

**Virginia Library Association
VLA Council
Twin Hickory Branch Library
Glen Allen, VA
April 7, 2017**

Attendees:

Executive Committee – Teresa Doherty, Todd Elliott, Shaunna Hunter, Jennifer Resor-Whicker, Samantha Thomason, Lisa Varga, Keith Weimer

VLA Council – Marlene Brawner, Susan Catlett, Cindy Church, Maryska Connolly-Brown, Toni Cox, Greg Grunow, Stephanie Hardy, Shari Henry, Michale Hibben, Elizabeth Land, Terry Long, Tina McPherson, Teresa Nuar, Clint Rudy, Lucinda Rush, Bonnie Shaw, Tom Shepley, Liz Steyer, Cori Strickler, Adrian Whicker

Absent:

Executive Committee – Martha Hutzal

VLA Council – Lisa Becksford, Kathy Clevenger, Claire Covington, Angela Critics, Julia Feerrar, Bonnie Shaw

Call to Order

Keith Weimer called the meeting to order at 9:58 am. Keith reminded everyone that the Treasurer's Report, meeting minutes, and Executive Director's Report can be found on the calendar on the VLA website. Everyone introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report

Jennifer Resor-Whicker emailed the minutes of the Council meeting held in January prior to this meeting. Shari Henry moved the minutes be approved. Keith seconded, and the motion carried. Jennifer distributed rosters for recording attendance respectively. Lisa Varga discussed the Acronym Fine Jar (AFJ).

Treasurer's Report

Shaunna Hunter went over the revenue and expenses through April 5, 2017. Some revenue for the VLA Annual Conference has already come in through vendor booth sales. Jobline is always doing well. Currently there are 22 public, 7 academic, 1 school, and 2 special library advertisements. These are from Virginia, Maryland, Michigan, and Ohio. Revenue from the VLAPAF Conference is for registration that is currently open. Membership dues are close to budget. Expenses are currently low since it is still early in the year. The investments are doing really well thus far. Lisa discussed the library license plates. The treasurer's report can be seen here: <https://vla.memberclicks.net/assets/statement%20of%20activities%2004052017.pdf>

VLA Legislative Committee Report (report submitted by Tom Shepley and Toni Cox)

Phil Abraham (VLA Legislative Liaison) will try to attend the June meeting. The General Assembly's short session adjourned as scheduled on Saturday, February 25. While short, there was plenty of activity. Always of primary concern is funding, and this year's revenue woes increased our concern. Several telephone conference calls were held during the session to keep the committee apprised of the session.

Last year, we were successful in obtaining a \$500,000 increase in state aid funding. Knowing there was little chance of gaining funding for State Aid but wishing to demonstrate public library funding needs, the committee continued last year's agenda seeking a \$2.5M increase. While the State Aid amendments failed to gain traction, the positive for State Aid is that there no proposed cuts.

The Library of Virginia worked to recover some of the funding lost in cuts during the fall of 2016. LVA successfully got amendments entered for archives personnel and to restore public access hours. The budget conferees split the difference on their disagreement on funding for LVA. Their only disagreement in this area was on how much of the cut should be restored for archives management. LVA had sought a restoration of \$294,250 which the House had agreed to but the Senate had proposed no restoration in this item. The budget conferees agreed to restore \$145,000 of this funding. The budget conferees approved the restoration of \$428,571 for Library Services to allow LVA to reopen public access to research and collections six days a week and this restoration had been included in the budget proposals from both the House and Senate. Language was also included in the budget that rent for the Library of Virginia should be excluded from and budget reduction targets in the future.

Other legislation that was followed included:

HB 1876--A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-3705.7 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Freedom of 5 Information Act; public access to library records of minors. (passed)
{only applies to personal identifying information, i.e. address/directory}

HB 1418-- A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-915 of the Code of Virginia, relating to control of firearms; libraries owned or operated by localities. (died)

HB 1787—amends the code to make governing boards of public libraries not mandatory in counties organized by charter. (passed) {brought to legislature by Roanoke County}

HB 2191--School boards; procedures; sexually explicit instructional materials or related academic activities. (passed legislature, vetoed by Gov.) {not likely going away}

Next steps will be developing the 2018 legislative program.

