

**Virginia Library Association  
VLA Council  
Twin Hickory Branch Library  
Glen Allen, VA  
Friday, September 7, 2018**

**Attendees:**

Executive Committee – Cori Biddle, Todd Elliott, Jennifer Resor-Whicker, Jessica Scalph, Samantha Thompson, Lisa Varga, Adrian Whicker

VLA Council – Bill Edwards-Bodmer, Barbara Ferrara, Gregg Grunow, Michael Hibben, Terry Long, Rebecca Lowe, Karen Nelson, Virginia Pannabecker, Donna Pletcher, Jessica Robertson, Clint Rudy, Jeanne Scott, Tom Shepley, Liz Steyer, Salena Sullivan, Erica Testani

**Absent:**

Executive Committee – Keith Weimer

VLA Council – Dorinne Banks, Lisa Becksford, Cindy Church, Susan Catlett, Maryska Connolly-Brown, Toni Cox, Melissa Davis, Nathan Flinchum, Stephanie Hardy, Janice Hummel, Tina McPherson, Lisa Nickel, Hayley Thompkins

**Call to Order & Introductions**

Todd Elliott called the meeting to order at 10:01 am. Everyone introduced themselves. Lisa Varga discussed the Acronym Fine Jar (AFJ), and how it will be used this year. If you use an acronym and do not define it you will be required to tithe to the AFJ. Once the acronym has been used and defined at a meeting, it does not need to be defined again. At the end of the year the proceeds collected will be used to fund a [food] treat for Council.

**Secretary's Report**

Jennifer Resor-Whicker emailed the minutes of the Council meeting held in June prior to this meeting. The June minutes can be seen here: <https://www.vla.org/assets/VLACouncilJun18.pdf>

Rebecca Lowe moved the minutes be approved. Jeanne Scott seconded, and the motion carried. Jennifer passed around a roster for attendance.

ALA Councilor Question from June Meeting

Jennifer researched when the ALA Councilor became a member of the Executive Committee. The ALA Councilor became a member of the Executive Committee in April of 2011. It was voted on at the January 2011 Executive Committee meeting. The change was supposed to go into the June 2011 manual edits. However, it seems that the edits from the June 2011 version of the manual were somehow not incorporated into the current edition of the manual. Thank you to Cindy Church pulling the necessary minutes from January 2011 and manual edits from June 2011.

**Treasurer's Report**

Cori Biddle gave the treasurer's report. Financially, VLA is in great shape right now. We are exceeding our budgeted revenue for the conference, and for JobLine. The conference income is up to \$65,037, and vendor income is up above \$50,000. JobLine has made \$10,400.

Membership is also in good shape for the year at \$58,650 which is above budget for this year.

We do not have our typical treasurer’s report on the website because we have not been able to produce an official finalized report for this month. Lisa is working with an accounting group to help her streamline her workflow and ensure that we are crossing our Ts and dotting our Is related to taxes. Working with the group will be an added expense for the association, around \$1,800, but in the end this process will help us be more efficient, so it will be worth a little cost and inconvenience.

Final numbers will be available by our Conference business meeting later this month. Or, you can email me any questions you have before then, and I’ll answer them as soon as we have the numbers.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Lisa gave the Executive Director’s Report. she wasn’t able to prepare her written report before this meeting due to the last-minute crunch for the conference at the end of this month. We are at 909 members currently. We had a spike in membership leading up to the conference as we always do. Lisa has been working with several of the various Forums and Committees on different projects. We’ll be able to discuss them as everyone gives their unit reports.

At the ALA Annual conference Lisa moderated the Chapter Leaders Forum. She was also on a panel as a representative for the ALA Policy Corps. Lisa will continue to work with the ALA Policy Corps for the next several years. She has also been asked to be part of the working group for the 2019 ALA Policy Corps. She will be helping to select the next members of this group.

