

**ITEM 2.A**

OHIO LIBRARY COUNCIL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OLC Office  
May 13, 2022  
10:00 A.M.

PRESENT Kacie Armstrong, Euclid (virtual)  
Sarah Clevidence, Findlay  
Tom Dillie, Minerva  
Aimee Fifarek, Youngstown  
Carol Herrick, Centerville  
Mary Ellen Icaza, Canton  
Cheryl Kuonen, Mentor  
Melissa Marolt, New Lexington (virtual)  
Rick Rubin, Cuyahoga Falls (virtual)  
Chad Seeberg, Marysville  
Jennifer Slone, Chillicothe  
Laura Lee Wilson, Huron County, Willard

ABSENT Paula Brehm-Heeger, Cincinnati

GUESTS Michael Goldberg, Perks, Pusateri & Company  
Wendy Knapp, State Library of Ohio  
Nick Tepe, ALA Councilor  
Don Yarman, OPLIN

STAFF Michelle Francis, Executive Director  
Jeanine D'Andrea, Director, Membership Services  
Angie Jacobsen, Director, Communications  
Denise Kise, Accounting/Data Services  
Laurie Miller, Director, Professional Development  
Jay Smith, Director, Government and Legal Services

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Chair Dillie at 10:01 a.m.  
He noted that Armstrong, Marolt and Rubin are joining us virtually.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA HERRICK MOVED AND KUONEN SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE  
AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES ICAZA MOVED AND SEEBERG SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 11,  
2022, MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED WITH 11 YES VOTES  
AND ONE ABSTENTION. (SLONE)

FIFAREK MOVED AND SEEBERG SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE  
MARCH 11, 2022, EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS PRESENTED.  
MOTION PASSED WITH 11 YES VOTES AND ONE ABSTENTION. (SLONE)

FINANCIAL REPORT Francis presented the Financial Report: Month-End March 2022.

Revenue: Institutional Dues and personal dues income was over budget due to  
timing of payments. Continuing Education was over budget mostly due to strong  
attendance and hybrid approach to workshops. Convention & Expo is over

budget due to early sponsorships. Long-term investments are under budget due to downturn in market. Short term investments are \$400 under estimate. Worker's Comp is under budget due to timing of payments and BWC rebates.

Expenses: Legal services is under budget due to a timing issue with Legal Counsel. Supplies are under budget due to timing of payments. Maintenance and Equipment is over slightly due to extra equipment rental. Management Expenses are over budget due to the increase in credit card transactions. Catering and Other Meals slightly over budget due to increase in event attendance.

The net change in assets is \$39,298.

HERRICK MOVED AND FIFAREK SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE MONTH-END MARCH 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 2021 FINANCIAL AUDIT

Francis introduced Michael Goldberg, Perks Pusateri & Company.

Goldberg gave an overview of the audit and reported the accounting process has proper oversight and approvals. He noted the OLC received a clean opinion, meaning that the financial statements referred to in the report are presented fairly, in all material respects.

Goldberg mentioned that prepayments are consistent with prior years, assets are up and liabilities are down. OLC operated with no shutdowns. Expenses also increased related to a full year of operations. Operating expenses showed future commitments for the next few years. Commitments made to meeting spaces and possible losses if those meetings are cancelled.

Francis addressed the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan (\$165,992). The PPP loan was forgiven this year. The money was received at the end of 2021. The Board will need to discuss an amendment to the budget that was approved in January. The budget will still be \$54,121 dollars to the positive.

HERRICK MOVED AND RUBIN SECONDED ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2021 FINANCIAL AUDIT. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

HERRICK MOVED AND KUONEN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE FINAL AUDIT FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF DECEMBER 2021. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

HERRICK MOVED AND KUONEN SECONDED TO AMEND THE 2022 BUDGET TO REMOVE THE \$165,992 OF PPP LOAN FORGIVENESS IN THE REVENUE FROM THE OPERATING BUDGET. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kuonen, Chair of the OLC Board Nominating Committee reported on the following:

The OLC Nominating Committee held a virtual meeting on April 27 to discuss potential candidates for the 2022 OLC Board of Directors elections. Participants on the conference call included Tom Dillie, Ex-Officio; Cheryl Kuonen, Chair; Karl Colon; Debbie Saunders; Nieca Nowels; Michelle Francis and Jeanine D'Andrea.

Francis noted that Clevidence did not participate in the meeting as she was placed on the Nominating Committee without realizing she could be a possible candidate running for re-election. She also noted that Saunders left the call before the discussion took place regarding Robert Jenkins.

The Committee recommended the following slate of candidates for election to three-year terms beginning in January 2023.