Executive Director's Report

Lisa discussed the Executive Director's Report. It can be seen here:

<https://vla.memberclicks.net/assets/executive%20directors%20report%20april%202017.pdf>

Discussed possible Marketing and Public Relations Forum.

Executive Committee

Keith reported that the Executive Committee met on Thursday, April 6, 2017. Some of the items discussed included:

- VLA Strategic Plan 2017-2020
 - Previous plan is 2012-2015. We are working on a statement of core values as well. We want to make our commitment to diversity more explicit in this document. Keith will update these documents and send them out to everyone for feedback/vote.

- A VLA newsletter was discussed. We will be asking Council for input on this as well. We do not share enough with the membership. We need to work on this. The new website will hopefully allow us to filter content that is entered in my committees/forums into a digest/newsletter.

Vote was held on offering scholarships with extra money from Tidewater Area Library Directors Advisory Committee (TALDAC). Proposed that \$2,500 for VLA scholarship fund and \$1,400 scholarship for Joint Council for Librarians of Color Conference for 2018. Keith moved to accept these scholarships. Todd seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report

Lisa discussed the Executive Director's Report. It can be seen here:

<https://vla.memberclicks.net/assets/executive%20directors%20report%20april%202017.pdf>

Lisa discussed the Marketing and Public Relations Forum. There was someone who was interested in spearheading this group. That person then got another job, and is no longer able to pursue this. She asked the Council to let her know if they know of anyone who would be interested in pursuing this. A charter has already been written for this and the structure is also known. The big job initially would be to get this off the ground. First you need to get 25 signatures to get the forum established and then after that you would need to come up with ways to meet as a group, what events you would want to hold and what types of sessions you would want to propose for next year's conference.

VLA Professional Associates Conference

Lisa reported on the VLAPA Conference. It will be May 22, 2017 at Newport News Marriott in Newport News, VA. When you register four people you get the fifth free. There are about 90 people registered currently. Right now, the cost to register is \$110 for VLA members. We're going to extend the call for registration past April 18.

VLA Annual Conference (report submitted by Jennifer Resor-Whicker)

Keith, Lisa and Jennifer reported on the VLA Annual Conference (October 11-13, 2017 at the Hilton The Main in Norfolk, VA). The Conference Committee held a meeting March 31 at the James Madison Regional Library – Northside Branch to select the sessions for the conference. There were approximately 150 proposals submitted. It was a very strong batch of proposals. VLACRL is working on the peer-review of their submissions right now. Public librarians are having posters for the first time at a VLA conference. Public and academic librarian posters will be presented together.

Virginia Association of Law Librarians (VALLA) is getting their own track. They are trying to get Ron Wheeler to come and speak. He is the current president of the American Association of Law Librarians.

We have been having some issues with the logo design for the conference. We have asked Sean Bonney to design something for us.

We are discussing the possibility of offering a conference travel grant that is available to people who are: working in librarianship (professional or paraprofessional), pursuing a job in librarianship, or enrolled in an ALA accredited post-graduate program, and identify as a member of a racial or ethnic minority in the United States, the LGBTQ+ community, or as a person with a disability. The person awarded this will be invited to join the conference committee the following year. Also, going to try to get a showing of Hidden Figures on Thursday, October 12 after the social. The Main opened last week. The social will be at Slover, and the Balloon Guy will be there. Margot Lee Shetterly will be the keynote. Trevor Dawes is our Friday luncheon speaker. There are no pre-conferences this year. The local arrangements committee are working to get tours and other events for us on Wednesday. Acceptances/rejections will go out on or around next Friday.

Adrian Whicker discussed the pub/dessert crawl. We have plans for the New Members Round Table Pub/Dessert Crawl (Sips and Sweets) for the Wednesday evening of the conference. There are many great options within walking distance of The Main. We're thinking of starting at FM Restaurant, then Gershwin's (or St Germain and/or Elixia), Brick Anchor Brew House, and ending at Grain at The Main.

Unit Reports

Association of College Research Libraries (VLACRL) Forum

Lucinda Rush reported. They are currently working on planning for summer programs. The topic will be OER success stories. The programs will be at George Washington University on July 11 and Hollins University on July 18. The events are free. The event takes place in the morning and there is an opportunity to go out to lunch afterwards. Information will go out on this soon. They are still working on rescheduling the spring program. They're hoping to do it in June. Information will go out as soon as everything is finalized. The peer review for the VLACRL conference proposals is due this week and Lucy and Candice Benjes-Small are meeting next week to go over it and select the sessions.