### Ad Hoc Taskforce on Membership Dues

Cori Biddle and Lisa Varga reported. The meetings of this committee have been to discuss how we can come up with a structure that is fair to all types of libraries. We have not raised our current rates since 2007. We are hoping this new model can help VLA see more participation in its events. This new system will offer libraries to pay a flat rate each year for all of their employees (full and part-time) to be VLA members. This is not mandatory. Each library would choose which range their budget fits in to. Individual memberships would also be available at the current rate. Below are the scenarios we came up with for the new membership dues structure. We looked at what the NY Library Association (NYLA) does with its dues structure and tweaked the numbers to give us these options. Lisa Lee Broughman helped come up with the academic library numbers. Nan Carmack helped with the public library numbers. If this new structure takes off it could allow us to hire a part-time staff person to help with some of the day to day operations that VLA does, and would allow us to try new things. Institutional dues are totally separate from this. This will be branded an Affiliate Membership.

<u>NYLA</u>	<b>Library Budget</b>	<b>Dues Rate</b>	<b>Academic</b>		<b>Public</b>		
	\$1 - \$50K	\$50	1	\$50	1	\$50	
	\$50K - \$100K	\$75	7	\$525	1	\$75	

	\$100K - \$500K	\$150	21	\$3,150	22	\$3,300	
	\$500K - \$1M	\$300	8	\$2,400	24	\$7,200	
	\$1M - \$3M	\$600	9	\$5,400	31	\$18,600	
	\$3M - \$10M	\$1,250	7	\$8,750	9	\$11,250	
	\$10M +	\$2,500	2	\$5,000	8	\$20,000	
<b>Membership Dues Total</b>				\$25,275		\$60,475	<b>\$85,750</b>

<b><u>2x NYLA</u></b>	<b>Library Budget</b>	<b>Dues Rate</b>	<b>Academic</b>		<b>Public</b>		
	\$1 - \$50K	\$100	1	\$100	1	\$100	
	\$50K - \$100K	\$150	7	\$1,050	1	\$150	
	\$100K - \$500K	\$300	21	\$6,300	22	\$6,600	
	\$500K - \$1M	\$600	8	\$4,800	24	\$14,400	
	\$1M - \$3M	\$1,200	9	\$10,800	31	\$37,200	
	\$3M - \$10M	\$2,500	7	\$17,500	9	\$22,500	
	\$10M +	\$5,000	2	\$10,000	8	\$40,000	
<b>Membership Dues Total</b>				\$50,550		\$120,950	<b>\$171,500</b>

<b><u>MISC</u></b>	<b>Library Budget</b>	<b>Dues Rate</b>	<b>Academic</b>		<b>Public</b>		
	\$1 - \$50K	\$125	1	\$125	1	\$125	
	\$50K - \$100K	\$200	7	\$1,400	1	\$200	
	\$100K - \$500K	\$250	21	\$5,250	22	\$5,500	
	\$500K - \$1M	\$500	8	\$4,000	24	\$12,000	
	\$1M - \$3M	\$600	9	\$5,400	31	\$18,600	
	\$3M - \$10M	\$1,500	7	\$10,500	9	\$13,500	
	\$10M +	\$3,000	2	\$6,000	8	\$24,000	
<b>Membership Dues Total</b>				\$32,675		\$73,925	<b>\$106,600</b>

This was brought up at the VA Library Directors meeting in April. There are 93 public library systems in VA. In the first year of this we would like to see 20 systems doing this. We'd like to double this the following year, and be close to 70 by the third year. Academic libraries seem to be very interested in this type of membership. There would need to be wording placed in the manual about the Affiliate Membership. We will bring this back up under Other Business for a vote.

### **Executive Committee**

Todd gave the Executive Committee Report. The possible change to VLA memberships is one of the things we discussed yesterday in the Executive Committee meeting. As a library director, Todd is interested in seeing this move forward. He said that Portsmouth Public Library will sign up for this. He feels this will help bring more diversity to the profession in Virginia. Less than 600 African-American males have an MLS degree nationwide. The communities we serve are certainly more diverse than our profession currently is.

### VLA Code of Conduct

We confirmed the verbiage for the Code of Conduct proposed by VLACRL, edits from the June Council meeting:

*Virginia Library Association (VLA) values your attendance at VLA-sponsored events and is dedicated to providing a welcoming, safe, and supportive experience for everyone. VLA seeks to provide an environment in which diverse participants may learn, network and enjoy the company of colleagues in an environment of mutual respect.*

*We ask that all attendees abide by the [ALA Statement of Appropriate Conduct](#).*

It will be added to the conference program.