MLIS Director

Julianne Bedel, Medina County District Library  
William Rutger, Avon Lake Public Library

Library Trustee Director

Robert Jenkins, Trustee, Bossard Memorial Library of Gallia County

At-Large Director

Sarah Clevidence, Director, Findlay-Hancock County Public Library [Incumbent]

At-Large Director

Kathy Bach, Regional Manager, Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library

SLONE MOVED AND ICAZA SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED WITH 11 YES VOTES AND ONE ABSTENTION. (CLEVIDENCE)

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Francis reported the OLC Board of Directors is responsible for identifying nominees and selecting the winner of the OLC Citizen of the Year Award. Nominations will be solicited from the membership through announcements in *Access Weekly*, *This Week*, and on the OLC website. Staff also will suggest possible candidates and make recommendations to the OLC Board at the meeting on July 15.

2023 CONVENTION AND EXPO

Miller reported the property adjacent to the Cleveland Convention Center, the Global Center for Health Innovation will now be under major construction during our proposed 2023 Convention dates. OLC staff continued negotiations with the Convention Center to consider alternative options. Unfortunately, the alternatives would require OLC to share hallways and meeting space with another show at the same time. Once staff realized this was not feasible, we immediately went to our backup which was Cincinnati. Cincinnati does have the dates of September 27-29, 2023 on hold for OLC. We have received the proposed contract from the Duke Energy Center and we are waiting on a contract from the Hyatt.

Francis noted at the July Board meeting we will need to have conversations about 2024 with PLA. Francis is meeting with the PLA Director on Monday. Being the host state, and considering library budgets, the Board may want to consider utilizing the options given by PLA. OLC may possibly be able to do a pre-con.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Dillie has no new information to report.

ALA COUNCILOR REPORT

In addition to his written report, Tepe reported on the following:

ALA Election Results 2022. Tepe congratulated Mary Ellen Icaza for her appointment of Director-At-Large, to the PLA Board of Directors. Wendy Tressler, Columbus Metropolitan Library was chosen as president-elect of the ALA Core Division.

Transforming ALA Governance. In March, ALA Council voted to move ahead with the Transforming ALA Governance (TAG) committee's recommendation that Council become an advisory body and that all governance functions be placed with a much smaller executive board. Since that meeting there continues to be a significant number of councilors who are concerned about moving policymaking functions away from Council to a newly constituted Executive Board. TAG has met for several information and discussion sessions in order to present Council with specific proposals at the Annual Conference in June.

#### STATE LIBRARY REPORT

In addition to her written report, Knapp reported on the following:

Statewide Delivery. Priority Dispatch has begun delivery again. They have been very responsive. Discussion regarding a fuel surcharge will happen next week.

Staffing. Cindy Boyden, has accepted a position with the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

LSTA Plan. Staff are working on a first draft of the plan and would like to have it place by June.

Dillie wanted to mention that his library is pleased with Priority so far. He asked about the terms of the contract with Priority. Are they under a new contract and will costs increase July 1. Kuonen asked if they are looking at doing tiered pricing. Knapp noted in cases, they are looking at that.

#### OPLIN REPORT

In addition to his written report, Yarman reported on the following:

Northstar Digital Literacy. OPLIN is adding Northstar to the Ohio Web Library list. They recommend that libraries link directly to the Northstar login page from their websites rather than through OPLIN's generic partner link.

SOC Co-Location Space. The OPLIN Board approved an expansion at the state's Tier III data center where libraries can house servers and network equipment.

The third round of the Emergency Connectivity Funds deadline is today.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In addition to her written report, Francis reported on the following:

2022 Institutional Dues. As of May 10, there are 245 public library systems that are Institutional Members of OLC. There are an additional two libraries that are in the process of submitting payment.

OPERS Board Vacancy. Stewart Smith, Director of Finance and Deputy Fiscal Officer for the Columbus Metropolitan Library was appointed to fill the OPERS Miscellaneous Employee Representative vacancy on the OPERS Board.

COSI Learning Lunchboxes. OLC is partnering with the Center of Science and Industry (COSI) to distribute Learning Lunchboxes for free to Ohio's public libraries this summer. Each library can receive 100 free Learning Lunchboxes. A joint press release between OLC and COSI will be issued soon.

Trustee Dinners. OLC returned to in-person Trustee Dinners around the state. Attendance included the following: SE, 30; NW, 40; NE, 60; and SW, 20. Francis thanked Kuonen and Rubin for their attendance at NE.

GOVERNMENT AND  
LEGAL SERVICES REPORT

Learning Loss. Staff has been meeting with the Ohio Department of Education regarding the learning loss from the pandemic. The impact of the pandemic on student learning has been significant, leaving many of Ohio's youngest students behind in reading. We are having conversations on how libraries can help. Libraries initiated several programs and services to help close achievement gaps, especially in early childhood literacy. OLC asked members to complete a brief survey on what libraries are doing to address the learning loss. Results from the survey will be shared with ODE.

