use this template to reach out to organizations or people who can provide support or sponsor the FLA Annual Conference.

D. Director Committee Liaison Updates

- Membership Committee - Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director, mentioned that the committee talked about potentially having a table at the conference either in the exhibit hall or near registration to engage with existing members, new members, or non-members about the membership benefits. Board members who are interested in helping can email Keila.

- Intellectual Freedom Committee - Michael Sullivan, Region 5 Director, reported that a subgroup is working on the Intellectual Freedom manual; the committee is also putting together an IFC panel discussion for the upcoming conference.
- Professional Development Committee - Sonya Chapa, Region 2 Director, reported that two webinars will be held in February and March; one is Improving Health Literacy, and another one on Combatting Compassion Fatigue. Matthew David, Treasurer, reported that the Leadership Subcommittee is doing a panel on productivity at the annual conference and will be recorded in advance.
- USF updates – Vanessa Reyes, Representative from University of South Florida, reported that USF has an active student organization running for both ALA and FLA chapters.

7. Adjourn

- A. President Phyllis Gorshe ended the meeting at 12:41PM. Marina Morgan, Secretary, made a motion to adjourn. Keila Zayas-Ruiz, Region 6 Director, seconded. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Next scheduled Board of Directors Meeting: March 18, 2022, at 11:00AM.