### VLA Disaster Relief Fund

We also discussed the VLA Disaster Relief Fund. We have set aside \$2,000 for this. Library association in Florida and Texas have more developed disaster relief programs, but they have the extra administrative staffing that can oversee these programs. We decided that we are not going to move forward with an official disaster relief plan because we do not have as many natural disasters as TX and FL do. However, if your library does experience a disaster we will have some funds that we can provide that could cover something that insurance might not cover.

### Vacancies on Committees or Forums

If you are having issues finding officers for your committee or forum let Adrian Whicker know. The committee interest form is being redesigned. We would like to advertise any vacancies during the conference.

### **VLA Professional Associates Forum Report**

The VLA PAF Board met on 7/31/18 at the Libbie Hill Branch Library. We were pleased to add some new members to our group and welcome a guest, Lisa Varga.

Anne Pierce reported about her participation in the New York State Library Assistants' Association (NYSLAA) Annual Conference, which she attended as their guest (VLA PAF has an exchange program with NYSLAA). Anne reported that this 2-day conference consisted of 4 sessions (two each day) and presentations, but no keynote speaker. There were many opportunities for networking and fundraising - with the emphasis on FUN. She said that the event was well organized and very enjoyable with group trips to various nearby attractions. The remainder of our meeting was devoted to figuring out where VLA PAF is and where it should go. The discussion began with reviewing the remarks taken from the surveys which were submitted by VLA PAF conference attendees the VLA PAF conferences from 2014 – 2018. Lisa Varga was there to help facilitate the main portion of our meeting by answering questions and giving us insight into all of the steps that have to happen in order to plan a successful conference - from location selection and conference costs (all of them), submission and selection of presenters, and registration (this part of the process actually takes much longer than any of us realized).

Further discussion of past conferences touched on topics such as networking, length of the conference (1 or 2 days), networking, pricing, types of sessions offered. The top 3 reasons people do or do not attend the conferences revolved around networking, budget constraints and timing of the conference.

Lisa also informed us of VLA's plans to try a different take on membership – moving more toward institutional memberships so all employees of those institutions would be members and could get member rates for conferences and such. We are confident that the outcome of such a change in membership would have a positive impact on the active membership in VLA PAF. We discussed many other aspects of having a successful conference, such as having a well thought out specific purpose/theme, offering sessions with great content covering both technical and public services and all types of libraries (and ways to solicit presenters). We have to consider different learning styles, have a relevant keynote speaker (which has a huge impact on the entire conference), hopefully have a plan B in place when sessions are cancelled (offer networking opportunities or on the spot lightening rounds).

Additional topics discussed included budgeting, attendance, diversity, fundraising, recognizing/rewarding our presenters in some way (are the certificates we currently give the best way to go), Board membership, presentation of awards, soliciting volunteers, determining what committees are needed especially fundraising and social media.

A major concern discussed was – How do we get people to volunteer?!!!! In discussing volunteering, a suggestion was made that perhaps a Volunteer Coordinator could be appointed (possibly self-appointed/volunteered) to write up a description of different volunteer positions and the associated duties. This could be added to something like SignUpGenius making it possible for anyone to volunteer for the conference.

Competing conferences and other events must be considered when discussing dates for future VLAPAF conferences. We do not want to have to compete for participants who may only be able to go to one conference a year, so planning around ALA (staff may be on committees),

VLACRL, VLA annual conference, VLA Leadership Academy, just to name a few. It was noted that ALA will be in D.C. in 2019.

The timing for a 1-day or mini conference might consist of the following: registration, Breakfast/keynote or Opening Ceremonies or combination of, 2 sessions, lunch, 2 sessions, raffle baskets. This would have the conference ending somewhere 4:00pm and 4:30pm.

The end result was that our group agreed we need to do some assessment before we begin planning the next VLA PAF conference. This will require some planning and a real push to increase participation throughout the Commonwealth.

#### VLA PAF PROPOSAL

Use 2018/2019 as a planning period during which time we would hold regional meetings (one in each of our 6 regions) and reach out to professional associates via email. The same meeting format will be followed in all 6 regions. The meetings would be about 4 hours long offering an opening session covering a professional development topic (TBD), a lunch break (hopefully sponsored and “free” to participants) some networking time and then a discussion lead by a VLA PAF Board member, centered around the topic of “What do you want VLA PAF to do for you?” or “Let’s talk about what’s missing from your professional development.”