PLA. Francis attended the PLA Conference in Portland. She met with the ALA Communications team and ALA Advocacy team on their nationwide campaign regarding book challenges and polling results.

ALA Unite Against Book Bans. ALA launched their national campaign on April 4. Twenty-nine national organizations have signed on to this campaign. At this point they are not asking state chapters to sign on to this yet. The campaign is not meant to be a short campaign probably more like several years.

Staff. Recent staff anniversaries include Angie Jacobsen, 6 years; Laurie Miller, 1 year; and Ro Swanson, 22 years.

In addition to his written report, Smith reported on the following:

Public Library Fund. The May 2022 PLF distribution was \$18 million above ODT's original estimates. State revenues are up over 2.5 million dollars. The Office of Budget and Management reports state tax receipts for the month of April came in \$1 billion above estimates.

HB 327 Divisive Concepts. Since being introduced, the bill has gone through multiple revisions. The current version impacts Ohio's public libraries because it specifically includes local political subdivisions. If it gets scheduled for a vote out of committee, OLC will send an advocacy alert.

Legislative Day Recap. There was more than 220 in attendance. First Lady Fran DeWine and Senate President Pro Tempore Jay Hottinger were honored during the event.

Trustee Dinners. Rep Gayle Manning stepped in at the Northeast Trustee Dinner last minute. She mentioned the call to action that OLC put out made an impact. Other legislators who participated were House Majority Whip Don Jones, Southeast Ohio; Rep. Haraz Ghanbari and Chancellor Randy Gardner, Northwest Ohio; and House Minority Whip Jessica Miranda, is expected to attend Southwest.

Open Meetings. Flexibility for open meetings ends after June 30.

Solar Eclipse Task Force. Two years from now, on April 8 we are going to have a solar eclipse. OLC has been asked to be on the task force alongside NASA, Higher Education and others.

Armstrong asked since next year is a budget year for the PLF, have we ever connected the importance of the PLF dollars to improve our communities and the disparity in certain areas. Francis responded that OLC does not track the impact locally. Armstrong noted that there are new directors and legislators that may not

know what the original statutory language said. Smith added that OLC is educates lawmakers on the history of state funding for public libraries.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

In addition to her written report, Miller reported on the following:

2022 Convention and Expo. Planning for the upcoming 2022 Convention & Expo continues. OLC recently announced that Wil Haygood will be one of the Keynote Speakers. Currently there are 30 exhibitors.

Other Meetings. The Library Management and Leadership Conference is at capacity. The Outreach Division is planning their August retreat, and New Director's Workshop just went online.

## COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

In addition to her written report, Jacobsen reported on the following:

Legislative Day. Legislative Day promotion gained traction on social media. Jacobsen provided links to some of the press coverage and Twitter from Legislative Day. Jacobsen would like any feedback on the advocacy tools on the website.

Library Levies. OLC issued a press release following the election. Ohio voters approved all 6 public library levies on the May 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot. The average approval rating was 71%.

Event Promotion. In addition to the many Divisions and Committee Projects and other event promotion, Jacobsen is working on Convention microsite, a Save the Date postcard, and the use of the OLC app.

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES REPORT

In addition to her written report, D'Andrea reported on the following:

2022 Membership. A review of our records of those participating on a Division Action Council, or Committee identified 23 people who had not renewed their dues for 2022. All except 3 have renewed.

Quick Poll. A total of 187 responses were received. 77 reported paying 100%; 77 pay partial; 33 pay none; and 64 libraries did not respond.

Nominations and Elections. Slates of candidates were due April 1. Three divisions are still looking for candidates: Marketing & PR; Customer Service and Support Staff; and Information Technology. Nomination acceptance forms have been sent to those listed on ballots. Staff are working on an email to be sent to members confirming their email address and division selections. Voting opens on June 30 and ends on July 30.

Awards and Honors. The Committee met via Zoom on May 5 to discuss any anomalies or issues with the submissions. A total of 18 submissions were received. All but two categories were represented: Friends and the John Philip Outreach and Engagement Award. As directed by the OLC Board of Directors, the Committee began initial conversation regarding organizational awards. They will continue discussion at their May 31 in-person meeting and will have recommendations to the Board at their July meeting.

Diversity in Membership. Armstrong asked if we have surveyed membership to diverse communities. Feedback she has received regarding African American librarians who are not involved in OLC are reporting they are not being encouraged to do so. Is there a way to survey what barriers may be within their

libraries? Francis noted the Diversity Committee is meeting on May 21 and it would make sense for them to work on this. Wilson asked if we capture that demographic in our membership database. (Black, LBGQT, Asian, etc.) No, we do not, as it is a privacy issue.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Francis would like to thank the OLC staff. Everybody has been on overdrive since mid-February.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 15 at the OLC Office.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.