ALA Chapter Councilor Report (report submitted by Samantha Thomason)

ALA Focus on Advocacy: Preserve IMLS and federal library funding

President Trump's 2018 budget has proposed eliminating virtually all federal library funding and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the agency that distributes most of it to every state in the nation.

\$210 million provided annually for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) (Department of Education) programs

Recently: Push to get Representatives to sign Dear Appropriator Letters by end of day this past Monday

- 146 Members of the House signed in support of \$27 million IAL funding for FY 2018, nearly 18% more than last year's 124
- 144 Members did the same for \$186.6 million for LSTA in FY 2018, 64% more than last year's 88
- 169 Members signed at least one letter

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- Bottom line: essentially 1/3 of the entire House now supports BOTH IAL and LSTA

Virginia support: 2 signed LSTA letter; 3 signed IAL letter

Keith will write thank you note to those who signed the letters. Next: Letters will move on to Senate.

- [Fight for Libraries Page](#)
- [Take Action for Libraries Day](#) - Thursday, April 13 - meant to highlight efforts to preserve IMLS funding

Upcoming events:

- National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) – Washington, D.C., May 1-2
 - Registration for this is still open; not sure if there are any hotel rooms left.
 - VLA members can be reimbursed, for travel and expenses, up to \$200 per day for two days to attend.
- ALA Annual – Chicago, June 22-27

Awards and Recognition Committee (report submitted by Tina McPherson)

They have been working on filling the committee roster. Currently the committee is as follows: Tina McPherson (chair), Jackie Petersen, Rebecca LaPlante, Sophie Rondeau, Lauren Welch, and Deborah L. Wright. The committee needs 2 more. If you know of anyone who would like to be on the committee, let Tina know.

Awards being given this year: Academic Innovator Award, Public Library Innovator Award, Donna G. Cote Librarian of the Year Award, Up and Comer Award, George Mason Award, Honorary Life Membership Award, Friends of the Library Award, Trustee of the Library Award. The links for the awards will be available soon. Deadline for awards is June 1.

Tina and Teresa will work together to make sure the wording for the awards is the same in the VLA Manual and the website.

Continuing Education Committee (report submitted by Cori Strickler)

We are working on a number of in-person and virtual workshops. We will be presenting a “part 2” poster webinar with KT Vaughan and Nan Carmack to help presenters with the logistics of creating their accepted poster presentation for VLA annual. We are assisting the Diversity & Inclusion Forum with plans for their Diversity Career Night workshop. We are working on providing virtual mock interview practice and resume reviews with Renee DiPilato (from Alexandria Public Library) for this summer. We are in the process of updating the content on our webpage and hope to get that copy to the website committee in the coming months. We are also working with Clint Rudy and Leadership Development Forum (LDF) on the details of our merger, once that has been approved by the Executive Committee.

Diversity and Inclusion Forum (report submitted by Maryska Connolly-Brown)

The committee has submitted two D&I sessions for the VLA Annual Conference:

- Kevin Clement submitted a presentation proposal for microaggressions.

- Maryśka Connolly-Brown submitted a poster proposal for a survey of diversity in Virginia libraries. The survey has been created and is being circulated for feedback.

Update on the “Path to Librarianship” event:

We are still hoping for a Tuesday or Thursday night in September, but have not yet been able to secure a location in Richmond (the Library of Virginia was cost prohibitive). Our most promising lead right now is with the University of Richmond. We are in touch with Samantha Guss, the social sciences librarian at Boatwright Library, who is chairing a committee on diversity and inclusion as part of their libraries strategy plan. As our goals are closely aligned, we may be able to hold the Path to Librarianship event in conjunction with one of their diversity events.

Graphic novel diversity award news

The call for judges for 2017 and the judging FAQ has been updated.

The nominations for the 2016 award closed in February. The youth category had 11 submissions and the adult category had 13 for a total of 24. The evaluations of the youth judges have been compiled and returned for their review. That committee will meet on April 18 to select a winner and honor books. The adult judges' evaluations are currently being compiled and a date will soon be set for them to meet.

They are working on a panel with VLACRL.