In 2019/2020 (probably late spring 2020), we would offer a 1-day (mini) conference - FlexCon - without a keynote speaker. FlexCon would consist of a summary of the regional meetings and presentation for the future presented by the VLA PAF Board followed by some discussion time. Next there would be lightning talks and meaningful networking opportunities. The suggested time frame for this would be 10am – 3pm with lunch and possibly snacks to go. Proposed cost would be no more than \$40.00 if needed.

In 2020/2021, we come back big by holding a 2-day conference taking into consideration what was learned from 2019 and 2020. This would become a conference held every other year so that there is not so much competition from VLA Leadership Academy (which is held in even years) and other outside events.

Questions to consider for all conferences and regional meetings are –

- What incentive is there to attend?
- Why is VLAPAF a benefit to staff?
- How does VLAPAF convince supervisors to allow/support staff in attending?
- How does VLAPAF make it more personalized for attendees?
- VLAPAF needs to increase its membership and participation levels so we have a strong foundation for forming committees to adequately handle conference planning, fundraising (in many forms), social media, etc.

Lisa said, “If you are library support staff and you are not empowered to make decisions at work, VLA and VLAPAF is where you will find your voice. Your ideas and experience will help to shape the future of this organization, which supports libraries and their staff throughout the state.”

VLAPAF's needs to give attendees a base and way to step up. People skills was a very important topic mentioned, perhaps for the regional meeting professional development?

Tag line (proposed) – Do you want to be a part of the future of libraries?

Discussion ensued about how these changes could affect VALLA and how the new membership structure could help bolster VLAPAF attendance.

Jessie Scalph and Lisa Varga will be working on the 2019 Budget that will include funding for Lisa to be able to travel to these meetings so that we can see these changes carried out. The library schools love this conference and want to see more participation in it. Jeanne will be a member of the 2019 VLA Annual Conference committee in order to get some more ideas for the next VLAPAF conference.

Jessie offered her library for the Region 5 meeting. Barbara Ferrara offered her library for a meeting as well.

### **VLA Annual Conference**

Clint Rudy and Lisa Varga reported. The conference will be at the Williamsburg Lodge in Colonial Williamsburg on September 26-28. The conference theme is Revolution. They really did a lot of different things this year for the conference, and are trying to go against the way we've always done things. Clint encouraged everyone to do the evaluation for the conference. The committee really wants to know what you liked and didn't like since they've tried so many new things this year. There will be people with iPads that will stop you to ask your feedback during the conference. they will be giving away Starbucks gift cards as an incentive. Kwame Dawes is the keynote speaker. They are looking for volunteers for the conference. The volunteer sign-up is available on the website.

They are currently at 501 registrations for this conference. The sponsorships are going very well this year. Central Rappahannock Regional Library has purchased the lunch totes for Thursday's box lunch. LSU paid \$2,500 to sponsor the Wi-Fi password. Thanks to that sponsorship we have upgraded to a faster WIFI network for conference attendees and dedicated sign ins for the presenters. Overdrive bought signage to be placed around the conference center. Suffolk Public library is sponsoring window clings that will hang in the bathroom advertising a position they have open. Steelcase and Creative is providing the furniture for the introvert and extrovert lounges.

Roanoke County Public Library is bringing Pepper, an advanced humanoid robot, to the conference. Pepper currently has the most advanced form of artificial intelligence available. RCPL is the first public library in the United States (and one of the first in the world) to recruit Pepper for their staff.

Dr. Carla Hayden is speaking at William & Mary on Friday. There will be a public talk with her at 4 pm in Swem Library.

The Friday luncheon will feature Drag Queen Storytime and BINGO. There will be several highend prizes up for grabs. Each prize is worth \$200+. There will be a discussion lead by librarians about how they have incorporated Drag Queen Storytime into their library programming and Kristin Pekoll from ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom will be there to talk about how to deal with opposition to diversity programming. Tickets are \$33 and additional BINGO cards will be available for \$10 each.

There will be a scavenger hunt. The social is 80s themed. People are encouraged to dress in their 80s finest.

Lisa has been working with Jocelyn Dixon at Prince William Public Library on a Librarians of Color meet-up. It will take place on Thursday after the business meetings and the dine-arounds, but before the social. They are hoping to start up a mentor/mentee program for 2019 for Librarians of Color.

## **Unit Reports**

### ALA Councilor's Report

Samantha Thompson gave the report. Megan Hodge's notes from the ALA Annual Conference report can be seen here: <https://www.vla.org/assets/Council%20write-up%20for%20ALA%20Annual%202018.pdf>

ALA is currently very focused on organizational effectiveness. They have created a steering committee for this called the Steering Committee for the ALA Organizational Effectiveness/Governance Review Process. They are looking merging divisions, streamlining things and having stronger integration of the state library associations. They hope for the steering committee to have an action plan in place beginning in the spring of 2020. Samantha has contacted one of the steering committee members to see if there is an online form where you can provide feedback to this committee. she will share this link when she gets it.

The budget was approved at the ALA Annual Conference. There is a lot of focus on advocacy and IT. they are also looking at their headquarters in Chicago and if that is the best use of funds. They are looking into possibly relocating.

Council unanimously passed a resolution honoring African Americans who fought library segregation, calling out ALA for its complicity in this segregation and directing it to publicly apologize to African Americans for 'wrongs committed against them.' The resolution will be published in a forthcoming issue of *American Libraries*. It can be viewed here:

<http://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/cd-41-Resol-2-Hon-African%20Amers-Who-Fought-%20L-Segregation-62218.docx>

Council also adopted a resolution directing ALA to work with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT) to ensure a "sufficient number" of gender-neutral bathrooms in convention centers at ALA conferences (including those hosted by divisions, such as ACRL). While ALA has for a number of years stipulated a certain number of gender-neutral bathrooms in its contracts with convention centers, the resolution notes that number has been insufficient, signage has been inadequate, and there has been insufficient advertisement of the



bathrooms on conference maps. The resolution directs ALA to resolve these issues at future conferences in concert with the GLBTRT.

On August 1, Samantha sent an email about the interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights concerning meeting rooms. A new version was adopted that included references to hate groups. it was very controversial. There was a vote held in August concerning this and that version was rescinded. Samantha did vote to rescind that. It is now back to the original version. It is now in the hands of the Office of Intellectual Freedom. Samantha just sent an email to the VLA membership concerning this. there is a Google Doc where you can provide feedback on this issue. You do not need to be a member to provide feedback on this.

Association of College Research Libraries (VLACRL) Forum (report submitted by Dorinne Banks)

### **VLACRL Summer Programs**

Over the summer, VLACRL held its annual summer programs. We scheduled 2 programs titled, “Libraries, Campus Partnerships and Student Success”. We designed a program with panel session by 3 librarians followed by facilitated discussion.

The July 23 program at Virginia Wesleyan University in Virginia Beach had 17 attending. Our second session of the same program, scheduled to be held on August 10 at the University of Virginia had 26 registrants, however, had to be cancelled due to the state of emergency in Charlottesville.

### **VLACRL Officers**

We had a call for participation for the VLACRL co-chair position, and have heard from a number of librarians who are interested.

The current chair, Dorinne Banks, will be rotating to the Past-chair position.

The new chair, Lisa Nickel, will be joined by an elected co-chair [tbd] and current secretary/treasurer, Paige Flanagan, who will serve a consecutive term. Lucy Rush will be rotating off as past chair.

Lucy Rush has been hard at work on the VLACRL conference-within-a-conference track. Coming up at the VLA Conference, we will be sponsoring:

- VLACRL Conference-within-a-Conference
- VLACRL Business Meeting for VLA members in academic libraries on Thursday, 9/27 at 11:45am – 12:15pm
- VLACRL Dine-Around – Thursday, 9/27 at 6:30pm at The Trellis restaurant

### **Researching Participation in State Library Associations**

Finally, the VLACRL leadership, Dorinne Banks, Lisa Nickel, Paige Flanagan and Lucy Rush designed and administered a survey exploring the engagement of academic librarians in their statewide or regional library organization. The survey seeks perspectives on a range of topics, including respondents’ current level and method of engagement in professional service at the state level and perceptions of state academic library association. Responses will help to shape the future directions and decision-making of state-level library associations. They will present a

poster session at VLA, and hope to also present at ACRL in the spring, and eventually publish the results in *Virginia Libraries*.