Intellectual Freedom Committee

Shari Henry reported. They submitted 2 proposals to the VLA Annual Conference. They want to work on webinars for how to create good materials policies. They updated their VLA Manual entry. They are planning on having a half-day retreat soon, and want to revive some annual activities. They are looking to do a state library legislative day much like the national library legislative day. Shari will speak to Tom about this. Shari thanked Lisa for all her hard work on the first amendment challenges we've seen recently.

Tina McPherson will send Shari information on the Texas state library legislative day.

Jefferson Cup Committee (report submitted by Susan Catlett)

I have held three Google Hangout meetings of the Jefferson Cup Committee since my last report in January. We received 142 titles by the cutoff date of January 31st. Hampden–Sydney College has graciously offered to host our final meeting again this year. The committee will be meeting on Monday, April 10th to select the winning titles.

Leadership Development Forum (report submitted by Clint Rudy)

Virginia Library Leadership Academy (VALLA) Graduates are finalizing their projects, which is the last part of the VALLA requirements.

VLA Conference Proposal was submitted for VALLA Graduates to share their experiences with the program and to provide information on the 2018 cohort. They are still working on picking a spot for the 2018 VALLA.

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We are merging with the Continuing Education Committee (CEC) because we felt like we were duplicating a lot of efforts.

Library of VA

Cindy Church reported on happenings at Library of VA. IMLS and LSTA funding has a big impact on the Library of VA. If these would go away this would decimate the Library of VA's budget. Please keep that in mind. Passed around fliers for upcoming events.

Local History, Genealogy & Oral History Forum

Stephanie Hardy reported. She has spoken to Lisa Varga about how to revive the forum that has been dormant for a little while. They are hoping to do some programming this summer. There will be a survey going out in the near future to see what types of things the membership wants to see.

Membership Committee (report submitted by Susan Catlett)

Two new members have expressed an interest in the Membership Committee via Teresa Doherty. I have not sent any welcoming letters for February and March as I send them every quarter (April).

New Members Roundtable (report submitted by Julia Feerrar)

Mentoring: Mentoring has begun! We have 40 participants – 23 mentees and 17 mentors, so some are doubled-up. This is almost double the participation we've had in previous years.

Conference: We have plans for the New Members Round Table Pub/Dessert Crawl for the Wednesday evening of the conference. There are many great options within walking distance of The Main. We're thinking of starting at FM Restaurant, then Gershwin's (or St Germain and/or Elixia), Brick Anchor Brew House, and ending at Grain at The Main.

We're also working on a NMRT-hosted networking breakfast for Friday morning. We're all set to meet at Java Surf Cafe, which is right around the corner from the rear of The Main. Start time would be between 7:30 and 8 (yet to be determined).

Socializer groups: Region IV and Region I held March events. Region III has an event coming up soon.

Scholarship Committee

Mike Hibben reported. They had 30 applications for 3 scholarships. The winners are currently being notified. The winners will be announced in the next couple of weeks.

Technical Services & Technology Forum (report submitted by Adrian Whicker)

The Technical Services & Technology Forum (TS&TF) held a Collection Management Workshop on March 24 at South County Library in Roanoke. The Forum was facilitated by TS&TF Co-Chairs Adrian Whicker, Liz Steyer, and Ann Theis. We had 75 in attendance. We will hold another workshop on June 16 at Twin Hickory Library in Glen Allen and at Conference in Norfolk on October 12. Adrian Whicker will discuss with Lisa about going through VLA for registration for future events.

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We are putting together a Google site for the Collection Management subgroup.

We are looking at other possible programming/Webinar opportunities for this summer/fall. Adrian is working on putting together a catalog event.

Adrian made a motion to change the name of the forum to Collections and Technical Services Forum (CaTS). Toni Cox seconded. Motion carried. They will work with Teresa to update the VLA Manual.

Virginia Association of Law Libraries

Terry Long reported. The spring meeting will be at the William and Mary Law School in Williamsburg, VA on Friday, May 19, 2017. Everyone is welcome. More information on the program can be seen here:

<http://vall.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/116589360/2017%20Spring%20Meeting.pdf>

Terry offered Shari support with first amendment law questions.

VLA Liaison to VAASL Board of Directors (report submitted by Susan Catlett)

My first meeting with the VAASL Board was Saturday, January 28th at the Richmond Holiday Inn Express on Mayland Drive.