#### Awards and Recognition Committee

No report.

#### Collection and Technical Services Forum (CaTS) (report submitted by Liz Steyer)

Liz Steyer reported. We are getting excited for VLA! Join us on Thursday, September 27 at 12:30PM for the CaTS Forum Discussion. It's always a hit, and the discussions are often lively. We are also preparing for some unexpected changes to CaTS. This will be Liz's last VLA meeting as I am moving to Washington state in a couple of weeks. Jessica will be taking over the CaTS forum in the meantime but we hope to see representation from other libraries at the CaTS business meeting at VLA. Jessica will be leading that meeting and looking for a Co-Chair as well as people who are interested in leading workshops and webinars over the next year.

#### Continuing Education Committee (report submitted by Barbara Ferrara)

Barbara Ferrara reported. The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) is making progress on plans for surveying librarians for professional development needs. We obtained the survey done a few years ago and are looking at it and Cindy Church found a survey on the Vermont Library Association's website that we all like. We are providing feedback on both these surveys on a shared Google doc, with tentative plans to conduct the survey following the conference. We hope to reach as broad an audience as possible by identifying mailing lists and other distribution methods.

In the Spring, we made changes to the CEC page on the VLA website and created a Basecamp to consolidate the files from all the VALLA academies since 2010 and provide information for future coordinators. There has been no additional progress on this initiative this quarter or on planning for VALLA 2020, except briefly suggesting to Lisa some potential locations.

We intend to develop a Presentation Academy, probably for late Spring 2019. Nathan Flinchum will lead the planning team and ramp up activity soon after the conference. We have met by conference call once this quarter but there was little interest in meeting during the conference, so we will not meet there. The committee will be contributing a basket for the scholarship raffle at the conference, with a games theme. The next full committee meeting will be in November.

#### Intellectual Freedom Committee (report submitted by Hayley Tompkins)

The Intellectual Freedom Committee is meeting virtually September 5 to discuss the upcoming program we will present at VLA in Williamsburg. The program is "I Spy: Intellectual Freedom Issues at Your Library" scheduled for Friday afternoon, from 2:15-3:00 pm. Description: Take a virtual tour of various library spaces and learn about issues that may be lurking in your library. From collections to displays and even public posting boards, you'll discover how to locate spaces and practices which may raise intellectual freedom and privacy issues for you and your patrons. Hosted by the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the VLA. Chair Hayley Tompkins is back from maternity leave starting this September, and interim co-chair Teresa Doherty will transition off as co-chair after the VLA Conference.

### Jefferson Cup Committee

Erica Testani and Salena Sullivan reported. The Jefferson Cup winner for this year is Sally M. Walker. She wrote *Sinking the Sultana: A Civil War Story of Imprisonment, Greed, and a Doomed Journey Home*. She will be attending the conference. We are not sure if we can get books for her to sign at the conference, but if you have one of her books and you would like her to sign it you can bring it.

They need one more person from Region 1 for the next committee. Adrian Whicker said that he could get them someone from Region 1.

### Legislative Committee

Tom Shepley reported. There was a \$500,000 increase for this fiscal year, and a \$750,000 increase for net fiscal year. We asked for a \$2.5 million increase for both years. Despite the discrepancy we still feel like we were successful. We will continue to ask for the difference to support childhood literacy and STEAM funding. If you have other ideas for the legislative agenda let Tom know. previous legislative agendas are available on the VLA website.

### Library of VA

Donna Pletcher reported. Donna thanked the Council for their support of the Library of Virginia booth at the State Fair. She also thanked Jessie Scalph and Gregg Grunow for volunteering last year and Todd Elliott for sending lots of his employees to volunteer as well. She thanked Lisa Varga for sending out the emails requesting volunteers for the booth. Donna brought LVA swag for everyone.

She also reported that the LVA has begun a strategic planning process. They are looking for feedback from everyone. They are looking for ideas on the direction for the future of the LVA. They will be taking feedback all day on October 5. Let them know if you have feedback on this process. Lisa offered to send out any information they had on this process.

### Local History, Genealogy & Oral History Forum (report submitted by Stephanie Hardy)

No report.

### New Members Roundtable (report submitted by Lisa Becksford)

Bill Edwards-Bodmer reported. NMRT has been gearing up for events at the conference and seeking to engage more with our members. We have a great pub crawl planned and will be promoting that in the remaining weeks before the conference. Our mentoring program is formally wrapping up in October, and we hope that those relationships will continue past the program's end. We're also recruiting folks across the state to be featured in our meet a member spotlight on our website. Finally, we'll be holding elections for new officers in the next few weeks – feel free to encourage people to run, or consider running yourself!

### Scholarship Committee (report submitted by Michael Hibben)

Michael Hibben reported. In late August 2018, the Scholarship Committee conducted a virtual meeting via email discussing the following topics:

## **Scholarship Language Clarifications and Eligibility Changes**

I submitted our votes regarding changing the language and requirements of the VLA Scholarship to VLA's Executive Committee.

The following changes have been made under eligibility requirements (changes in red):

Acceptance by **or currently enrolled** in an American Library Association accredited library school **or a pending application for admission**. MUST be earning a Master of Library Science Degree (**MLS, MLIS, MSLIS, MSIS**).

Jennifer Resor-Whicker moved to accept changes to the scholarship application as laid out by the Scholarship Committee. Jessie Scalph seconded.

## **Scholarship Basket Ideas**

In addition to a link where attendees can buy their scholarship basket tickets in advance, I'd like to embed a PDF of a mega list of basket ideas for anyone struggling to think of something to put together. By the close of the business day tomorrow (**but today would be even better**), would each of you send me as many basket theme ideas as you can think of? Just find a few minutes and type out a list of any theme that comes to mind and email them to me ([mhibben@roanokecountyva.gov](mailto:mhibben@roanokecountyva.gov)).

## **Scholarship Basket Volunteers**

If you are attending the conference and haven't yet signed up for some shifts to help us run the Scholarship Basket Raffle table, please do so here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e4aa4a92aa3f85-2017>

We really need everyone's help!

## **Two other new things to note:**

In addition to all the great scholarship baskets, we will be selling in the vendor hall, we're also going to offer two lottery ticket trees (with scratcher tickets) and two vendor-sponsored gift card trees. Lisa said she will provide me with a list of vendors at the beginning of September, and I may need assistance contacting them to ask for a gift card donation. I'll keep you posted.

## Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL)

Terry Long reported. They have a meeting planned for fall at the Libby Mill Library. The meeting will be about innovation. As soon as she gets more detail she will send it to Lisa Varga to send out to everyone.

VALL is always available to speak on any legal issues libraries might need to know about. Please contact them if you need a speaker about a legal topic.

Terry announced that this will be her last Council meeting. She is retiring.

Virginia Libraries Journal (report submitted by Ginny Pannabecker)

**Current Journal Status:**

- Volume 62 (2017/18) is complete. Adding PDFs is an additional step to complete this year.
- For Volume 63, we have: 6 articles and our call for submissions is still open – A letter (essay/commentary article) from the VLA President is being formatted in HTML. A best practice article is being formatted in HTML. A case study is completing the revision process. A research article is under peer review. A themed column on civic engagement work in libraries in Virginia has been submitted and is undergoing Editorial review.
- The first article, a research article, was published in July 2018

**Outreach**

- A call has been sent out to the VLA list for new submissions; and we are working on getting it onto the VLA website
- **Planned for Fall: Potential Author Webinars** – Intro to journal, submission, review, and publication process
- **Planned for Spring: Peer Reviewer Training Webinars** – Intro to journal; focused training on peer review guidelines with examples of text excerpts modeled on (but not actually) submissions
- **Indexing** – Investigating additional indexing options (ERIC – Education research database)

**Progress on Annual Goals:**

- We have received 4 applications for 4 Editorial Board member positions
- **\*\*Question for VLA Council:** before proceeding in sending our recommendations for appointments to the VLA Executive Committee, we'd like to ask VLA Council members for recommendations of public, school, or other non-university/college librarians or library professionals that we can reach out to in order to solicit a few more applications. Currently our applicants are all from university/college libraries, and all of us are in librarian roles. We'd love to add at least one librarian or library professional from another type of library