All seven regions of VAASL held their spring regional conferences in March. The joint flyer for the VAASL Spring regionals can be found at <https://vaasl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Jan.-15-2017-Attendee-Flyer-for-Spring-Conferences-2017.pdf>.

In addition to the seven regions of VAASL, VAASL has established affiliate status with several groups (now including VLA). Those groups are: Virginia State Reading Association (VSRA), Independent Schools, Virginia Beach Library Association, and Prince William School Librarians Association.

The Social Media Committee is looking into establishing a guest blogger concept on the VAASL website.

VAASL will be introducing a new book award at the 2017 Fall Conference. It is going to be called the Virginia Diverse Book Award. It is being established to recognize and honor the most exceptionally published diverse books for PreK-12 youth, for the year. The preliminary website is <https://vaaslstatebookaward.wordpress.com/>.

The 2017 VAASL Fall Conference speaker list is:

Thursday Keynote: Marc Tyler Nobleman

Thursday Evening Event: Kwame Alexander

Friday Keynote: Donalyn Miller (They are providing the speaker and covering all costs.

Additionally, they will be setting up a Book Fair in their booth with 50% of proceeds benefitting VAASL.)

Friday Evening Event: Ruta Sepetys

Saturday Morning Event: Meg Medina

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Overall, VAASL membership numbers have been holding fairly steady for the past three years.

	Jan. '17	Jan. '16	Jan. '15
Total	1141	1280	1179

VAASL had 2 members running for national office via AASL:

(<http://www.ala.org/aasl/about/elections>). We will find out the results of the election on April 12.

1. Mary Keeling has been nominated for AASL President-Elect. Mary is a past VEMA/VAASL President and past chair of AASL Supervisor's Group.
2. Judy Deichman has been nominated for AASL Treasurer. Judy is our immediate past-VAASL Treasurer.

Additionally, Kelly Miller, VAASL President, wanted me to express VAASL's thanks for VLA's support and help on defeating HB2191.

Website Tools and Content Committee

Marlene Brawner reported. Upgrade is coming in the next few weeks. Working with Memberclicks on this. We are doing our best to make the site more dynamic. Going to contact heads of forums and committees to make sure they are using the website as they want to. Naming liaisons on the committee for this.

Youth Services Forum (submitted by Angela Critics)

Forum Officers

I am happy to announce that the vacant position of Vice Chair has been filled. Teresa Nuar of Roanoke County Libraries has agreed to fill the position. She will take over as Chair after the 2017 VLA Annual Conference. Angela has reached out to those listed as Regional Representatives but who have not been active in the last several months in order to ascertain if they are still willing to serve in that capacity. All have responded except for Reps from Regions 2 and 4. The Forum is proceeding as if those are empty seats and will begin recruiting to fill those slots. The position of Secretary also remains vacant.

Meeting Format

The Forum meets the fourth Friday of every month. However, the group has begun to alternate business meetings with virtual networking events. The April meeting will be a networking session to discuss plans for Summer Reading and Summer Programs. There will be no meetings in June and July when Summer Reading makes it impossible for most people to attend.

Liaison with Intellectual Freedom Committee

The Forum officers agreed that advocating for Intellectual Freedom, especially in cases involving schools and school libraries, such as recent efforts to stop HB 2191 is a logical function of this Forum. We have initiated contact with the IF Committee to begin to determine how the YS Forum can support Intellectual Freedom for children throughout VA.

Networking Series

The Forum is beginning a project of regular, possibly quarterly, in-person networking events. These would be no-cost, brown bag meetings with short formal presentation in the morning covering all ages of Youth Services followed by open round table discussions in the afternoon. The first event is scheduled for Friday, August 18 from 10 to 3 at the Culpeper County Library. The theme for the get together will be Experiential Learning.

VLA Annual

The Forum is coordinating with the Conference Committee to host another informal networking event this year. The goal is to have an off-site, informal setting where everyone could meet to share ideas. This will be similar to last year's networking event. But the Forum Officers wanted to move to a more informal setting to remove the appearance of it being a Business Meeting.

Adjournment

Keith moved to adjourn and Marlene seconded at 11:48 am.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Resor-Whicker, VLA Secretary