**Annual Goals:**

- **Call for additional Editorial Board members**
  - Proposal to VLA Council
  - Call to all in VLA
  - Send recommendation to VLA Executive Committee for new Editorial Board appointments
- **Update our VLA Website page**
  - Paige Flanagan is our website committee liaison – need to check on Web Committee contact
- **Prepare volume 63 for completion in December 2018.**
- Add PDFs to volume 62
  - With individual item PDFs and a compiled PDF with a few formatting changes from previous year PDFs that will add a citation, DOI, CC license, review level label (editorial / peer review), and abstract to the front page of each item

- **Complete a change to a new journal site system** – still based on OJS but with better graphical and workflow support
  - Working with Robert Browder at Virginia Tech Libraries to move forward
- **Editorial and Peer Review**
  - **Guidelines Updates and Publication** – After using these for volume 62, will review and revise these to improve their usefulness
  - **Training for Peer Reviewers** – via WebEx
- **Advertising** – work with Lisa to consider options for advertising in the future
- **Set up Usage / Citation reports for Authors**
- **Update Journal History information**

VLA Liaison to VAASL Board of Directors

No report.

Website Content Committee (report submitted by Gregg Grunow)

Gregg Grunow reported. Accomplishments since Last Meeting:

- 2019 VLA Officer Election Page created and posted
- 2019 VLA Officer Election Result page created and posted
- Updated 2018 VLA Conference Portal as needed
- Posted Three New Meet A Member Profiles
  - If you would like to submit a profile please do so
- Advertised August 24, 2018 Youth Forum Workshop
  - If you have any events that you would like advertised let Gregg know
- Website Content Committee meeting held on August 3, 2018 through gotowebinar.com
- Updated Jefferson Cup committee page
- Website Content Committee Executive Board Meeting held on June 26, 2018.

Projects in Progress:

- Archive Page for past VLA Council Meeting Minutes
- Archive Page for past VLA Annual Conference Programs

Upcoming Projects:

- Archive Page for past VLA Executive Director Reports
- Archive Page for past ALA Counselor Reports

Gregg was just appointed to the Public Library Association (PLA) Web Content Working Group. Todd Elliott congratulated Gregg on this honor, and thanked the Website Content Committee for all of their hard work. The Council applauded.

Youth Services Forum (report submitted by Rebecca Lowe)

Rebecca Lowe reported. The Youth Services Forum held a workshop on August 24, 2018 with 27 in attendance. The workshop consisted of three presentations in the morning and then networking in the afternoon. The presentations included STEAM programming for elementary aged patrons, unconventional programming for youth to young adult patrons, and Sue LaParo from Library of Virginia presented information for librarians that is available through the Library

of Virginia. In the afternoon we networked in different groups to talk about topics including Summer Reading programs, how Library of Virginia can help serve the youth services department, and programming for different age groups.

Erica Testani, Elizabeth Land, Adrian Whicker, Gregg Grunow, and myself have been updating the youth services forum page. It should be fully updated soon.

We have planned our Thursday evening networking session and dinner for the Annual Conference. Thank you to Jessica Hartley for including it on the sign-up page!

Next year, Erica Testani plans to continue our workshops and hopefully hold one in Southwest Virginia. We are very excited that we have finally found our niche with our forum and that is to meet through two workshops a year and communicate through email.

### **Other Business**

#### Ad Hoc Logo Committee

Lisa Varga will contact the designers that the committee found after the conference.

#### Vote on Membership Dues Structure

Clint Rudy made motion to accept the affiliate membership as presented. Jeanne Scott seconded. Motion carries.

#### Intellectual Freedom Issue with Gale

Lisa Varga reported that an intellectual freedom issue popped up today. A mother of a high school freshman was using a school's website to navigate to Find It Virginia to look on databases for articles when she ran across an article that was not supposed to be accessible in the student edition of Gale. The Library of VA is working on a statement. ALA has been in contact with Gale. VAASL is also aware of it. if you hear anything about it just know that we are aware of it and are working on it. Lisa will send out more information about it later today.

#### Certificates of Appreciation

Todd Elliott passed out certificates of appreciation to all Council members to thank them for their service this year. VLA pins were also available of anyone who does not have one.

### **Adjournment**

Jennifer Resor-Whicker moved to adjourn, and Adrian Whicker seconded at 12:08 pm.

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*Minutes prepared by Jennifer Resor-Whicker, VLA Secretary*